

Disease Free Cattle USDA Moves Herd To Iowa

A herd of breeding cattle, which has been maintained free of disease for more than 20 years, is being transported from Beltsville, Md., to a new National Animal Disease Laboratory at Ames, Iowa, to provide a source of healthy animals for research, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reports.

In all, 117 cattle are being shipped from USDA's Agricultural Research Center at Beltsville in eight specially designed railroad cars. Adequate ventilation with filtered air is provided in the cars to maintain health of the animals, and air-conditioning to minimize stress during the 27-hour trip. In addition, the cars were thoroughly cleaned and disinfected to prevent any possible infection of the cattle by either disease organisms or parasites.

The cattle will be fed and watered en route. To insure the safety and health of the animals, they are being accompanied by a USDA veterinarian and several caretakers. The animals will be held temporarily at Ames in quarantine pens. Eventually they will be used to breed disease-free animals for disease studies.

A breeding herd of 25 hogs will be moved soon. All these animals are from groups maintained at Beltsville for many years to supply research subjects of known pedigree and health for livestock disease research.

Fly Control In Dairy Barns Is Important

Houseflies are a nuisance in and around dairy barns. They are a source of annoyance to humans and animals. They spread germs. They can cause considerable decrease in warm-season milk production. Good dairy management definitely calls for control of the housefly.

Sanitation is basic to a successful campaign against flies in the barn, but spraying with insecticides will probably be necessary, too. Application of a safe and effective residual-type insecticide will provide control of the flies that inevitably appear. Diazinon, Dibrom, or Ronnel are recommended for

dairy barn use by the Pennsylvania State University.

Diazinon insecticide is one of the long-lasting residual insecticides recommended for control of the housefly in dairy barns. Cornell University terms it "one of the best buys in residual fly control". Illinois College of Agriculture reports that sprays of Diazinon will control houseflies for three to five weeks. At Rutgers University, it is described as "the insecticide of choice".

Diazinon can be used in these four ways to control flies in dairy barns and buildings:

1. **Residual Spray.** Apply to the point of run-off a spray of 2 to 4 quarts of Diazinon 25E (or 4 to 8 pounds of Diazinon 25W) in 25 gallons of water to ceilings and walls. One gallon of the above spray will cover from 350 to 750 square feet of area, depending upon the surface to be treated. Do not spray animals or contaminate their feed and drinking water.

2. **Spot Bait Spray.** Spray a mixture of 1 pint of Diazinon 25 and 1 pound of sugar in 2½ gallons of water at doorways, windows and other areas where flies tend to congregate.

3. **Liquid Bait.** Sprinkle a mixture of 4 ounces of Diazinon 25E and a pound of sugar (or 2 cups of Molasses) in 5 gallons of water lightly over floor areas frequented by flies. Or sprinkle the mix on burlap bags and distribute about the building.

4. **Maggot Control.** As a

course spray or from a sprinkling can, apply a mixture of 4 ounces of Diazinon 25E in 5 gallons of water over each 500-square-foot fly breeding area such as on manure piles.

Repeat the applications in all control methods as fly populations warrant. Liquid baits will require renewal usually every day or two.

Do not overlook the bull pens and calf pens. Clean them thoroughly, and spray floors, walls and ceiling. The floor spray will kill maggots as they hatch. Provide new bedding in the pens, and return the animals about four hours after completion of the spraying job.

Sanitation combined with correct use of effective insecticides will give fly control throughout the season. When using any chemical, the label directions should be carefully read and followed.

Universal Potato Still Sought By Researcher

A Pennsylvania State University researcher is looking for the universal potato — one that will chip well fresh and after storage and have good table qualities. Some varieties now available will make good chips at harvest time while others chip well after a period in cold storage, but the latter have some other disadvantages. The plant breeder hopes to complete the search.

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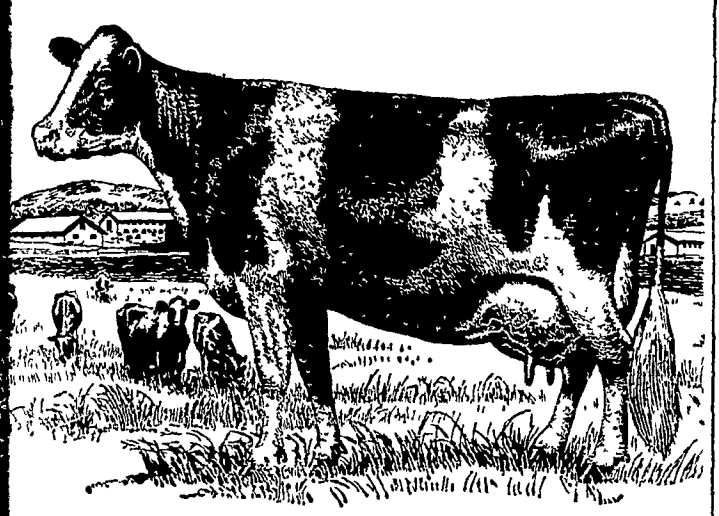


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