

AVA Newsletter

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

January 2017

Veterinary Feed Directive News

- Per the FDA, AS700 is labeled for beef cows only. AS700 is not labeled for dairy replacement heifers.
- VFDs can only be written in response to a disease outbreak. VFDs cannot be written for the prevention of disease.
- We must have a valid Veterinary-Client-Patient-Relationship to write a VFD. Depending on the size of the farm, we may need to have visits at least every 3 months or even more frequently. Please discuss any questions with your veterinarian.

Come visit us at the Farm Show!

- When: Feb 2 (10am-4pm), Feb 3 (10am-6pm), Feb 4 (9am-3pm)
- Where: Fairground in Hamburg, NY

AtticaCows.com

- Our web address provides access to lots of good information from the vet clinic. The *On Farm Product Book* is featured with a direct link lower right on the home page - easy to pull up on your smart phone.
- Dr. Sam's Calving Ease blog has the latest as well as archived issues available. The January issue, "What Level of Bacterial Contamination is 'Normal' for Colostrum?" can be found under the Resource pull-down tab.
- Need more information on purchasing feeds containing antibiotics? Click on "*Veterinary Feed Directive*" in the Events box at the Home page.

Freezin' For a Reason 2017

- This year's Polar Plunge is February 12, 2017. Donations can be made through Allison at the clinic. Thanks for your support!

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Bedding Calves in Barns During Cold Weather

Research supports the need for good ventilation and plenty of bedding in cold weather. A 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 covers result in the accumulation of airborne bacteria within the pens. The accumulation of high bacterial counts in the pens was associated with increasing prevalence of calves with respiratory disease."

Solid fronts and covers 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.** Despite 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 the temperature fall below the thermoneutral zone of the calf (60°F for newborns, 40°F for month old calves).**

For Sale/Wanted:

- Wanted: 18.4 x 34 or larger tractor chains. Call Pat at 585-322-0768
- Hay for sale. Large square bales and silage bales. Jason Kehl at 585-297-9155
- Holstein heifers, hay, haylage, IH 2444 tractor, JD 45 combine, 1948 Chevy Stake truck. Christopher Farms 585-478-5265
- John Deere 336 Baler, twine with 30 kicker \$5800. Also for sale – New Holland 816 Chopper wagon. Like New \$8000 Robert Koithan 716-731-5657
- Hesston 845 Round Baler with net wrap. \$5500. Call Rudd Weatherwax at 409-0361
- Straw for sale - large and small square bales - stored under cover. Call Bob at 585-813-6204

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