

Attica Veterinary Associates, PC

October 2018 Newsletter

Salmonella Dublin Meeting Highlights

Salmonella Dublin is an aggressive bacterial infection that affects calves and cows. Signs of illness in calves range from pneumonia to acute death and are rarely associated with diarrhea. Signs in cows include abortion. Animals can be silent carriers, especially if they are very young when infected or were treated with antibiotics. Salmonella Dublin is resistant to several antibiotics. How can you strategically test for it? Four bulk tank samples over 6-12 months can help detect up to 95% of affected animals. Even better, blood testing all heifers at 4-6mo at the same time as bulk tank testing can catch youngstock who are carriers before they get bred and spread the infection in-utero to calves. Prevention is directly related to management protocols and cleanliness. *Most importantly, this infection can be spread to people.* Please call the vet clinic to consult with a veterinarian regarding risk assessment and prevention protocols for your herd.

Been to the AVA Website Recently?

www.Atticacows.com

All the Attica Veterinary Associates, P.C. resource materials are at your fingertips. The website is device friendly – the display reformats automatically to fit your phone, ipad or laptop.

Question about withholding time for a drug? Use the On-Farm Product Book.

Question about pregnancy testing with BioPryn? Click on the BioPryn link.

Question about calf management? Click on Resources & Calf Facts Resource Library.

Question about events at the vet clinic? Click on Events entries at right main page menu.

Cow Time, People Time

A wise farmer recently noted that he has two paces – “Cow time” and “People time”. When he deals with cows, he is patient, slow, and methodical. He recognizes that rushing the cows may cause increased stress and decreased milk production. When he deals with his employees, the farmer said he is patient and works hard to hustle alongside his employees, recognizing that he is a role model who sets the pace for them. The attitude he shows up to work with every day has to have 2 versatile modes – people mode (work fast and efficiently) and cow mode (patience to move as slowly as the slowest cow).

Feeding the 100# Calf

Many of our two-week-old calves have reached this size. They are not yet eating calf starter grain. The question this fall is “How much milk replacer does a 100 pound calf need for maintenance and to grow?”

The answer is, “It depends.” It depends on how cold is the weather – 50’s, 30’s or very cold in the teens? It depends on our growth goal – is our goal $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 or $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds daily? Maintenance needs go up a lot when the temperature goes down below freezing. For example, let’s compare the maintenance needs for a 100-pound calf at 50° to those at 30°.

At 50 degrees it takes $3\frac{1}{2}$ quarts daily of a 20-20-milk replacer mixed according to bag instructions (8 ounces to make 2 quarts of mix) to keep her alive. In contrast, at 30 degrees the amount of mixed milk replacer needed is slightly more than 4 quarts daily. These two amounts for 50 and 30 degrees are just for maintenance – **no gain figured in at all**. If the weather gets really cold in January (teens during the day and single numbers at night) the amount to keep her alive is nearly 5 quarts daily.

Growing requires energy and protein. For one pound of gain daily we have to feed about $2\frac{1}{2}$ additional quarts of milk replacer a day. For our 100 pound calf that needs $3\frac{1}{2}$ quarts daily for maintenance at 50°, then adding the extra milk replacer for one pound of growth ($2\frac{1}{2}$ quarts) brings her needs up to 6 quarts a day.

Average size Holstein heifer calves at two weeks of age in cold winter weather need at least 6 quarts of milk replacer daily. That will meet their needs to stay alive and to grow about 1 pound a day.

For Sale: 325 New Idea Corn Picker – 2 row – 12 husking rollers. \$2,000

– Robert Koithan 716-807-1965

