

Attica Veterinary Associates

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www.atticacows.com



Newsletter – November 2023

Holiday Hours:

Please note – emergency services available 24/7/365 (585-591-2660),

Do not call the text line for emergencies as it's not manned 24/7

- Thanksgiving – Thursday 11/23/23 – office closed
- Christmas Day – Monday - 12/25/23 – office closed
- New Years Day – Monday 1/1/24 – office closed



Are you using your intranasal vaccine appropriately?

The ever changing and developing immune system of a calf can make vaccination a challenge. During the first few weeks of life, the calf's immune response depends greatly on the colostrum they received shortly after birth. The maternal antibodies they receive from colostrum help to fight infection as the calf's own immune system continues to develop. Before 5-6 weeks of age many injectable vaccines have limited effectiveness because the maternal antibodies actually block or inhibit the calves response to vaccination. However, this is not the case with intra nasal vaccination. Due to the fact that intranasal vaccination works directly on the respiratory tissues it is not effected by maternal antibodies. This is why we can give this vaccine as early as the first day of life. However, it does not mean that we should not be aware of several limitations. Intranasal vaccine, if given too frequently can actually block its own effectiveness. Once the intranasal vaccine is given it should not be given again in less than 2 weeks time. The initial vaccine has a duration of effectiveness for approximately 45-60 days. If you are going to booster this vaccine you should wait approximately 2 months from the initial vaccination.



Don't forget to stock up on calf jackets!! The cold weather is here again and it's time to take some extra precautions in keeping those babies warm. Holstein and Jersey size calf jackets are available at the clinic. Stop in and check out our supply.

Teat Dipping in Cold Weather

These 5 tips will help in managing teat health during cold weather condition.

1. **PLAN FOR IT.** Post-dipping is equally important in cold weather as in summer. Talk with your vet about your choices.
2. **MAINTAIN A LOG.** Know your teat end conditions during all seasons.
3. **REVIEW YOUR MILKING PROCEDURES AND EQUIPMENT SETTINGS.** Are all the steps in your milking procedures being followed for every cow at every milking? Are scheduled maintenance jobs up to date?
4. **EDUCATE YOUR MILKERS.** How will cold weather affect teat surfaces? Rough teat ends require more care to get clean.
5. **OPTIMIZE THE HOUSING ENVIRONMENT.** Make sure cows have plenty of clean, dry bedding. This might mean using more bedding and bedding more frequently. Check for drafts and provide wind blocks. Monitor wind speed and temperature in your barns. These cautions are especially important for fresh cows as these cows often have swelling and less blood flow in the udder.
6. **TALK WITH YOUR VET ABOUT COLD WEATHER MANAGEMENT.**

Oral Electrolytes for Calves

- The most important ingredient in an electrolyte is water. We prefer feeding them in addition to the milk ration.
- Oral electrolytes are only helpful if the calf drinks them. Drinking may be related to timing related to milk feeding, solution temperature and palatability. Bottle feeding may be necessary for some calves.
- As soon as a calf's manure will no longer stay on top of her bedding she probably is losing more fluids than she is getting from her milk ration. Time to start electrolyte feeding!
- Stress is a common issue among our youngest calves. Oral electrolytes can assist them past stresses like extremely hot or cold weather conditions, rapid wide temperature swings, dehorning, housing changes.
- Dehydrated calves may need more than one oral electrolyte feeding a day. Consider a mid-day feeding. You might try feeding them first in PM followed by oral electrolyte at the very end of the working day.



Holstein service bull for sale

20 months old

\$1,200 or B/O

585-993-5125