

IMMUNOBOOST AND GAMMULIN BELONG IN CALF PROGRAM

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We have had a few months to evaluate both Gammulin and ImmunoBoost. Both products have been used in a variety of circumstances and they are definitely cost effective tools. Their use cuts medication costs, lowers the morbidity rate and reduces the number of dead calves.

I recommend using Gammulin at the rate of one ounce/calf/feeding for the first ten days, and then one half ounce/feeding for seven more days. Reduce dose to one fourth ounce/feeding for one day and then one eighth ounce/feeding for another day. Gammulin can then be used for individual treatment at varying doses on an as need be basis. Some calf raisers are following my recommended dose, some are feeding less and some are feeding more according to their perceived needs. The Gammulin is providing protection against most of the pathogens found in the gut.

ImmunoBoost is being given day one, or some are waiting until day 5 to 7, or both. ImmunoBoost is being used for treatment at the first sign of disease. ImmunoBoost injected, at the same time as other vaccinations, potentiates the vaccines producing a faster response and higher titers which should result in longer immunity. The primary reason ImmunoBoost is being used is for the tremendous and rapid interferon

production, which acts as "Mother Nature's" own medicine against all the pathogens that attack the calf. The effect of the ImmunoBoost, in our experience, lasts for seven days and another one milliliter injection can be given as often as desired. The ImmunoBoost does not interfere with or diminish the effectiveness of antibiotics, Banamine, killed or modified live viral vaccines, or bacterins. Steroids such as dexamethasone or Predef 2X should not be given with the ImmunoBoost as this may diminish the effect of the ImmunoBoost. I would not give an attenuated bacterial vaccine, such as Once PMH, while the calf is under the influence of the ImmunoBoost (within seven days of injecting the ImmunoBoost) as it might kill the attenuated vaccine. I reiterate, there is no detrimental effect upon the virus vaccines.

Extremely high calf purchase prices have caused most calf raisers to not drop their other procedures, but have added the Gammulin and the ImmunoBoost. However, I feel the antibiotics and/or sulfas, commonly fed the first week, could be dropped out.

Calf raisers save much more on cost of medications, labor treating sick calves, and reduction in death loss to very easily pay for the ImmunoBoost and Gammulin.