

Pipeline

(Continued from Page A30)
stat. This should be continued for about 100 days.

Coccidia are widespread in the

environment and are ingested by calves soon after birth. After ingestion, coccidia spend the first 16 days in the lining of the small intestines; injury occurs, but there is no visible evidence. The next 5-6 days are spent in the large intes-

tine, at which time scours may appear — or there may be no symptoms.

Similar to mastitis organisms, coccidia are opportunistic "bugs." They may be present, but the symptoms may not appear until

calves are stressed by over crowding, poor nutrition, change of ration, inclement weather, weaning, moving, diseases, etc.

After about five life cycles of the coccidia organism, (100 days or so) calves begin to develop some immunity to coccidiosis. Feed additives such as Bovatec and Rumensin possess some coccidiostat properties, but do not offer protection to young calves. These materials are either not fed at a young enough age or they are not fed in quantities large enough to treat infections that are already present. However, they are useful in helping to prevent coccidiosis outbreaks in older cattle.

Equally important is the need to deworm calves and heifers 3 and 6 weeks after they are turned out to pasture in the spring, and again in the fall as they are taken off pas-

ture for winter housing.

Older Calves And Heifers
Weaning is another stressful time for calves. They should be consuming at least 1 pound of calf starter before being weaned. The first grouping experience is also quite stressful. Both of these situations can really set calves back especially if they occur simultaneously and in the presence of other stressors.

After weaning, it is highly desirable to give calves ample time to adjust to dry feeds before requiring them to do battle with other calves for a spot at the feed bunk or watering hole. Ideally, the number of calves in this first transitional pen should be limited to about 3-5, and the pen should be away from older animals.

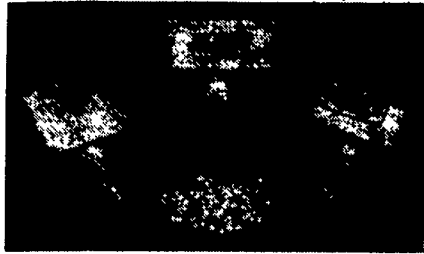
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(Turn to Page A55)

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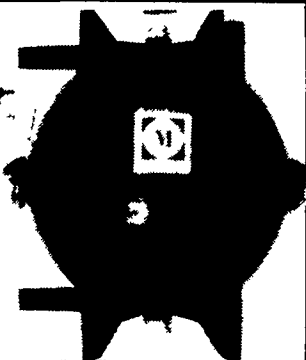
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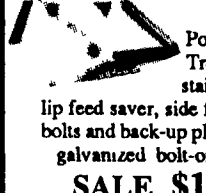
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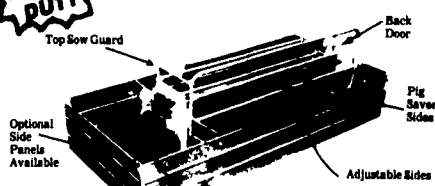
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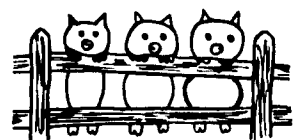
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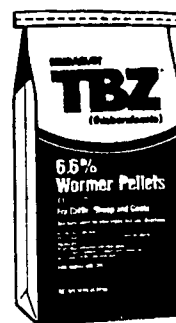


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