

# **Appendix G**

## **Dairy Information Sheet**

This data collection sheet was used as an aid in collecting information from the dairymen of the Enumclaw Plateau which was a major contribution to the evaluation of the digester feasibility.



# Dairy Information Sheet

*Confidential – Information will be used for the digester feasibility study only and will not be made public in any way which identifies your dairy operation.*

Dairy Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No of: Milkers: \_\_\_\_\_ Dry: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Repl: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Land: Crop: \_\_\_\_\_ Grass: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Other farm enterprises--type and size: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Best time to call: \_\_\_\_\_

In the last 5 years my herd has: **Increased** **Steady** **Decreased**  
 In the next 5 years I expect my herd to: **Increase** **Steady** **Decrease**

Explain:

## A. Concerning Dairy Herd and Manure Management

1. On average, how man hours per day are your cows on pasture (where manure cannot be collected)?

	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Spring</u>	<u>Summer</u>	<u>Fall</u>
Milkers	_____	_____	_____	_____
Dry Cows	_____	_____	_____	_____
Heifers	_____	_____	_____	_____

2. Do your milking numbers vary seasonally? **Y Not Much N** If yes ---- High \_\_\_\_\_ Low \_\_\_\_\_

3. How many daily milkings? **1 2 3**

4. Do you bed with manure solids? **Y N** How much (wk/mo): \_\_\_\_\_ Composted? **Y N**

5. Describe your feeding program:

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Describe your manure handling (including storage capacities): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What manure handling equipment do you own or lease?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. How much time do you spend with manure handling? Costs?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. How are mortalities handled? Cost?

10. How much is your monthly electric bill? \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Concerning Manure Fertilizer Nutrients**

- 1. Do you have sufficient owned/leased land for application of your manure nutrients? **Y N Barely**
- 2. Does lack of land for manure application hinder your future plans? **Y N**
- 3. Do you think you have an “odor problem” with neighbors? **Y N** Would they say the same? **Y N**  
**Don’t Know**
- 4. Are you currently operating under a “Nutrient Management Plan”? **Y N**

5. *How much a factor are the following in your business decisions concerning herd size?*

- a. Odor concerns with neighbors **None Minor Major Limiting**
- b. Waste handling facilities and costs **None Minor Major Limiting**
- c. Manure nutrient management **None Minor Major Limiting**
- d. Land available for cows **None Minor Major Limiting**
- e. Land available for waste disposal **None Minor Major Limiting**

6. *If it were possible to quickly remove all manures from the premises, how would that affect your operation?*

- a. Herd size expansion/contraction \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Manure handling equipment \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Labor hours/cost \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Nutrient management \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Fertilizer Usage \_\_\_\_\_
- f. Other \_\_\_\_\_

7. Would you want fertilizer returned to your farm? **Y N Doesn’t Matter**

8. Would you want bedding solids returned? **Y N Doesn’t Matter**

**C. Concerning Anaerobic Digesters**

- 1. Are you familiar with Anaerobic Digestion (digesters)? **Y Somewhat N**
- 2. Do you have an opinion on its usefulness to you?

*3. If a digester were to be built in the area to serve local dairymen, would you consider ...*

- a. Using it? **Y Maybe N** Explain:
- b. Being a part owner? **Y Maybe N** Explain:
- c. Paying a service fee? **Y Maybe N** Explain:
- d. Investing capital dollars? **Y Maybe N** Explain:

4. *If such a facility were to exist, what do you think would be the best ownership arrangement for it?*

- a. Cooperative of producers **Y Maybe N**
- b. The state or county **Y Maybe N**
- c. A utility company **Y Maybe N**
- d. An non-utility independent business **Y Maybe N**

- |    |                |   |       |   |          |
|----|----------------|---|-------|---|----------|
| e. | Doesn't matter | Y | Maybe | N |          |
| f. | A combination  | Y | Maybe | N | Explain? |
| g. | Other          | Y | Maybe | N | Explain? |
- 

5. *What considerations would cause you to:*

- a. Use such a facility?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. Not use it?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. Be interested in ownership?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d. Not be interested in ownership?  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Do you have a site in mind for such a facility, your farm or elsewhere? (say 10 acres of land)

\_\_\_\_\_

**D. Other Items**

1. What **should** we know that was **not** covered in the questions? (Use notes page if necessary)

- a. Your operation?
- b. Your waste management?
- c. Your future in dairying?
- d. Your thoughts about digestion?
- e. Your interest in a central digester?

-