

AVA Newsletter

September 2017



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COW COACH

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Kunafin Update

Final 2017 shipments will be mailed the last week of September. Please consider starting Kunafin applications in April-May 2018 for optimal results.

Fall Vaccinations

Worried about getting your fall vaccines done? We generally recommend at least a 9- or 10-way killed respiratory vaccine with the potential for additional vaccines based on your disease concerns. Please discuss vaccine protocols with your veterinarian to address challenges your animals may face and opportunities to prevent or reduce disease. Our technicians also offer vaccination service to help ensure animals are vaccinated in a timely fashion. Call the clinic for more information including prices and scheduling.

Client Reminders

1. Please call the clinic to schedule appointments. Do not text or call doctors' cell phones directly. Our doctors do their best to give clients undivided attention while on farm. Doctors' phone numbers and whereabouts will not be given to clients calling with questions. Additionally, a doctor may be delayed in responding to messages whereas the office may have another doctor rapidly available.
2. Please have a list of **all** of the work requested for a call. The clinic reserves the right to reschedule any additional work added to a call while on farm to reduce delaying doctors.

Attica Veterinary Associates
116 Prospect Street
Attica, NY 14011
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Fall Care for Pastured Heifers

Dewormer:

Every dairy magazine and newsletter in the fall reminds us to worm pastured heifers. That advice is valuable. Intestinal parasites reduce total nutrient absorption. Reductions in nutrient absorption lead to lower growth rates. Fortunately, there are various forms of de-wormer to make application convenient. Dewormers can be added to the heifer feed, injected, or used as a “pour-on” application. Currently, we have no reports of resistant parasites locally, suggesting the products are effective. Deworming is also cost-effective because the same amount of feed produces more growth when you’re feeding just the heifer instead of the heifer + worms.

We stock at least two “pour on” wormers – Cydectin and Eprinex. Both are applied at the dose of 1mL/22lbs. Check with us to get current pricing. We stock larger containers which, when deworming heifers and cows at the same time, may be more cost-effective.

Housing Recommendations:

First, count the heifers to go into your housing. Then, evaluate the square footage available for the pastured heifers. The space that was adequate when the heifers went out in May could very well be insufficient now due to growth while the heifers were pastured.

The guidelines for space on a bedded pack depend on the size of the heifer. For heifers 6mo-1yr old, a minimum of 30 sq ft per heifer is suggested. For heifers older than 1 year, the recommended area is at least 40 sq ft per heifer. Housing that was big enough for nine month olds in May is likely going to be packed tightly for these breeding size heifers now.

Feedbunk space is another critical item to check. Six to nine month old heifers may have sufficient space with one foot per animal (ideally 15 in). The recommendation for heifers 9-12mo old is 18in and for heifers over 1yo is 20in. Feedbunk space that was barely adequate in May will be packed too tightly in October. Too little space at the feedbunk will not hold back all of the heifers – the aggressive eaters will continue to mature at normal rates but the less pushy ones will lose out. These less pushy heifers often take an extra month or two to get bred or may calve at a lighter weight than desired.

For Sale/Wanted:

New Ad Policy:

- Advertisements will be run for one month. To re-advertise, please call the clinic to have an ad repeated.
- Advertisements must be related to agriculture.