

# Our History

1965

Established National Dairy Herd Improvement Association. Started in six states, the primary purpose was to give dairy farmers participating in DHIA the opportunity to become partners in progress. Our founding leaders also wanted dairy producers to have a greater influence in determining policy and operating the DHIA System.

1980

DHIA Presidents emphatically said National DHIA should spearhead rational development of on-farm computing systems. National DHIA established an On-Farm Computer Committee to develop policy for on-farm computers. "Many believe virtually all dairy farms will have on-farm computers by 1990.

1987

National DHIA and the Purebred Dairy Association adopt a Memorandum of Understanding.

1990

DHIA Services made direct purchase of milk meters. The overwhelming majority of US production records come from data collected through 36,000 DHIA-owned meters.

1978

First National DHIA Presidents' Conference held in St. Louis, MO. The purpose of the two day seminar was to inform presidents of state DHIA's of the objective of National DHIA and to gain input and suggestions from state DHIA's about the direction and future goals for National DHIA.

1980

National DHIA begin studying the potential development of QCS to assure the credibility and accuracy of records produced in the DHIA System.

1988

DHIA Services entered into joint marketing venture with ProScience to develop the ProStaph I™ test for Staph. Aureus.

DHIA Services developed a used equipment roster for members. Also began development of offering a DHIA credit card. This card is designed to provide competitive benefits to a member while offsetting testing fees. (This did go into effect and had 5.4% of members carrying it. 50% of royalties went back to state DHIA's.

1978

Executive Secretary position became full-time. National DHIA "lobbied" for research and extension funds in Washington and helped organize the Dairy Research Group and the Forum for Animal Agriculture. National DHIA office moved to Columbus, OH.

1986

DHIA Services was established as a NDHIA subsidiary. Main objective is to provide products and services that support state DHIA's in boosting profitability to their members.

1990's

1980's

1990

Labor-Efficient Records (LER) approved as a new concept for operating dairy record keeping programs with the goal of reduced costs to members.

1970's

1981

Magazine for DHIA Dairymen debuts.

1965

1966

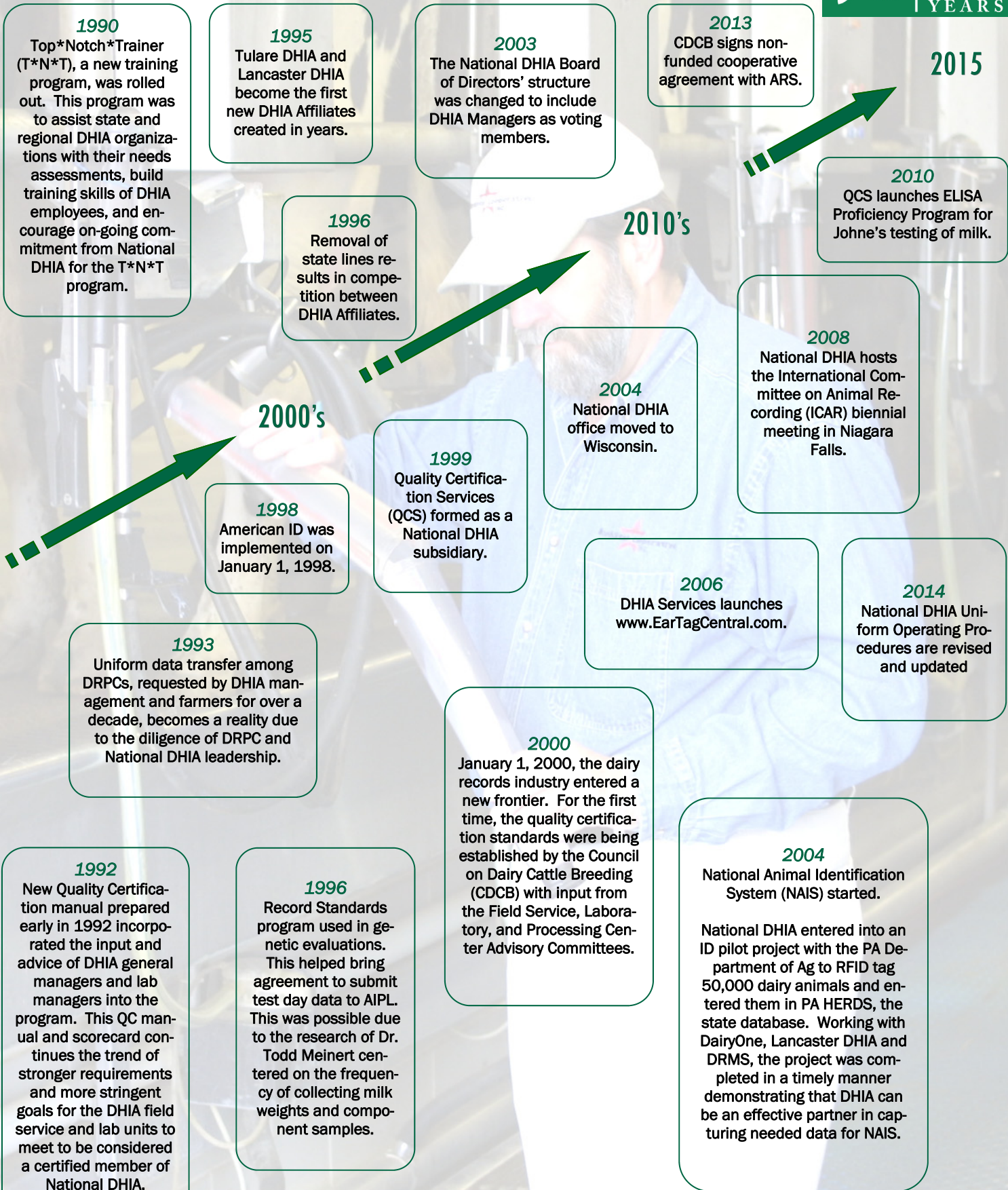
First National DHIA Annual Meeting held in Greensboro, NC.

