

Early Care Determines What You Get For Your Bull Calves

MIDDLETOWN (Dauphin Co.) — Calf care is a major area of lost economic opportunity in dairy production. Many producers do not realize that what's good for the heifer is good for the bull, and what's good for the bull calf is good for dairy herd profitability.

Improved management of ALL calves on the farm will benefit the overall herd program, the milk market, the calf market and the producer's farm income — beyond the obvious 50 cents to \$1 more per pound received for top-quality calves that are antibiotic-free, blemish-free, healthy, and ready to grow. How calves are managed in the first hours and days of life determines their potential in dairy replacement or veal growout.

Veal is making a comeback with consumers through promotion and recipe development. Today, 80 percent of the nation's veal supply comes from dairy calves going to special fed veal growers where they are raised to about 20 weeks of age at a weight of 400 to 500 pounds. But only 14 percent of these Holstein bull calves leave the dairy farm in the proper health and condition.

Dairy farmers are clearly missing significant economic opportunities. A 1996 survey of Pennsylvania calf buyers and auction barns revealed that 20 percent of calves are marketed at less than three days of age, 23 percent arrive dirty, 24 percent have scours or respiratory problems, 12 percent have wet navels, and 7 percent have difficulty walking.

Nationally, the preweaned mortality rate is 11 percent. An estimated 40 percent of all calves do not get adequate colostrum for passive immunity transfer, and 34 percent of producers are still relying on calves nursing instead of guaranteeing consumption by collecting and feeding the essential first colostrum. In addition, more than half of U.S. dairy farmers are still not dipping navels with iodine at birth. These statistics are unacceptable and directly impact the profits of both veal and dairy producers.

Industry and university studies indicate that calves which acquire a higher level of passive immunity in the first hours after birth are worth \$20 to \$25 more in their first four weeks of life, based on this single management factor alone. Not only are they healthier, less likely to die or incur treatment costs, and more likely to reach their potential — they also demonstrate faster growth and better gain, using less feed than their counterparts with low serum antibodies.

A Cornell University study showed that failure in the colostrum department reduced calf weights at six months of age by

150 pounds. Just think what that means to the veal grower who raises the calf to five months of age.

The quantity, quality and timing of colostrum feeding accomplishes far more than any vaccine or injection in protecting calf health and promoting long-term production and profitability. Four to six quarts of colostrum should be fed daily for at least the first three days of life. But time is of the essence. Three quarts must be fed in the first hour after birth, and then two more times during the first 18 hours of life.

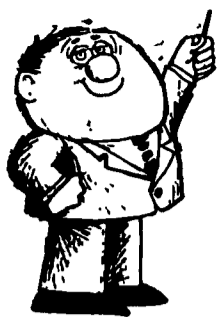
The calf's ability to absorb these antibodies from the lining of the small intestine directly into the blood-stream diminishes every hour as cell structures mature during the first 24 to 36 hours of life. At the same time, calves are most vulnerable to ingested bacteria or viruses because these molecules are also absorbed easily into the bloodstream before gut closure. Whatever gets there first — antibodies or bacteria — are immediately absorbed by the calf to determine its future health and profit potential.

When a calf is sent to market at less than three days old, without having absorbed adequate colostrum antibodies, it readily absorbs whatever viruses and bacteria it ingests on the truck or in the sale pen. Antibiotics do no good at this age, and only result in violative drug residues when the smaller, younger, less thrifty calf is purchased for near-term slaughter as "bob" veal.

First colostrum is the only antibody source for disease protection in newborn calves. It also contains vitamin E necessary for the four to six weeks process of immune system development. Plus colostrum is a source of important growth factors and hormones. The quality of the colostrum is determined by herd health, nutrition and immune status and the dry cow management program.

Properly cleansing the udder before collecting the colostrum and sanitizing bottles and nipples for feeding are essential safeguards against the introduction of bacteria to the susceptible newborn calf. Newborns should receive the first colostrum which must be stored at temperatures below 40 degrees F. to prevent bacterial growth. Later collections of colostrum should be saved for older calves on the farm.

For more information about early calf care and management that will benefit your market calves and replacement heifers, call (717) 985-9125 to obtain your free producer education packet, or write American Veal Association, 1500 Fulling Mill Rd., Middletown, PA 17057.



FARM EQUIPMENT

HERCULES, CONTINENTAL Waukesha farm, industrial engine parts. M&M Surplus Sales, 807 Zerega Avenue, Bronx, NY 10473, (718)828-9026; fax 828-9851.

Richardson dump wagon model 700, good cond., \$6500. 814-684-4475.

Ford 1R picker/sheller, mounted on Ford 871 tractor, exc cond, only harvested 50A in Indiana Co, real collectors item, \$4,995. 724-349-0734.

CASE 2470, 4x4 w/duals, 500 hrs. on engine & trans., 175 hp., no 3 pt., no PTO, \$5,900. 410-833-9091

Int. 4500 field cultivator 14', \$1550; Int. 8' transport disc, \$775; NH 256 rake w/dolly wheels, \$1850; Woods 6' rotary mower, pull type, \$1275. 610/562-4464.

