

Director Candidates Announced

At the district meetings, stockowners will have the responsibility to help decide who will establish the future direction of NorthStar Cooperative, Inc. Please review the candidate biographies for your district and be prepared to cast your vote via mail ballot or at the meeting.



District 3:

Terry Nugent (Incumbent)



Terry has been a member of the NorthStar board since 1992 and currently serves on NorthStar's Land Committee. A member of the Michigan Milk Producers Advisory Committee, Terry previously served as president of the Michigan Holstein Association; was a member of the Select Sires board of directors and served on the Farm Service Agency board for nine years. Terry owns Nugentdale Farms, a 250-cow Holstein herd in Lowell, Michigan.

District 4:

Jeff Horning (Incumbent)



A member of the NorthStar board of directors since 1999, Jeff currently serves on the Cooperative's Audit Committee. Active in the community, Jeff has held leadership positions with the Michigan Milk Producers Association at both the local and state level. He is an active member of Farm Bureau and has served on various boards. Jeff is an elected trustee in Freedom Township and serves on the Planning Commission. A graduate of Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Food Systems Management, Jeff and his father operate Horning Farms, a 360-cow dairy in Manchester, Michigan.

District 9:

Dan Mielke (Incumbent)



A member of the NorthStar board since 1995, Dan currently serves as Secretary to the Cooperative and is chairman of the Land Committee. Additionally, he serves on the Budget and Finance Committee at Select Sires. Previously Dan served as chairman of the NorthStar Audit Committee and was a member of the Resolutions and Advisory Committee. Active in the community, Dan has served as a board member of the Colby School District, as local town board chairman, as president of the Marathon County Holstein Association and serves on church council. Dan operates Danichelle Holsteins, a 35-cow registered herd in Colby, Wisconsin.

District 10:

Dave Goodrich (Incumbent)



Elected to the NorthStar board of directors in 2002, Dave is a member of the Long Range Planning Committee and previously served on the Cooperative's Resolutions and Advisory Committee. Active in the agriculture industry, Dave is a past FFA Alumni president and has served as chairman for the AMPI Resolutions Committee. Dave operates Goodrich Farms, L.L.P., a 500-cow dairy in New Richmond, Wisconsin.



SOMETIMES THE SIGNS AREN'T THIS OBVIOUS!

Know the symptoms

- Erratic intakes
- Loose manure
- Reduced milk
- Production
- Increased SCC
- Short cycled heats
- Unthrifty appearance

Verify with a mycotoxin analysis

Plan a strategy

Select Bio Cycle Plus™ and Select DTX™ are specifically formulated to counter the negative effects of toxins in feed.



NorthStar Cooperative
INC.

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or milking herd, if the ration isn't balanced it will cause problems down the road." The Ericksons, along with their nutritionist, closely monitor the ration, its moisture content and palatability and make adjustments as often as necessary.

Putting up high quality feed is a requirement for good nutrition and Randy said, "Adam has really pushed us to get our crops up right and on-time." Responsible for the feeding, Adam notes, "It's a nightmare if you open a bag of feed that's no good, because you are stuck with it."

The Ericksons strive to put up good feed and admit it can be a juggling act to

get the crops harvested correctly while taking care of the cows. One way they have made harvesting more efficient is by working with a neighbor. Both farms work together and within a few days are able to get the crops of both farms up. "It's invaluable to work with the neighbor when we harvest," commented Randy.

Management changes with the dry cow program have also been beneficial. Most recently the dry cows were split into pre-fresh and far-off groups, allowing different diets to be fed, which helps cows get off to a better start.

Cow comfort is another key factor to the herd's progress. In 2006 the free-stalls were made bigger and more comfortable for the cows. This past summer sprinklers, fans and long-day lighting were added to the equation. The number of watering sites was increased and Randy noted, "We try very hard to keep the water tanks clean."

"Basically we are just doing things better today than we used to, but we can still do a better job, noted Randy. "It all goes hand in hand in helping us progress," agreed Randy, Carol and Adam. ★

Customer & Stockowner Meetings

This year's speakers:

Dan Carroll, Dairy Sire Product Services Specialist, Select Sires
The future of sire selection

Julie Ainsworth, Dairy Production Analyst, NorthStar Cooperative
Synchronization protocols – which one is right for me?

Bruce Clark, DVM, Director of Training and Technical Services, NorthStar Cooperative
Making reproduction work for you

Lon Peters, Dairy Sire Product Services Manager, Select Sires
Select Sires: Your source for Consistent Results

Jim Sipiorski, Director, A.I. Services, NorthStar Cooperative
Select Sires: Your source for Consistent Results

PLUS:

- Door prizes
- Semen and product specials
- A brief stockowner meeting will be conducted at each site



District 3

Tues. Jan. 29
Russ's Restaurant
Muskegon, Mich.
Registration: 11:30 a.m.
Lunch: Noon

Speakers: Dan Carroll & Julie Ainsworth

District 4

Wed. Feb. 20
Golden Nugget
Irish Hills, Mich.
Registration: 7:00 p.m.
Dinner: 7:30 p.m.

Speaker: Bruce Clark

District 9

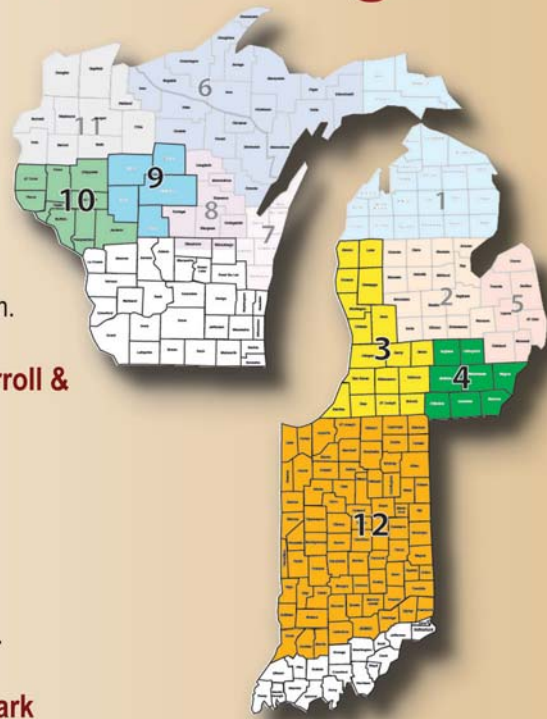
Tues. Feb. 12
Fresh Country Aire
Stratford, Wis.
Registration: 11:30 a.m.
Lunch: Noon

Speaker: Lon Peters

District 10

Wed. Feb. 13
Sleep Inn & Suites
Eau Claire, Wis.
Registration: 11:30 a.m.
Lunch: Noon

Speaker: Lon Peters



District 12

Tues. Feb. 5
Essenhaus Inn and Conference Center
Middlebury, Ind.
Registration: 11:30 a.m.
Lunch: Noon

Speaker: Jim Sipiorski

To help us plan, please RSVP 7 days prior to the meeting you plan to attend by calling 1.888.203.3401.

