

Vaccinations - Article 27

The second form of immunity is that which is acquired through vaccinations. Because vaccines differ in the way they function, it is helpful to have some knowledge of vaccines and cows' immune systems

Immunization and vaccination can be very complex. In the interest of trying to explain it as simply as possible, the information presented below may not be 100% technically correct. When trying to understand immunization and vaccinations, it is convenient to think in two's because a lot of the things seem to happen in two's, as you will see below

- Cattle have two different immune systems

They work independently of each other. Each system protects different parts of the animal's body and offers protection against different diseases and infections

Both systems must function well for the cow to have good immunity

- There are two types of vaccines killed and modified live virus (MLV)

Kalled vaccines work effectively with only one of the cow's 2 immune systems, and generally are more effective against viral infections than bacterial infections

Modified live vaccines can effectively stimulate both of the cow's 2 immune systems, and generally offer greater protection against viral and bacterial infections. Because it is a live virus. it gives cattle a light touch of the disease. Thus, it generally triggers a more severe response than killed vaccines, and can cause abortions

It takes 2 initial shots to stimulate an effective immune response. The second shot is given 2 weeks to 2 months after the first. The first shot "wakes up" the immune system so the second shot can "take hold" and offer lasting protection. Once this immunity has been established, it can be maintained with periodic booster shots. The two-shot setup and periodic booster shots are VERY IMPORTANT. concepts to keep in mind when vaccinating animals

Be sure you are actually getting good immunity with your "shots' and not just spending money for a false sense of security -- and getting little to no immunity!

Review your health records to make sure all animals got the 2 setup shots initially This applies to calves, older heifers and cows, and to all new cattle coming into your herd from other farms, even though they have health charts and supposedly have had "all their shots"

- Vaccinate cattle only when they are healthy, not severely stressed. Do not vaccinate 2 days before nor 5 days after calving
- Do not administer more than 2 bacterial vaccines at one time, it's too much stress on the animal and it may reduce the effectiveness of the vaccine. A 3 or 5-way lepto vaccine is considered as one vaccine, but two additional bacterial vaccines in combination with lepto could be too much
- Some diseases to consider vaccinating for include BVD, IBR, BRSV PI3 Lepto Haemophilus coliform mastitus etc
- Store, administer and use vaccines as per label instructions
- Immunization is complex, so discuss these concerns with your veterinarian and design a vaccination program specific for your farm. Do it right!

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UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Why are more and more agricultural producers adopting Integrated Pest management, or IPM?

You can find the answer in a new video produced by the Pennsylvania IPM program, a collaboration between Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

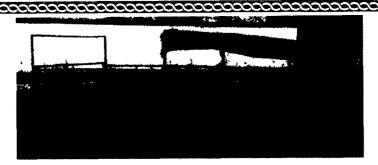
"Why IPM?" explains that Integrated Pest Management is playing an increasingly important role for Pennsylvania's agricultural industry due to the loss of key pesticides, heightened awareness of worker safety, and enactment of the consumer- and environmentdriven Food Quality Protection Act of 1996. The video focuses on IPM as an environmentally friendly, economically viable pest management program that reduces risk

while improving crop consistency, yield and quality.

"Why IPM?" features testimonials from farmers and growers, including Dennis Spangler of New Berlin, Brooks Way of Way

Fruit Farm and Steve Layser of Layser Greenhouses, as well as representatives of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry.

The video can be obtained by contacting any county office of Penn State Cooperative Extension, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture at (717) 772-5204 or the Pennsylvania IPM Program at (800) PENN-IPM.



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