1986

Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding (CDCB) established.

1990

National DHIA conducted a series of regional laboratory conferences (CA, NY, IA, WI) to permit hands-on training and intensive round table discussions on operation issues. This type of support is a positive alternative to regulatory approaches to quality improvement. Plan in future years is to move toward measuring actual performance and not just quality training.



**1990**

Top\*Notch\*Trainer (T\*N\*T), a new training program, was rolled out. This program was to assist state and regional DHIA organizations with their needs assessments, build training skills of DHIA employees, and encourage on-going commitment from National DHIA for the T\*N\*T program.

**1995**

Tulare DHIA and Lancaster DHIA become the first new DHIA Affiliates created in years.

**2003**

The National DHIA Board of Directors' structure was changed to include DHIA Managers as voting members.

**2013**

CDCB signs non-funded cooperative agreement with ARS.

**2015**

**1996**

Removal of state lines results in competition between DHIA Affiliates.

**2010's**

**2010**

QCS launches ELISA Proficiency Program for Johne's testing of milk.

**2000's**

**2008**

National DHIA hosts the International Committee on Animal Recording (ICAR) biennial meeting in Niagara Falls.

**2004**

National DHIA office moved to Wisconsin.

**1999**

Quality Certification Services (QCS) formed as a National DHIA subsidiary.

**1998**

American ID was implemented on January 1, 1998.

**2006**

DHIA Services launches [www.EarTagCentral.com](http://www.EarTagCentral.com).

**2014**

National DHIA Uniform Operating Procedures are revised and updated

**1993**

Uniform data transfer among DRPCs, requested by DHIA management and farmers for over a decade, becomes a reality due to the diligence of DRPC and National DHIA leadership.

**2000**

January 1, 2000, the dairy records industry entered a new frontier. For the first time, the quality certification standards were being established by the Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding (CDCB) with input from the Field Service, Laboratory, and Processing Center Advisory Committees.

**2004**

National Animal Identification System (NAIS) started.

National DHIA entered into an ID pilot project with the PA Department of Ag to RFID tag 50,000 dairy animals and entered them in PA HERDS, the state database. Working with DairyOne, Lancaster DHIA and DRMS, the project was completed in a timely manner demonstrating that DHIA can be an effective partner in capturing needed data for NAIS.

**1992**

New Quality Certification manual prepared early in 1992 incorporated the input and advice of DHIA general managers and lab managers into the program. This QC manual and scorecard continues the trend of stronger requirements and more stringent goals for the DHIA field service and lab units to meet to be considered a certified member of National DHIA.

**1996**

Record Standards program used in genetic evaluations. This helped bring agreement to submit test day data to AIPL. This was possible due to the research of Dr. Todd Meinert centered on the frequency of collecting milk weights and component samples.