

Sunday, July 14
AFGC Conference, Bloomington, Minnesota, through July 17.

Wednesday, July 17
Minnesota Forage Expo, Minneapolis, through July 18.

Thursday, July 18
Maryland pasture walk, Holterholm Farms, Jefferson, Md., 10 a.m. (301) 694-1594.

Saturday, July 27
38th North American Alfalfa Improvement Conference, Sacramento, Calif., through July 31.

World Feeder Bermuda Grass Field Day, Harrisonburg, Va. (540) 896-7381.

Monday, July 29
Mid-Atlantic Dairy Grazing Conference, Hickory, N.C., through July 31. (828) 328-5101.

Thursday, August 1
Lancaster County pasture walk, Jeff Stoltzfus farm, south of Kirkwood, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (717) 394-6851.

Family-operated pastured poultry presentation, Gippert's

Farm, Saugerties, N.Y., 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 13
Clarion County pasture walk, Jerome Greibel, (814) 782-0033.

Thursday, August 15
Maryland pasture walk, Pleasant Valley Jerseys and Duane Hertzler's. (301) 791-1304.

Saturday, August 17
Empire State Pasture Day, Tully, N.Y., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tuesday, August 20
Ag Progress Days and PFGC Hay Show, through Aug. 22.

PFGC Picnic, Evergreen Farms Covered Bridge.

Thursday, August 29
Maryland pasture walk, Myron Martin farm, Knoxville, Md. (301) 791-1304.

Thursday, September 5
Maryland pasture walk, Heirland Farm pasture walk, Woodsboro, Md., (301) 694-1594.

Tuesday, September 10
Clarion County Pasture Walk, Paul and Beth Wingard, (814) 782-0033.

Plant And Animal Considerations For Graziers

(Continued from Page 19)

ing plants also are more likely to produce the poison. Feeding or grazing of these forages should be delayed until they are more mature. Feeding forages following heavy nitrogen fertilization, plant injury by trampling or stunting of plant growth due to adverse weather should be avoided. If large amounts of forages containing prussic acid are eaten, death can occur within a few minutes.

Excess salivation, difficult breathing, muscle tremors and rapid heart rate all signal the onset of prussic acid poisoning. Shortly after these symptoms are seen the animal may go down and death will likely occur due to respiratory paralysis.

Animals that live one to two hours after the onset of

these signs will usually recover.

Prussic acid is quite volatile and there is little danger from feeding well-cured hay.

However, ensiling affected forages does not appear to make it safe to feed. The following prevention measures will best control the problem: Do not graze pastures that are less than 18-24 inches tall or green chop plants over 18 inches tall for three days after a killing frost.

Do not green chop plants less than 18 inches tall for three weeks after a killing frost.

Feed grain before allowing animals to graze fields that may be high in prussic acid.

Pasture bloat is usually caused by the consumption of young growing legumes in the pre-bloom stage. Alfalfa pasture is commonly in-

volved. Cattle in early stage of bloat will show signs of abdominal pain, which include restlessness and kicking at the belly.

The left side of the animal will usually appear distended and swollen. In advanced cases severe distension of the abdominal cavity will be seen. Animals with severe bloat will often exhibit difficult open-mouthed breathing and in many cases they will be down.

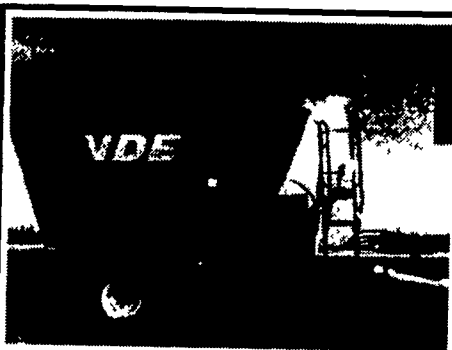
The first indication that a problem exists may be the discovery of one or more dead animals in the pasture.

Pasture bloat is usually of the frothy type and cannot be relieved by passage of a stomach tube alone. Bland oils, detergents and/or special chemicals such as poloxalene are usually required to free the gas from the rumen.

Prevention of pasture bloat includes pre-feeding hay or other feed before turning animals into legume pastures, limiting access to legume pastures until animals are adapted to the new feed, or mowing the field and allowing one or two days before pasturing.

Using oils, detergents or poloxalene for preventing is only effective if given the same day that the problem forage will be eaten and may not be economically feasible in many management situations. Legumes tend to produce gas in the equine digestive system.

Horse do not bloat but do colic, just another name for a severe stomachache.



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