Livestock market and auction news

Carlisle Auction Carlisie, Pa. Tuesday, Nov. 24

Report supplied by auction CATTLE: STEERS: Good 57.50-59.00; Standard 46.25-55.00. HEIFERS: Good 51.75-56.75; Standard 45.25-48.00; Utility 41.00. COWS: Utility & Commercial 39.75-42.75; Cutter 36.50-40.00; Canner & Low Cutter 33.00-36.00. BULLOCKS: Good 45.25-48.00.

FEEDER STEERS: 57.00-65.00. CATTLE HEIFERS: 50.00-53.00. BULLS: 48.00-67.00.

CALVES: VEALERS: Choice 94.00-106.00; Good 75.00-95.00; Standard & Good 60.00-80.00; Standard & Good 55.00-70.00.

HOGS: Barrows & Gilts US No. 1-2 44.75-46.50; US No. 1-3 38.00-44.50; US No. 2-3 35.00-39.00. SOWS: US No. 1-3 40.00-42.50; No. 2-3 36.00-40.00; Boars 33.50-34.25.

FEEDER PIGS: US No. 1-3 16.00-25.00; No. 1-3 28.00-32.00. SHEEP: LAMBS: Good 35.00-43.00.

Indiana Auction Homer City, PA Thursday, Dec. 3 Report supplied by PDA CATTLE: 114. Compared with

last week's market: Sl. steers: few Good & low Choice 53.75-58.75; Standard 45.25-51.25; Sl. heifers: couple Good 47.50-48.25; few Standard 39.00-43.50; few Utility 34.00-39.00; Sl. cows: Utility & Commercial 37.50-42.00, one at 43.25; Cutters 35.00-38.00; Canner & L. Cutter 27.25-35.50; Shells down to 22.50. Sl. bulls: few Yield Grade No. 1, 955-1905 lbs. 47.50-50.75.

FEEDER CATTLE: Steers, Medium Frame No. 1, 410-580 lbs. 50.25-52.50. Heifers, few Medium Frame No. 1, 320-510 lbs. 41.75-45.00; Bulls, few Medium Frame No. 1, 530-750 lbs. 41.25-44.25.

CALVES: 171. Choice -78.00-89.00; Good 66.00-78.00; Standard 50.00-64.00; Standard & Good 110-125 lbs. 58.00-68.00; 90-110 lbs. 42.00-58.00; 65-85 lbs. 30.00-44.00; Utility 50-90 lbs. 20.00-30.00.

FARM CALVES: Hol. Bulls 95-130 lbs. 55.00-80.00; Hol. Heifers 90-135 lbs. 60.00-94.00; Beef cross Bulls & Heifers 70-110 lbs. 53.00-70.00.

HOGS: 63. few US No. 1-2 210-240 ibs. 44.25-45.00; No. 1-3 200-245 lbs. 42.50-43.00; few No. 2-3 220-265 lbs. 41.50-42.25; one lot No. 1-3 178 lbs. at 37.75; Sows few US No. 1-3 330-520 lbs. 39.50-42.00: one No. 2-3 725

By Robert K. Peters **Assistant Professor Department of Dairy Science** University of Md.

COLLEGE PARK, Md. - Dairy farmers are well aware of the fact that mastitis can not be eradicated. Thus, we are left with the option of controlling the spread of the disease.

Two recommendations that have long been made to help prevent bacterial transfer from infected to non-infected cows at milking are: segregate intected and noninfected cows and milk the infected cows last; and sanitize the teat cups and liners between cows. Neither of these practices have been adopted to any extent by dairymen.

More recently some milking equipment companies have introduced an automated system of sanitizing milking units between cows. This is accomplished by moving water, sanitizer and air backwards through the milking

lbs at 37.00. Couple Boars 31.75 & 35.00.

FEEDER PIGS: 11. One lot US No. 1-3 25 lbs. at 12.50 per head. SHEEP: 8. One lot Choice 92 lbs. at 56.00.

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unit to flush the hose, claw and liners. Thus, the term "backflushing" has been coined to describe the automated sanitizing operation.

Backflush systems generally have several steps in each cycle: - Prerinse with potable water to flush residual milk out of the unit.

Flush with sanitizer.

- Short delay period for the sanitizer to kill bacteria on the liners.

Postrinse with potable water. ~ Air, either under pressure of

vacuum to dry the liners, claw and hose. Approximately one to two quarts

of water are flushed through each unit per cow per milking. The sanitation cycle from start to finish is about one minute.

It has been demonstrated that production. automatic backflush systems using 25 parts per million iodine as the flush solution and air drying decrease bacterial population on liners by 99 percent.

This means that the interior of the milking machine will be essentially free of mastitis-causing organisms and hence, the spread of organisms from infected to noninfected cows via the teat cup liners should be prevented.

controls which documents that backtlushing prevents new udder intections remains to be conducted.

Nevertheless, California exthat backflushing milker units between cows has proven successful in reducing mastitis in problems.

The mastitis causing organisms which are reduced or eliminated from the liner surfaces are those shed in milk from infected cows in sufficient numbers to infect other cows. These include the contagious types of organisms-Streptococcus agalactiae, Staphylocooccus aureus and mycoplasma. Although mastitis control programs based on teat dipping and dry cow therapy have little effect on mycoplasma and coliform mastitis, such a program is usually

Is backflushing for everybody?

highly effective in controlling staphylococcal and streptococcal mastitis.

Since staph and strep mastitis account for 90-95 percent of the mastitis, teat dipping and dry cow therapy remains a logical and economical approach to mastitis control.

The justification for installing backflush should be based on the severity of the mastitis in the herd, since backflush systems cost \$800 to \$1,500 per unit.

Severity of mastitis can be measured by the somatic cell count in bulk milk. The most recent information on somatic cells from dairy scientists at VPI indicates a cell count of 50,000 to 100,000 cells per millimeter of optimal for maximum milk

Thus, larger herds that have been unable to maintain low somatic cell counts with teat dipping and dry cow therapy may find backflushing an attractive tool for their mastitis control program.

Dairy farmers considering backflush systems should visit dairies that have installed a system and observe its operation during milking to learn more about it The cost and potential benefits Yet a study with the appropriate of the system must then be

weighed. As more information becomes available on the efficacy of preventing new infections and when the cost decreases, . tension specialists have observed producers will probably accept automatic backflushing to a much greater extent than the older recommendations of segragating large dairy herds with mastitis cows and manually sanitizing units.



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