

Respiratory ailments are major cause for loss, says veterinarian

ST. LOUIS, Mo. - Despite millions of dollars in expenditures, many hours of study and respiratory diseases continue to be the major cause of disease loss in beef cattle and a major problem in dairy cattle, Dr.

H. E. Amstutz, professor of veterinary medicine at Purdue University told scientists attending the 27th Annual Pfizer Research Conference here this week.

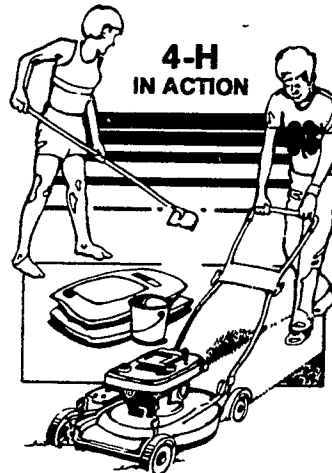
Reviewing research conducted in 1978 on respiratory diseases of cattle, Amstutz said the real killer of cattle continues to be pasteurized. Although numerous drugs have been widely used to treat respiratory disease, they often have not been used

wisely, he said. Research in the past year focused on drug incompatibilities and their effect on laboratory tests as well as bacterial resistance to commonly used antibacterial compounds.

Studies on interferon and other agents as antiviral weapons promise to receive much emphasis in future years, Amstutz noted. In 1978, researchers also investigated the stimulation of cell mediated immunity when the system has been depressed.

Amstutz said that although more effective vaccines and medicines will decrease the loss of cattle from respiratory diseases, current breeding, feeding, housing, and management practices must be changed if the problem is to be solved in the feedlot and calf barn.

Research on herd health programs for the prevention and control of bovine respiratory diseases were also evaluated.

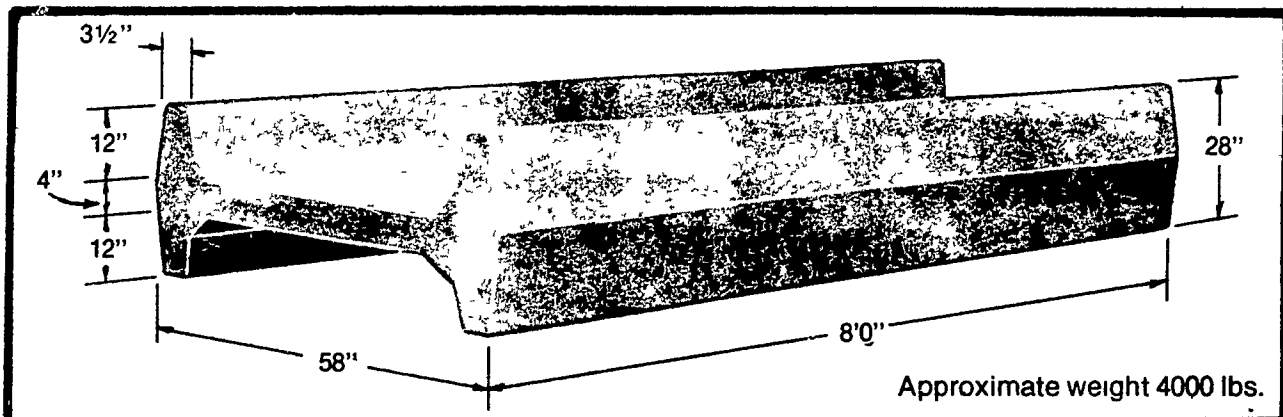


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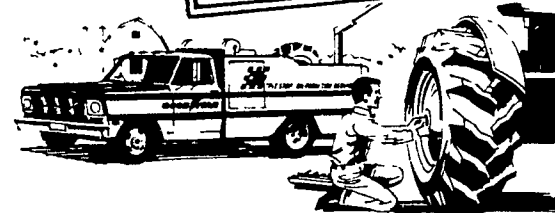
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