

5 Tips for Inspiring Your Team

Moderator

Laura Daniels, Heartwood Farm & Dairy Girl Network, Cobb, WI

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Laura is in charge of the day-to-day operation of the 300 Jersey cow farm that she and her husband Jarred own together. Laura also does consulting on team building and employee motivation for Star Blends Feed. She recently founded the Dairy Girl Network, and also hits the road to deliver pro-ag and motivational speeches across the country, inspiring many to find their passion, build their skills and have confidence to tell their story.

Panelists

Meghan Hauser – Table Rock Farm, Castile, NY

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Meghan works with her family and 30 full and part time employees to operate this 4th generation, 1,100 cow dairy. Meghan shares general management responsibilities of the farm with her dad and has a special focus on employee development and community outreach. Calves are raised in hutches on pasteurized milk and have been managed by Suzanne De Groff for 31 years.

Paul Molesky – Allenwaite Farm, Schaghticoke, NY

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Paul has worked as herd manager at Allenwaite Farm for nearly 6 years. His experience in LEAD NY helped bring about a shift in his perspective and focus of farm management from managing cows to leading people. Paul oversees around 20 employees, local and Hispanic. They milk 2,300 cows on two sites, in a rotary parlor and a double 13. Calves are raised on auto feeders and in hutches and are fed pasteurized milk and replacer.

Paul Tillotson – Cottonwood Farms, Pavilion, NY

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Paul and his son Jason operate a 300-cow organic dairy on the same location where the family started farming in 1880. They operate the farm with the help of 4 local employees. Since 2011 they have group housed their calves and feed them UV pasteurized milk with a robotic feeder. In 2013 they installed robotic milkers and feed pushers, which they've successfully integrated into their intensive grazing program. Paul is stepping back to allow his son to manage more of the day-to-day tasks. He helps out where needed, makes suggestions, and does repair work and financial planning.