

Udder edema costs dairymen production

KENILWORTH, N.J. — "Some herd health programs have practically eliminated udder edema, saving dairymen lost production, and preventing early culls," says Dan West, a dairy researcher for Schering Corporation.

Sometimes called "caked udder", udder edema is the term used to describe excess build up of fluid in the tissue of the udder.

A combination of factors causes udder edema: an increase in blood flow at parturition that produces

blood stagnation causing fluid to seep into the tissue of the udder; the weight of the unborn calf pressing against the veins that drain the udder; and high blood pressure that tends to force fluid through tiny blood vessels and into the udder

Generally, the first calf heifers, and high producing cows develop udder edema. In one study at the University of Illinois, 96.5 percent of the first calf heifers had detectable udder edema.

Udder edema may go away one or two weeks after the calf is born. But if a dairyman waits for the udder edema to subside naturally, he loses potential income, and runs the risk the cow might develop further complications.

Even when the edema eases so its no longer noticeable, caking of the internal structures in the udder obstructs normal circulation and the flow of milk.

The cow feels un-

comfortable which interferes with the normal milk letdown process. This can delay her going into full production for up to four weeks.

The discomfort felt by a cow can predispose her to other diseases. The udder's increased weight can stretch and weaken the medial suspensory ligament causing a pendulous udder, predisposing the cow to mastitis.

Worse yet, the udder's weight can cause the ligament to stretch or rupture, and result in premature culling.

Studies on udder edema indicate that reducing udder edema promptly in first calf

heifers tends to minimize edematous reactions at later calvings. First calf heifers more severe cases at later

calvings. Routine treatment of udder edema should be part of the total herd health program.

Timonium judging winners named

TIMONIUM, Md. — Northeast Maryland's Cecil County proved to be the over-all powerhouse in 4-H judging competition at the Maryland State Fair.

After winning both the senior 4-H poultry and consumer education judging contest, other Cecil County teams captured the senior 4-H horticulture judging crown and placed second in junior 4-H horticulture judging.

Cecil County 4-H dairy cattle judging teams placed second in junior competition and fourth in the senior event.

Also from the Eastern Shore, a strong Queen Annes County team had the first and fifth-place individuals in senior 4-H dairy cattle judging, but lost out in the team standings to traditionally strong Frederick County by two points.

Central Maryland teams continued their domination of both the junior and senior 4-H livestock judging contests.

Top individuals in all of the senior 4-H agricultural

judging events will represent the state in regional and national 4-H competition during the coming fall months. Maryland is the defending national champion in 4-H horticulture judging competition.

High-ranking teams and individuals in end-of-the-month 4-H judging contests at this year's Maryland State Fair were as follows:

HORTICULTURE
Senior teams 1 Cecil county 2 Charles county 3 Wicomico county 4 Carroll county 5 St Mary's county
Senior individual 1 Patty Marvin 17 of La Plata 2 Sharon Weaver 18 Nottingham 3 Dennis Heltzel 17 of Lindwood 4 Sam Brown 16 of Rising Sun 5 Linda Hearn 14 of Laurel
Junior teams 1 Charles county 2 Cecil county 3 St Mary's county 4 Prince Georges county 5 Somerset county
Junior individuals 1 Brian Swann 13 of Newburg 2 Scott Adkins 12 Montpelier 3 Kim Wood 12 of La Plata 4 Angie Dudderar 13 of Pleasant Dale 5 David Schug 12 of Leonardtown

LIVESTOCK
Senior teams 1 Carroll county 2 Howard county 3 Harford county 4 Montgomery county 5 Frederick county
Senior individual 1 Bill Widerman 15 of Sykesville 2 Susan Moxley 16 West Friendship 3 Jeff Hitchcock 14 of Laytonsville 4 Meg Peverly 17 of Bel Air 5 Chris Sullivan 14 of Cooksville
Junior teams 1 Howard county 2 Carroll county 3 Baltimore county 4 Montgomery county 5 Prince Georges county
Junior individuals 1 Carl Curtis 13 of Columbia 2 Sandy Schultz 14 of

Myersville 3 Mary White 14 of Laytonsville 4 Carroll Seiler 14 of Brummel 5 Mike Catrino 14 of Sykesville

DAIRY CATTLE
Senior teams 1 Frederick county 2 Queen Annes county 3 Carroll county 4 Cecil county 5 Washington county
Senior individuals 1 Kim King 17 of Church Hill 2 Tracy Trout 18 of Libertytown 3 Glenda Beard 18 of Mount Airy 4 Julie A. Amos 18 of Street 5 Mary Lou Parry 18 of Centerville

Junior teams 1 Howard county 2 Cecil county 3 Carroll county 4 Baltimore county 5 Washington county
Junior individuals 1 Chris Hall 14 of Daisy 2 Kris Eckard 12 of Westminster 3 Karen L. Davis 12 of Earleville 4 Tarra Woodfield 14 of Clarksville 5 Carole Patrick 13 of Daisy
Teams to represent the state in regional and national 4-H dairy cattle judging competition will be selected from

among the top nine senior individuals. They will compete Monday, September 22 in the 12th annual invitational youth contest during the Pennsylvania All American dairy show at Harrisburg, PA and the national 4-H dairy cattle judging contest on October 1 during the World Dairy Expo at Madison, Wisconsin.



Becker

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JUNIOR HEIFERS
1. Michael Cummings, Westminster, Md., Junior Champion and Reserve Grand; 2. Carlyle Stull, Sandy Spring, Md., Reserve Junior Champion; 3. Gail Snyder; 4. Barbara Metch, Flemington, N.J.; 5. Sherry Jean Wolfe, Smithsburg, Md.

SENIOR HEIFERS
1. Randall Becker, Dover, Senior Champion and

Grand; 2. Laura Iessier, Laytonsville, Md., Reserve Senior Champion; 3. John Hausner; 4. Jane Sikorski; 5. Michael Cummings

STEERS
1. Sherry Wolfe, Smithsburg, Grand Champion; 2. Jackie Heflick, Belle Mead, N.J., Reserve Grand Champion; 3. Judy Heflick, Belle Mead, N.J.; 4. Robert Livingston, Dover; 5. John Hausner.

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