

Washington dairy farmers have estimated annual economic losses due to wild birds present on their farms to range between \$1,000 and \$200,000 per farm. These losses occur through feed loss and pathogen transmission to dairy cattle. Wild birds may also alter cattle feeding, aggression, and aversion behaviors, which may affect the well-being of cattle. The objectives of this study were to: 1) record the number of birds present on Washington dairies; 2) observe behavioral changes in cattle feeding; and 3) determine the pathogens present in bird fecal matter on dairies. Based on farmer reports of bird migration patterns, the fall and winter seasons were selected for data collection. Bird counts were recorded once a week over the course of 4 wk using direct observations on 11 Washington dairies. The bacteriological and behavioral studies were conducted in 14 locations on five farms. On-farm cameras recorded cattle and wild bird behaviors that included the number of cows eating, occurrences of cow intra-species aggressive and aversive behaviors, and incidences of aggressive and aversive behaviors between cows and birds at the feed bunk. Bird fecal samples were collected and shipped to the Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab for analysis. Behavioral data were analyzed using PROC GENMOD and bacteriological data were analyzed using PROC LOGISTIC in SAS. The number of birds observed at any specific time was 0 - 1,000 birds per farm. Preliminary results suggest that the number of headgates used by cows ( $P < 0.0001$ ), and the number of cows eating ( $P < 0.0001$ ) at the feed bunk differed among locations. Additionally, the number of birds present ( $P < 0.0001$ ) and the number of birds eating at the feed bunk ( $P < 0.0001$ ) differed among locations. *Escherichia coli* was isolated from 34/89 samples, and *Campylobacter jejuni* was isolated from only one sample. No significant differences in the number of positive *E. coli* samples were found between locations ( $P = 0.17$ ). Determining bird preferences for feeding location will aid in developing effective deterrence methods and minimize economic losses on dairies.