



Dairy Details

June 2020

Editor:

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NORTHERN VALLEY DAIRY PRODUCTION MEDICINE CENTER

Turn Out Time

Written by: Portia Seckerson DVM

As feed is running short this year, we have noticed an upswing of animals going out to pasture. Whether you are the beef farmer turning out cow/calf pairs during the time of their most important energy needs or the dairyman turning out pregnant heifers trying to save forage for the cows, hopefully this will be a good review of things to keep in mind.

Grass: Not all grass is created equal, both the quality and quantity change greatly every year depending on the weather. Beef cows on pasture this time of year are focused on a few main things. Peak milk production for the calf at their side, getting pregnant in a timely manner, or maintaining and growing an early developing fetus. It is a good idea to get your grass tested. The process is easy to do. Pick three random locations in the pasture and cut off a large handful of grass at the base (where the cow would normally eat down to). Place each of the three handfuls of grass into a bucket and mix all three together.

Place the entire grass sample into a gallon Ziploc bag and you or your vet can send it to the lab. Knowing the quality of the grass will help decide what needs to be added to the diet, as well as determining how many head per acre your pasture can handle.

Fly control: Flies can be a real nuisance, from slowing rate of gain to passing diseases such as pinkeye. In some studies, yearling weights have been reduced up to 18% by fly related issues. There are multiple products available to fight flies, and it is best to use more than one method. Fly tags and vaccination work well together for the control of pink eye. It is good practice to alternate the type of fly tag every year so a resistance is not created. At the clinic we do alternate every year, so if you buy them here there's no need to worry about remembering which one you used last year. Also, don't forget about those calf huts when it comes to fly control.

Vaccine: This is a good time of year to go over vaccine protocol with your veterinarian. Protocols vary from farm to farm and are dependent on a number of variables, so its best to play 20 questions with us to help give your calves the best start. Pink eye vaccine works best when boosted for the first time. We can also discuss implant programs at this time.

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Deworming: Midsummer is a great time to check fecal samples to determine the best deworming practice. Both cattle that have been on the same type of dewormer for a number of years in a row and cattle on heavily grazed pasture are at the greatest risk. In some situations, animals may benefit from a long lasting dewormer to reduce egg shedding and help clean up heavily used pastures. Long lasting dewormers have shown a 90% reduction in fecal egg shedding.

Hopefully this review will help provide some points to develop or modify a good grazing strategy to optimize growth, health, and efficiency.

Don't hesitate to reach out for further information. We may even enlist the help of our smallest experts! Everett and Veda Seckerson are always at the ready for a ride along.



**Happy June Dairy Month!!
Stop in for Ice cream!**

Fillmore County Dairy Night on the Farm

June 20, 2020 4-7pm

Host Family: Mulhern Dairy

Take a beautiful drive down to Mulhern Dairy and through their farm for Dinner and Ice cream
25901 Cty. Rd 7 Fountain, MN 55935

Current Backorder Items

- SulfaMed (Sulfadimethoxine) Injection 40%, Antibacterial, 250mL
- Triangle 10 HB Vaccine, Killed Virus, 50mL
- Clostridium Perfringens Types C and D Antitoxin Vaccine, 250mL
- Exam Gloves (XLarge) Nitrile Blue - Textured / Powder Free
- Sterile Latex Surgical Gloves, Powder-Free, Size 6.5
- Sulfadimethoxine (Concentrated Solution 12.5%), Antibacterial, 1 Gallon
- VetriPen G (Penicillin G Procaine) Injectable Suspension, 500mL
- VetriPen G (Penicillin G Procaine) Injectable Suspension, 250mL
- Tetanus Antitoxin, Concentrated / Purified, 15000 Units, 20mL
- Tetanus Antitoxin, Concentrated / Purified, 15000 Units, 20mL
- Penicillin 100ml and 250ml

June Dairy Days is Tentatively Canceled our hope is to reschedule it for later this year when we can all enjoy each other's company and food.

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