

Dry cow feeding

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practice is about 80 percent dairy, listed twisted stomachs, fatty livers and uterine infections as some of the underlying factors that could cause an animal to become ketotic.

And it is those underlying factors that Hutchison says he looks for before diagnosing a case of ketosis.

"It is significant that all possible avenues be checked first."

The next thing to look at, he says, is the nutritional program.

"An up-to-snuff nutritional program will probably correct 90 percent of ketosis-type problems.

In treating the ketotic cow, Hutchison intravenously administers glucose or dextrose to temporarily elevate blood glucose levels. Hutchison says the treatment is usually accompanied with an injection of glucocorticoids for a longer lasting effect.

Before the vet leaves the farm, he gives the farmer instructions to follow-up for about 10 days with another energy source, usually propylene glycol, that sells commercially under a variety of names.

"This is one disease," Hutchison emphasizes, "where your nutritionist is more important than your vet."

According to county agent Glenn Shirk, a farmer has several resources available for nutrition assistance. In addition to a veterinarian, Shirk suggests working closely with extension and feed companies.

Pennfield ruminant nutritionist Tim Horn suggests that a farmer should gradually get a dry cow accustomed to her fresh cow ration.

"Don't try and push her too fast.



There's nothing like a big appetite, but keep the weight off the dry cows to prevent metabolic problems after she freshens.

A lot of dairymen are tempted to pour it to fresh cows so that she might peak out quicker," Horn says.

He suggests grain feeding at about 0.5 percent of body weight (roughly seven pounds for a 1,350 pound cow). Gradually increase the grain until she's consuming about one percent of bodyweight at freshening. The key, says Horn, is

to eliminate any abrupt changes.

"Adjust her to the type of feeding program she'll be on as a fresh cow."

Now is the time to take a good hard look at your feeding program, and to seek nutritional assistance if you need it. Let's keep the fat cows in cartoons and fairy tales and not in your barn.

Dairyalea appoints Colgan V-P

PEARL RIVER, NY — Raymond Colgan of Goshen, NY, has been appointed Vice President of Sales, Fluid Milk Division and Branch Sales for Dairyalea Cooperative, Inc., the Northeast's

largest farm-to-consumer marketer of milk products with sales in 1980-81 of \$425 million.

An employee since 1966, Colgan has held many executive positions with the Pearl River, NY-based

dairy marketing organization.

Most recently, he has been sales manager for the fluid division. Colgan also had held the posts of branch manager and regional manager.

Dairyalea operates four fluid milk plants (three in New York and one in Pennsylvania) and several dairy product manufacturing plants. Colgan, in addition to his responsibility in fluid sales, will coordinate the sales and marketing functions of the Dairyalea Consumers Products Division.

Ray and Marie Colgan have five children.

Rumensin for coccidiosis

UNIVERSITY PARK — S.B. Guss, Professor Emeritus, Penn State, reports rumensin gives excellent control of coccidiosis in lambs and goats.

Rumensin can be added to alfalfa pellets then add corn and oats later. Recommended dose of rumensin in feed is 15 ppm

(gms/l) for both sheep and goats.

With lambs there is a palatability problem with rumensin above the 15 ppm level.

Goats will apparently tolerate doses above the recommended 15 ppm. Since the 15 ppm is effective, there is no reason to medicate higher than that.

Broiler placements down

HARRISBURG — Placements of broiler chicks in the Commonwealth during the week ending October 24 were 2,075,000, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service.

Placements were three percent below the corresponding week a year earlier and six percent below the previous week. Average placements during the past nine weeks were slightly below a year ago.

Placements in the 19 key poultry producing states were 75,115,000, slightly above the previous week and one percent above the same week a year earlier. Average placements in the 19 key states during the past nine weeks were four percent above a year ago.

Broiler-fryers slaughtered in Pennsylvania under federal inspection during the week ending October 14 totaled 1,657,000, with an average liveweight of 4.11 pounds.

Often times a farmer can support a good cause through the herd. This December the Kopps will consign a bred heifer to the Penn State Ag Arena Sale.

With all the coming and going of sale stock at the Middletown farm, the cows stay long enough to keep the bulk tank full. The current rolling herd average is 16,200 pounds of milk and 600 pounds of fat.

The Kopps feed a total mixed ration to both the milking herd and the dry cows. The milking herd ration contains haylage, corn silage, high moisture shelled corn and a 40 percent protein concentrate.

On a second farm, the Kopps feed out dairy steers to supplement their income. The feedlot is just another means for the three families to make ends meet.

The three family enterprise includes, Howard and Mary Kopp,

Stoneylawn dairy

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their son Jay and his wife Anne, their two children Jyanna and Adam, Ronald and his wife Barbara.

Anne and Jay also farm the nearby State Holstein farm in addition to the family's 300 acres of corn, 60 acres of soybeans and 100 acres of alfalfa.

The family economizes by converting corn fodder into bedding with the help of a stacker. Jay said he feels the animals stay cleaner with the more absorbent litter.

In spite of early adversity, the Kopps have rebounded with a top herd. The burned barn changed things around and now individual calf stalls and group pens fill the lower level of the rebuilt structure.

The old barn may be just a memory but the new barn is a testimony to the driving force behind American farmers to overcome hardships.

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