

### 1. Management

- (a) nutrition
- (b) breeding efficiency (early calving and regular yearly calving)
- (c) animal health
- (d) selection programs
- (e) milking procedures and general care

### 2. Genetic Potential of the Individuals in the Herd

If management levels are not a limiting factor, the dairy cow is allowed to display its genetic potential. Those with higher potentials will outproduce their counterparts.

In many areas of the world where herd management techniques have been improved and veterinary techniques for the maintenance of animal health have been developed, it is now possible, by introducing cattle with a high genetic potential for milk production, to reduce the per-unit cost of production.

It cannot be overemphasized that an investment in sound breeding stock under these conditions can lower or help control production costs throughout the life of any dairy enterprise.

