

Calf Talk Newsletter

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YOU CAN'T RAISE CALVES LIKE YOU USE TO

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Dairies expanding from 100 cows to 300 cows and up and trying to run the calves through the same facilities in the same fashion as they used to are having major disasters. They just can't understand what went wrong. They always put the calves in the same group pen (which has not been empty since they started dairying) and continuously commingle them, with no vaccination program, and they just do not see why half of the calves die.

The larger expansion dairies that are going to 1000 and more calves make out better because they also have new calf facilities (usually hutches). However, raising these calves are no different than buying sale barn calves, as the springing heifers are usually purchased from a multitude of sources.

All-in-all-out facilities are necessary. The baby calf must be handled as an individual; a hutch, individual pen, or elevated stall. Individual stalls and pens must be in a building that is emptied after each group of calves are weaned, so as not to develop a continuous flow. People tell me they do a good job of cleaning the empty pen before putting another calf in, but this is not the main problem. It is not the facility (even though you can develop a high level of bacterial contamination), it is the calf. Any calf left in a room or building has all the pathogens (bacteria, viruses, etc.) that all the other calves in the room had. If you keep back one calf out of each group, you are making sure that all calves coming into the facility have to share all the pathogens that

have been in the building since it was last emptied. This may be a way to be fair to each calf and make the survivors appreciate all the diseases that preceded them, but does not do much for calf survivability.

We say that every new barn full of calves is a new ball game. But if it is not a totally new group - it is not only a new ball game but the old game as well. So please be all in and all out and give your calves a sporting chance.

The post-baby barn needs to be all in and all out also. Move the calves from the individual pens to group pens and then keep them together as a group as long as possible. Each time the calves are sorted and commingled they have to reestablish the "peck order" and this is a stressful situation. I vaccinate the calves with a modified live virus vaccine at the time of commingling, and revaccinate again in 8 to 12 days. The modified live vaccine causes the calf's immune system to produce interferon, which is mother nature's own medicine, *Pasteurella pneumonia* usually follows a stress by 14 days, and by vaccinating when mixing and again at 8 to 12 days for a second dose of interferon, the majority of the pneumonia is prevented. Put even numbers of calves in the pens, as the calves follow a "Buddy System". Each has his own buddy.

Follow a well planned program, and you will be successful!!!

UNIPRIM Works Better Than SMZ-TMP

UNIPRIM is sulfadiazine and trimethoprim, whereas SMZ-TMP is sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim. The **UNIPRIM** is well distributed in the tissues and is a more effective treatment than SMZ-TMP's.

UNIPRIM is a once a day treatment and mixes in the milk. A 3 day treatment is usually all that is needed. Pneumonia may require once a day treatment for 5 days.

The cost is *\$0.22 / day* of treatment (at the \$75 per packet price).

One packet medicates 330 - 100# calves once a day.

UNIPRIM is very cost effective, *worth the money.*

UNIPRIM is available in a 1125 gram packet for **\$75.00** which medicates 330 - 100# calves once a day.

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FEBRUARY SPECIALS

We are extending our Nuflor, Banamine, Ralgro, Bo-Se and Mu-Se special thru February 2001.

Baytril 100 100ml.....	\$58.50,	250ml	\$146.25
Boss pour on quart.....	\$17.95,	gallon	\$64.95
"Bute" injection Phenylbutazone 20%		100m	\$9.99
"Bute" tablets Phenylbutazone..		100ct	\$19.99
CalfGuard		1dose bottle	\$2.29
Cystorelin (GNRH)		5 dose/10ml	\$21.15
Dextrose 50%		500ml	\$2.28
First Defense bolus		5 pack	\$32.70
4 Once	5dose \$15.60,	10dose \$28.80,	50dose \$143.65
Furazolidone aerosol powder, topical antibacterial		7oz	\$8.55
Gammulin	22# bucket \$130.13,	50# bags	\$5.50 per pound
Henke Roux 50cc syringe (pistol grip)			\$26.00
Life line made with bovine serum, calf nutritional colostrum supplement			
1 lb. pkt	\$6.85,	Case of 50 (ship direct)	\$6.30 per packet
Micotil 300	100ml.....\$118.75,	250ml	\$290.63
Naxcel 1gm	\$17.29,	Naxcel 4gm	\$43.85
OxyShot200 generic LA-200	500ml		\$9.97
AgriMyacin 100		25# bucket	\$92.65
Pro Bios 180D powder - 240gm jar	\$5.95,	gallon	\$10.25
Propylene Glycol			
Sustain III Calf bolus (Osborn)	25ct \$20.96	50ct	\$37.26
Sustain III Cow Bolus (Osborn)	100ct.		\$114.75
Tylan	200 250ml.....\$20.69	500m	\$36.19
Uniprim 1125gm pkt.		each	\$75.00
Express 5 Boerhinger Ingelheim modified live vaccine			
10ds	\$8.64	50ds	\$42.00
Titanium 5 (Agri Labs) modified live vaccine		10ds	\$9.40
		50ds	\$44.00