Manure Spreader NI 245 w/recent Gratz chain & endgate, ready to work, \$1,500. 410-833-9091

2000 gal. Dike diesel tank, w/elc. pump, \$3000. 609-894-2849

Case 3X plow \$250; model 128 grain aerator & dryer \$40. Montg. Co. 215/723-7346 No Sunday calls.

Ford 7710, 95hp, w/cab, new paint, seat, tire, muffler, oil radiator fluid, excel. running cond. \$11,000. 973-875-1332

MF 300 combine, 11' grain head, 2r corn head. 570-458-5942

NH 358 Grinder/Mixer, 20' Auger, Scales, Hyd Drive, Exc Cond \$8500/obo. 717-653-2314.

Loader attachments. Bush Hog has loaders to fit over 1500 tractors and they are always 20% off at Taneytown Farm Equipment. 410-751-1500

Used Two-way radios: 800 MHz LTR EF Johnson. 8600 serious. Six units for in truck, one base unit, and three hand-held. Best offer. 717-445-9749.

JD 3945, 4 bottom switch plow, Ford 6x6 irrigation pump, 2R mechanical transplanter, FMC washer & grader. 4R rotary hoe, Midd N5. 732-297-3539.

NH 357 grinder mixer w/scales, best offer. 540-721-2150

IH5100 drill with under-teeth cultiplanter, both in very good cond. DD & presswheels. Reduced to \$3,950. This only 20% of new! 800-919-3322.

Brand new manifolds for tractors, 1930-1975. 507-433-0073 anytime.

Gleaner F3 combine, A430 black corn head, 313 flex grain head. 410-848-8848

Case IH 5130 MFD, deluxe cab, 16-spd Syncro trans, 3200 hr, very nice, \$23,500. 717/776-4261.

CIH 1660, 1990 combine, 2258 eng hrs. w/Cummins eng, 4WD, Acu-grain monitor, 1020 flex head, 17 1/2' cut, 963 - 6R 30" cornhead and 2 header wagons 570-473-4473, 570-374-9404 eves..

Case IH 7110 MFWD, new tires, field ready, 570-523-6135.

Manure Spreader NI 354, tandem, galvan., 2 beaters, gate, works well, \$1,500. 410-833-9091

Ford 9N w/loader & Bushog, nice, \$3500. Farmall Cub w/Woods belly mower, \$2200. IH flail chopper, \$595. 610-562-4464

FOR SALE: Small farm equipment, plows, packers, discs, harrows, mowers, crimpers, tedders, rakes, etc. Trade-ins welcomed. NH mowers, rebuilt and guaranteed, engines, hydraulics, crimper hookups available. KIRKWOOD REPAIR, 550 Coopers Dr., Kirkwood, PA 17536. 717-529-3299 8AM-8:30AM.

Jones PTO tub grinder, good condition. 215-345-1368.

JD 343 corn head, excel cond, \$1800. 716-385-2684

JD 1210A grain cart, 800 bu., long unloading auger, excel. cond. \$2800. Brillion 7/9 shank chisle plow, excel. \$800. 717-677-9658

NH narrow row 325 2R picker w/sheller, \$3000 obo. IH 600 blower, \$1200 obo. 814-634-0110

13' Brillion cultimulcher, little use, great shape! 610-347-6838.

BATWING Woods HD315, 1 owner, shed kept, \$3,800. 410-833-9091

Case IH #14, subsoiler, 5 shank, auto reset, used very little. No Sunday calls. 717-597-5623

JD FD-B 17 Disc drill grass seed fertilizer. New disc. Can deliver. Cumb Co. \$975 717-766-4966.

3 Magnum 7130, 7140, 8920. Case IH 2394, 3594. Case IH 1680 combine, JD 9500. Heads also available E&M Equip. 717-734-3139

IH 5288 tractor, duals, looks like new, used on our farms, 150hp, dual PTO, excellent rubber, runs great! Reduced to \$22,500. Zelsloff Eq. 800/919-3322.

3 Daffin portable mills w/ 471 Detroit diesel, on trucks, \$6,500 each OBO. 717-548-2376.

NI 270 cutditioner, excel. cond. \$1250. Wheels & tires, NI manure spreader, \$10/ea. 717-944-3045

1066 Int. FWD hydro \$5,800 leave message 610-593-6481.

Ford 4000, \$3900; 424 Int. \$3600; post hole auger \$150; post hole driver \$250; 7' scraper blade \$120; 5' Bushhog \$150. All 3PTH. Farmall C w/loader \$1500. HD5 dozer \$3600. 717/927-8137.

NH 791 Manure spreader, some parts like new, bad box 717-865-4650.

Harvestore roller mill, 200 bu, 5hp, WR-RO-matic, supplement meter; Thurman truck scales model 27T w/23' deck. 717/872-4209.

