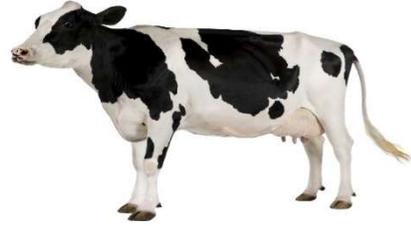


Attica Veterinary Associates

December 2020



"Who let Bessie substitute for Rudolf? I wasted half the night jumping over the moon!"

New Baby Joins the Family

We would like share with you and congratulate Dr. Noah and his wife, Niki, on their new arrival! A baby boy, Paxton, was born on December 15th, 2020 @ 7:01am. He was 7lbs 9 oz and 20.5 inches long and he is adorable. They are doing well!

Holiday Hours:

Christmas Eve – Thursday, December 24 – Office closes at noon, available for emergencies.

Christmas - Friday, December 25 – Office closed for routine work, available for emergencies.

New Year's Eve – Thursday, Dec. 31 – Office closes at noon, available for emergencies.

New Year's Day - Friday, January 1 – Office closed for routine work, available for emergencies.

BioPRYN (Blood Pregnancy) Scheduling Notes:

- Tuesday set-up with Wednesday results will remain the SAME!
- Thursday set-up with Friday results will be changed - results will be by SATURDAY EVENING (Sunday at the latest)

Please continue to have samples here by noon on Thursdays though.

We appreciate your understanding as you know we have had to change this lately, this will continue through the holidays and into the New Year. We will update this schedule in our January newsletter and send an e-mail to you with your results as things change. If you are someone that mails samples in, please be aware shipping has been extremely delayed lately.

If you require results in a very rapid turnaround – please be sure to have them submitted by Tuesday at noon for the week. Any questions or concerns please e-mail us: atticavettech@yahoo.com

Also as the weather gets colder. Please remember to keep your samples at room temp or in the fridge – please try to avoid them freezing!

Is Your Wash Water Hot Enough?

The on-farm problem looks like this: Too many calves seem to be requiring treatment for scours. Equipment used for colostrum collection, storage, and feeding is not getting clean enough. The Milk or milk replacer equipment isn't getting clean enough either – it seems to have scum on it and it feels slimy.

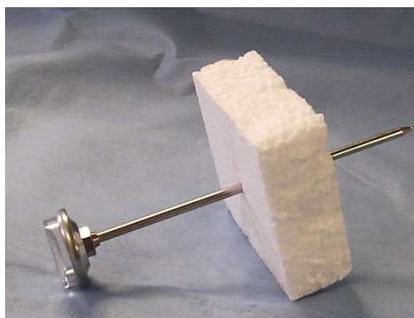
Who is the culprit? It could be the wash water temperature. On a number of farm visits since the last couple of months we have seen many folks washing equipment in water that was too cool to do a good job. If you do not already have an equipment washing protocol download it from our website. Go to www.Atticacows.com, → Resources → Calf Facts Resource Library → “Washing Milk Containers: Protocol”.

Remember, for manual washing of equipment that is used with colostrum, milk, and/or milk replacer, the wash water temperature needs to be above 120°F. This means that when finished washing up, the water you drain from the sink should be above 120°F.

While it seems obvious, if the water that you drain is above 120F, it has to start out considerably higher than that. It is very easy for us on a farm call to spot the wash water temperature problem – if the worker has their bare hands in the water, it is too cool. Wash water should always be hot enough to require rubber gloves (not nitrile milking gloves).

If using a stainless steel sink on very cold days, it may be difficult to have your wash water hot enough. It takes so much heat to warm the sink that you end up with 110F or 120F at the beginning of washing up equipment. Try filling the sink one-quarter to one-third full with straight hot water, let it warm the sink, let it drain out (maybe to feed calves?), and then refill the sink with hot water a second time.

If you have been out-of-doors in cold weather, remember that your hands were conditioned by the cold. Your hands will not be an accurate way to test for actual water temperature – using a rapid-read thermometer is much more reliable. A local dairyman suggested pushing a thermometer through a small square of Styrofoam will allow it to float in your wash water while you work. The thermometer should be more accurate and should help improve cleanliness on your farm.



We would like to thank you for your faithful business during this unprecedented time. We appreciate you, your family and employees. We wish you a happy and healthy holiday and New Year. We look forward to continuing to partner with you in 2021.



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