

Attica Veterinary Associates

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Newsletter – December 2022

THANK YOU!

We would like to thank you for your faithful business. We appreciate you, your family and your employees. We wish you a happy and healthy holiday and New Year. We look forward to continuing to partner with you in 2023.



Upcoming

Next month, along with your bill at the end of January will be a year end statement. They only get sent out if you have a current balance on your account. If you don't get one and would like one be sure to call or e-mail Kathy, ratticav@rochester.rr.com.

BEDDING CALVES IN BARNS DURING COLD WEATHER



Recent research supports the need for good ventilation and plenty of bedding in cold weather. The Wisconsin-based research team said,

"Calf pens in naturally ventilated calf barns frequently become microenvironments of poorer air hygiene within the barn. Increased ventilation rates effectively improve air hygiene in the alleys, but solid fronts, rear panels, and hovers result in the accumulation of airborne bacteria within the pens. The accumulation of high bacteria counts in the pens was associated with increasing prevalence of calves with respiratory disease. Solid

fronts and hovers are sometimes recommended to prevent drafts and chilling, but **it appears that supplying deep straw bedding in which the calf can "nest" is a preferable strategy.** Although straw bedding was associated with higher pen counts than wood-based bedding, the thermal control benefits of nesting appear to outweigh the increased airborne bacteria associated with straw. Although enclosing the pen with solid fronts or covers should be avoided, a single solid barrier between calves is associated with decreased prevalence of respiratory disease. The study suggests that the ideal pen provides 3 square meters (32 square feet) or more area, has solid panels on 2 sides to separate each calf from the next, mesh panels in front and rear, and **deep loose bedding during months when temperatures fall below the thermo-neutral zone of the calf (60° for newborns, 40° for month-old calves).**"

*****Recent study shows aspirin to older cows *** Dr. Jon read / replace??**

Cows can experience inflammation and stress during calving, which can increase the risk of diseases such as mastitis. A year-long American research study found cows that received a short course of acetylsalicylic acid (Aspirin or ASA) after calving had lower metabolic stress and produced more milk than untreated cows.

“It’s sort of a cutting-edge strategy to decrease inflammation after calving,” said Dr. Adrian Barragan, clinical assistant professor of veterinary and biomedical sciences in Penn State’s College of Agricultural Sciences.

Barragan said dairy cows can experience inflammation and stress during calving, which can increase the risk of diseases such as mastitis, an infection of the udder. Research suggests each case of clinical metritis can cost U.S. producers about \$359, with total costs to the dairy industry estimated at \$650 million.

Barragan said decreasing inflammation and stress could be a strategy to prevent disease in early lactation, would improve the welfare and performance of dairy cows and lower disease-related costs for producers. Numerous studies have been done with different non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) after calving on decreasing inflammation, which reported positive results in milk production. However, caution should be exercised with postpartum cows because some physiological processes need a certain amount of inflammation to occur for placenta detachment.

Barragan said a major goal of the project was to prove the effectiveness of a treatment that would be relatively easy and economical for producers to adopt.

Two treatments of Aspirin boluses were administered to the treatment group, the first within 12 hours after calving and the second 24 hours later.

As well, treated multiparous cows produced 3.6 more pounds of milk per day during the first 60 days in milk than the untreated animals.

An anti-inflammatory bolus can be administered at the same time as calcium boluses but they do pose a risk of throat trauma.

After treating with either Aspirin, milk must be withheld from the bulk tank for a time — 96 hours for meloxicam and 24 hours for Aspirin.