IH 7T, 3pt chisle plow \$875. White 10' transport disc, \$1150. Brillion 12' cultipacker, \$1150. 610-562-4464

NH 851 auto wrap rnd baler, excel. \$5500. 814-466-7074

IH 424 w/2000 series loader, 8 1/2' IH 3082 3pt backhoe, \$8500. 717-545-9120

915 IH combine, corn & soybean special, 820 flex head, 414 diesel hydro. Call 570-922-1526

New 275 gal. fuel tanks, 1 vertical, 2 horizontal. 717-656-0687 lv msg

JD 4850 cab, air, P/S, \$16,800. JD skid steer 8875, 2 spd, 1 owner, 1 1/2 yo, \$16,500 OBO. 717-530-0128.

Case 2290, AC cold, good rubber, good looking, rear end overhauled 3/99 \$13,500. Also, IH5100DD graindrill \$2,950. 570-437-2604.

New NH 24-36' hay & corn elevators. (2) Brillion 10' alfalfa packer/seeder \$1,800/\$2,400. New 24' Allied hay elev. \$875. Rebuilt 40' Zimmerman \$2,400. Holland tree planter \$525. 1pt FH IHC 1X rollover plow, new bottoms, \$450. 1pt FH 6' Matt flail mower \$565. 2R 3pth Ellis transplanter, new, \$650. NI hay rake \$550. IHC hyd dr. hay rake \$1,100. Thank you, Thom. Wheary, Jr 717-687-0102.

JD 435 dsl + JDH nice shape. Also parts: JD GP, A, B, G, MT + IHC 240, Super C, all to be auctioned Sept 25, Elkton, MD, 410-398-7340.

JD 716 forage box and Fox 14' forage box. \$1000/ail. 540-721-2150

Farmall 460 w/loader, \$3200; Farmall 340 fast hitch, \$2500; Farmall H, \$1375; 4' packer pup, \$450. 610/562-4464.

M.F. 1100, 95/hp diesel, m.p., good cond. \$6,500. 814-467-8839.

JD 3130 4x4 same as 2840, engine rebuilt 2,000 hrs ago, strong & solid. Needs paint & TLC. \$7,900/obo. 717-365-3704.

Brady 20' field cultivator w/tine tooth harrow, \$1200. 814-466-7074

Case 870 diesel w/cab, \$6,600. 814-467-8839

NH 163 tedder, \$2,800. (WANT) Case IH 265 dsl, offset, 609-267-6071.

USED TRACTOR PARTS, also rebuilt clutches and torques. We ship UPS. Hill-T Farm Inc., 4295 Richmond Palestine Rd, New Madison, OH 45346. 937-548-0718.

Winpower generator 20-35kw, good working condition. 610/286-6539.

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JD 6 row head for 5830 chopper, excellent condition. 814-793-4293

Int. 5100 drill 18x7 DD w/press wheels, nice, \$2975. Int. #544 gas w/3pt, nice, \$5600; Ford 3000 gas w/PS, \$5200; NI 323 picker, nice, \$1950; FNH #824 corn head, nice. 610/562-4464.

Fancy 15' floating head to fit Gleaner F2-F3, late model, long divider, excellent cond. Zelsloff Eq 800/919-3322.

Katolight 25KW PTO generator, mounted on a cart. Ar-Joy Farms 610-593-5998

Kilbras 350 gravity wagon on 8 ton NH gear, shed kept, nice shape, \$1,400. 570-378-2470.

Woods HD315-5 batwing mower, good condition, \$3250. 410/374-2099.

Gleaner K2 w/grain head, only \$7350. Pair. Good loader! Zelsloff Eq. 800/919-3322.

AC 760 w/cab & rear mounted boom flail mower, good condition \$16,500. 410-833-9091

JD148 loader, no welds on frame. W/llt 30,40,50 series JD 6' bucket \$2,950 Zelsloff Eq. 800-919-3322.

JD 716A forage wagon w/roof. 1275 12-ton chassis w/HD tires \$4,000. Indiana Co, 724-479-2128.

7720 4x4 combine \$15,000. 643 corn head \$4,000. 215 flex head \$1,500. 215-536-5182.

PTO Generators; why buy used when new is cheaper and better? Brushless and slow speed. 25kw-40kw-50kw-55kw. Martin's Electric. 717-530-8450. Cumb. Cty.

JD A & B Tractor; JD PTO Corn Binder; JD Hammer M/M; JD Trailer Plow 212. (540)347-9058.

Generator 25KW 3-Phase 6Cyl Int Engine \$4000; If No Ans. Lv Mess. 610-932-4741.

WANTED TO BUY: Scrap metal. Highest price paid. 717-284-2800 Lancaster Co.

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MF 1163 6R corn head, kept inside A1. 814-674-8257

JD 4430, CAH, 3 pt., PTO, QR, 125 hp, nice, \$11,700. 410-833-9091

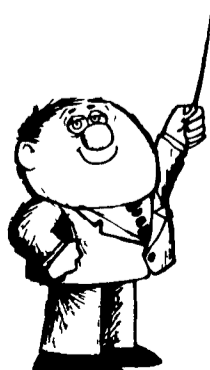
JD 430, Diesel Lawn Tractor, 700 one owner hrs., 60' deck, like new, \$5,900. 410-833-9091

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