Hello colleagues,

You must act quickly if you are interested in accessing a first-class educational opportunity right from your own home or office. This is quality, relevant, useful information by an outstanding team of instructors. But you must follow up in the next week or so!

The opportunities covered in this Newsletter relate to dairy cattle—nutrition & management and reproduction & management. Also, watch the News and Hot Topics section on the ARPAS website (http://www.arpas.org/) for other topics of current interest. ARPAS CEUs are available for these courses.

One of the questions I am often asked is, "How can I get quality in-depth educational programs without having to travel to a remote meeting site?" Well, such opportunities are coming "on-line" (literally) and will proliferate rapidly.

The two dairy courses described in this e-mail were mentioned inside the front cover of the August 25 Hoard's Dairyman. After checking the website, I contacted Dr. Mike Hutjens, Professor and Extension Dairy Specialist at the University of Illinois. Mike informed me yesterday that a few places are still available in each of these courses. You can check further and find out how to register by going to the website for "Dairynet – The On-Line Resource for the Dairy Industry" at: http://www.outreach.uiuc.edu/ansci/class_info/

Although this site features two on-line classes for the fall 2000, it is also possible to order a CD-ROM for the two areas. This specific URL is http://www.outreach.uiuc.edu/cdorders/

Here are quotes from their website:

"ANSCI 200/492: Dairy Nutrition and Management. Dr. Mike Hutjens, in conjunction with Professors Jimmy Clark, Jim Drackley, Dick Wallace, and Dave Fischer, will offer Dairy Nutrition & Management via an innovative teaching program that utilizes both the Internet and CD-ROM technology. The CD-ROM contains over 10 hours of lectures in 46 training modules, and students meet for an hour each week on the Internet for a live class session. The CD-ROM can also be ordered separately by ordering online at http://www.outreach.uiuc.edu/cdorders/" "For the past four semesters, more than 125 students have taken this easily accessible course via the Internet. Due to popular demand, Dr. Hutjens will teach another semester of AnSci 200/492. This class will be limited to the first 25 students that enroll. The Fall 2000 semester schedule will begin Monday, September 25 with the last
class
on Monday, December 4. The classes will be held at 7 PM (CST). Students have three enrollment options, and it is simple to register.”

"By using the Web as a teaching tool, students have access to class notes, lectures, and handouts 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Students have the option to print all material for the class. Weekly lectures are recorded and are available if you should happen to be late or miss one of the weekly "live" sessions.” "ANSCI 374: Dairy Reproduction and Management. Dr. Darrel Kesler will lead eight sessions along with Drs. Dave Miller, Mike Hutjens, and Dick Wallace. Topics will include female and male physiology, hormonal relationships, heat detection, new target breeding programs, health management and applications, role of feeding on reproductive junction, and new technologies (such as cloning, genetic engineering, and other new applications).”

"AnSci 374 is the first semester this class is being offered and will be limited to 20 students on campus and 15 off campus students. The class will begin Wednesday, September 27 and run for nine weeks at 7 PM (CST). The class will follow a similar format as outlined above in the Dairy Nutrition and Management curriculum."

Here are quotes from the CD-ROM website:
"(1) Transition Cow CD-ROM. This CD-ROM provides state-of-the art knowledge on managing transition dairy cows so that they can reach their genetic potential milk production. You can listen to 22 experts from the following locations: University of Illinois, University of Wisconsin, University of Minnesota, Iowa State University, Monsanto Dairy Business.” "Modules are broken into four topic areas that include health, engineering & facility design, nutrition & management, and a toolkit section that discusses on-farm application of practices.” “The price is $25 per CD-ROM with an additional $15 per CD-ROM if you are ordering outside the USA or Canada.”

"(2) Dairy Nutrition and Management CD-ROM. This CD-ROM contains over 10 hours of lectures in 46 training modules that are broken down into 11 sections as follows: Basics, Energy, Protein, Minerals, Phase Feeding, Dry Cows, Alfalfa, Corn Silage, Feeding Systems, Herd Health, Troubleshooting.”

"This same CD-ROM is used in the Animal Science 200/492 Dairy Nutrition and Management Class. The price is $45 per CD-ROM with an additional $15 per CD-ROM if you are ordering outside the USA or Canada."

I'd appreciate hearing from anyone who investigates these course opportunities. You can contact me as noted below.

Best wishes,
Bill Baumgardt, ARPAS Executive Vice President