Technician FAQs

Q: Part of the herd is milked 3 times and part of the herd is milked 2 times. I am weighing and sampling the 3X cows twice and the 2X cows twice. How do I get the 3X cows to factor?

A: Leave the Type Test as DHI or APCS. Enter the milk weights by BATCH. Enter the milking times for the 2X cows in Application T-H-M. Enter the milking for the 3X cows in Application T-H-T. It may be necessary to change the "Testing Method" to Non-Traditional in Application T-H-I line 18 to 1 for Non-Traditional. This process can also be used if the 3X and 2X cows are weighed and sampled once. In this instance, enter the milking times for both 3X and 2X cows in Application T-H-T.

Q: How do I delete a sample number?

A: Be sure sample number has a "Y" in application T-C-PS, then use P3 Data Correction to change the sample number to "0".

Q: How should Canadian animals be entered?

A: Registration numbers of Canadian cows and sires need to be preceded with the numbers 04 to indicate they are from Canada. Depending on the length of the registration number, zeros may need to be added between the 4 and the beginning of the registration number. For example, sires with six digit numbers are prefixed with 040.

Q: I am trying to exchange files with a producer, it is asking for disk 2, and there isn't a disk 2?

A: Producers and Technicians occasionally experience difficulty Importing and Exporting files. The most reliable method to correct this problem is to format the diskette on the computer that is having problems reading from or writing to the diskette. Then repeat the exchange process using the newly formatted diskette.

Q: How do I transfer cows bought from another DHI herd?

A: In P23 enter the cow's Index Number, DHIA ID, and Barn Name. On the Birthdate line enter the letter T. This will bring up a screen, which allows you to enter the old herdcode and index number. It also allows you to enter a Farm ID but it is optional. Press F10 to continue to the next cow.

Q: What if the purchased cow's previous herdcode is unknown?

A: Enter the cow as a new cow in P23. Include as much information as possible. In Special Handling Instructions, record any other information known on the animal such as the name and location of the previous owner. Usually the DRMS staff can locate a cow based on her identity.

Q: Why does it say sample numbers missing when I do the scan?

A: If you have entered sample numbers for the herd then all milking cows need a sample number. Even if you have assigned a condition affection record (CAR) code of F for sample missing on a cow you must assign a sample number. This is to insure the milk weights and lab data match up properly for all cows. You will need to follow your lab's instructions to determine if the vial should be empty, a water sample or some other procedure.