



PATLQ

NEWSLETTER

63 - JUNE 2003

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Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec H9X 3R4

From this Autumn, throughout Quebec

Personalized advisory visits to clients interested in organic dairy production

Rosaire Chrétien, Regional Manager, Les Appalaches

Thanks to financial support from MAPAQ, PATLQ will be offering the possibility of a personalized advisory visit on organic dairy production (outside of regular advisory visits). This one-time personalized visit is only for those clients with an interest in organic production **who are not members of an organic production Club**.

In 2002, PATLQ launched new advisory services tailored to the needs of organic dairy farmers. A pilot project is currently under way with *Club l'Envol - Lait biologique*, in the Bas-Saint-Laurent and Côte-du-Sud regions. Producers of the *Club Lait Bio du Centre du Québec* are also followed by an advisor. However, there are a number of producers throughout Quebec that have demonstrated an interest in organic dairy production, or who have questions about this type of production. How can we help these producers ?

With \$66,500 in financial support through the MAPAQ *Support Program for the Development of Organic Farming - Phase 2*, in 2003-2004, PATLQ will be able to increase its leadership in the organic dairy sector. Four specific actions will be undertaken:

- Develop and provide training sessions for clients already involved in organic production and for producers demonstrating an interest in this production;
- Increase expertise (survey of trends, development of standards and benchmarks for organic production, publication of three technical bulletins);
- Investigate the possibility of new laboratory analyses;
- Offer one personalized advisory visit to clients demonstrating an interest in organic farming, but who are not a member of an "organic Club".

Individual visits will take place between September 2003 and March 2004. The MAPAQ grant will be used to cover travel expenses of our "organic" advisors throughout Quebec. The client will pay only for the regular professional fee. In order to assist with the logistics of this campaign, **each interested client will be required to send a reply form before August 15, 2003**. This reply form will be found on the cover page of your *Vision2000* reports as of July 1st.

This offer is also open to dairy producers not currently enrolled with PATLQ. If you have a neighbour in this situation, or if you do not have a reply form, please contact your local PATLQ advisor. You can also send an E-mail to bio@patlq.com or call our liaison agent, Bruno Gosselin, agr., at 418-222-4548. He will be glad to answer any question you may have about organic dairy production.



Beginning this September, PATLQ's "organic" advisors will crisscross the province to provide individual visits to dairy producers interested in the "organic" approach. Standing: Sonia Gosselin, Gratien Tremblay; sitting: Bruno Gosselin (coordinator), Denis Pérusse and Julie Malenfant.

Our contest for June !

Results for Quiz Number 11

The drawing was held on May 12 among several hundred entries. The winners are: **Ferme Walas inc.**, from Henryville (advisor: *Ghislain Coté*) and **Ferme Allard 1999 inc.**, from Ste-Séraphine (advisor: *Catherine Cross*). Each won a \$50 credit on PATLQ services.

Here are the answers :

Question 1

In the next few weeks, your advisor will facilitate your life by processing the permanent ID and registration of Holstein cattle directly from your farm. True or False ?

True.

Question 2

What is the % of Quebec cows with 3 lactations and more? (Choose one breed)

For Holstein (HO) :

c) 45.8%

For Ayrshire (AY) :

b) 46.9%

(Erratum: for this question, answer blocs were in reverse. Our apologies.)

Question 3

According to your **Annual Herd Management Report**, what is the management parameter that shows the best improvement over the last three years ?

(Answer vary of course from farm to farm)

Question 4

For a 45-cow herd, an 3% undetected variation of the protein content of any silage can cause a production loss of:

d) \$1300 in a month.

Here is Quiz Number 12 !

Answers can be found in the *Rapport de production 2002*, received through the mail in mid-May (special issue of *Le producteur de lait québécois*).

Two \$50 credits on advisory services will be drawn on July 28, 2003.

Question 1

Among the nine members of the PATLQ Board of Directors, how many are dairy producers ?

a) 3 b) 5 c) 7 d) 9

Question 2

In the last ten years, the average yearly production per cow in Quebec has increased by about:

a) 500 kg b) 1200 kg c) 2650 kg d) 3000 kg

Question 3

Among the following causes, which one is not directly related to profitable production ?

a) udder health
b) forage milk
c) large size
d) Quebec region

Question 4

When a herd reaches both goals of age at first calving at 24 months and weight after calving of 580 kg, net revenue (\$/cow/year) is above the provincial average by:

a) 93 \$ b) 178 \$ c) 245 \$ d) 383 \$

Please return prior to **July 25, 2003** to the attention of *Julie Charlebois*, PATLQ, 555 boul. des Anciens-Combattants, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec H9X 3R4 -- Fax: 514-398-7963 - E-mail: jcharlebois@patlq.com (You may enter by E-mail. Just write in the subject box "Quiz - 12", followed by your herd number, and give your answers and full name and address as your message).



Reply Form – Quiz N° 12 - June 2003



Answers : 1 : _____ 2 : _____ 3 : _____ 4 : _____

Name : _____ Herd Number : _____

Address : _____

Tel : _____ Fax : _____

E-mail : _____