

# Attica Veterinary Associates

116 Prospect Street, Attica, NY 14011

585-591-2660 / fax 585-591-2898 / Text line 585-356-3420

[www.atticacows.com](http://www.atticacows.com)



Newsletter – July 2022

---

## **Fair Season is in Full Swing!**

A few things to remember when headed to fair:

- Double check ear tags often and definitely before you load your animal to head to fair. Make sure none are missing. If you are missing any or have added any additional tags, please call the clinic ASAP.
- Don't forget your health papers at home, they are your ticket in! Take a picture on your phones so if the papers accidentally end up in a different vehicle than the one with the animals you have something to use until you get the papers.
- Keep a close eye on your animals; they're in a new place and have an adjustment period
- Water, water, water! Fair barns can be HOT, make sure your animals have water available 24/7
- Remember to completely wash and sanitize all your equipment before you head to fair and when you get home.
- Be safe and have fun!

Good luck to everyone headed to shows throughout the fair season! Don't forget to send us your pictures, we'd love to see you in the ring!

## **Ideas for Reducing the Effects of Heat Stress in Our Calves**

The combined effect on calves of both high summer temperatures and high humidity are not good.

They include:

- Reduced feed intake – especially calf starter grain
- Increased energy used for maintenance – more standing, higher respiration rates
- Lower levels of immunity to pathogen challenges

For a comprehensive review on heat stress in dairy calves, use your phone or computer to check out Penn State's Review on Heat Stress in Dairy Calves. Highlights of the review include strategies for increasing shade, increasing air turnover, offering plenty of water, keeping grain fresh, using inorganic bedding, working with calves before temperatures rise, and feeding more milk replacer.

## **Water for Calves in July – One of our favorite articles written by Sam Leadley** **(In memory of Sam’s work, may we strive to pass on this knowledge and legacy)**

We know that water intake in calves depends on how much milk or milk replacer consumed, amount of starter intake and environmental temperature. Calves need more water to drink as the temperature goes up. Research reported in CalfNote#68 (available at calfnote.com) shows these changes (for calves eating 2.2 lbs of starter and 4 quarts of milk replacer daily). On one hand, the 18-degree change from 32 to 50 degrees only increased water intake by 0.4 quarts daily. On the other hand, a small 9 degree change from 86 to 95 degrees accounted for an increase of 0.5 quarts. Small increases at higher temperatures meant drastically greater increases in water needs.

For calves near weaning or already weaned that still live in individual pens, using a larger water pail may be a practical way to avoid having to provide more water than once a day. Consider fastening a 5-gallon pail to the hutch or pen for the last week or two before the calves leave for the transition housing.

### **Clean Pails Equal Higher Water Intake**

In addition to making sure that the calves have enough water to drink, our special summer challenge is to keep the water pails clean. If you are using a different pail for feeding milk and water, keeping the water pail clean may affect water intake rates.

Research shows this relationship between cleaning water pails and growth. Among preweaned calves these do not seem like big differences. However, consider that 1.6#/day is almost 13 percent greater than 1.4#/day!

### **Daily Live Weight Gain By Feeding Group By Water Pail Maintenance Protocol**

<b>Preweaned</b>	<b>Calves</b>	<b>Weaned</b>	<b>Calves</b>
Cleaned (interval)	Gain (#/day)	Cleaned (interval)	Gain (#/day)
Every day	1.6	Every day	3.1
Once / week	1.5	Once / week	3
Once / 2 weeks	1.4	Once / 2 weeks	2.9

Transition heifers with clean, fresh water in clean tubs continued to gain at a higher rate (0.2#/day higher with daily cleaning compared to every two weeks). We might guess that increased water intake affected rate of gain in 2 ways:

1. First, the calves ate more grain and/or hay.
2. Second, the efficiency of feed conversion was greater in the higher water intake calves than the lower water intake calves.

Therefore, changing water daily and keeping the pail or tub clean is a profitable practice.

### **For sale:**

Udderly EZ hand-held cow milking machine. Used Once. Ideal for the collection of colostrum, the milking of a single cow and in the treatment of mastitis. The EZ cow kit comes with one Quart and one Pint bottle and 2 rubber inserts. It can also be used on goats and horses. Sells new for \$189.95, asking \$95. See <http://www.udderlyez.com> for more information. Contact Pam Armstrong @ 716-479-6624

Registered 2021 Hereford Bull for sale. AHA# P44304570. His sire, BEHM 100W Cuda 504C, is in the top 5% of the breed, and his maternal grandsire CRR About Time 743, was Denver Supreme Grand Champion. Homozygous polled. Recessive free. Great EPDs and disposition! Breed or show. Located in Clarence, NY. Contact Pam @ 716-479-6624.