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## **Donald Shaw receives National DHIA's Martin A. Wilson Memorial Award**

**BOISE, Idaho (March 16, 2009)** – Donald Shaw, Southeast DHIA meter and training coordinator, received the National Dairy Herd Information Association's (NDHIA) Martin A. Wilson Memorial Award March 5, in Boise, Idaho, in conjunction with the association's annual meeting. The Martin A. Wilson Award honors a person who has been dedicated to improving DHIA and employed in a DHIA management position for at least five years.

For nearly three decades, Shaw has served dairy producers and the DHI system, with roles as supervisor, state fieldman, field manager and relief supervisor and assistant. Early in his DHI career, Shaw was identified as an innovator. He was asked to help with the original field test of DART (direct access to records by telephone) and gained extensive experience with on-farm data entry. In 1981, he was the first DHI field technician to electronically transmit milk weights from a farm (Hilltop Dairy in Trenton, Florida, with more than 1,800 milk cows) to a dairy records processing center. As field manager, he led the effort where Florida became the first DHI affiliate to achieve 100% electronic input where all technicians used on-farm data entry for all DHI information.

"Don is a long-time DHI employee who has served with dedication and purpose to help dairy farmers through herd testing," stated Dan W. Webb, Southeast DHIA general manager. "He was always motivated about care and operation of milk meters."

John Clay of Dairy Records Management Systems (DRMS) supported Shaw for this award due to his tireless efforts to ensure the delivery of top-notch DHI services. "Don probably does some of his best work at Southeast technician conferences and at DRMS regional meetings. In these settings, Don calmly teaches his peers how to take advantage of technology to ensure collection of accurate information and how to deliver valuable test day reports."

"Don's attention to detail makes the annual Quality Certification (QC) audit of our meter calibrations a breeze," commented Bob Albrecht, Indiana State Dairy Association executive secretary. "Meter inventory and details of necessary calibration reruns have always been in good order to pass the stringent QC requirements."

National DHIA, a trade association for the dairy records industry, serves the best interests of its members and the dairy industry by maintaining the integrity of dairy records and advancing dairy information systems.

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