

# Calf Talk Newsletter

---

JANUARY 2001  
Number One

Volume Seven

---

## Gammulin Is Working

by Russell Schnepfer, DVM

We have many happy calf raisers that are using Gammulin.

Gammulin has been very effective in preventing scours, both bacterial and viral. It has been especially beneficial against Rota and Corona virus. Gammulin works best as a preventative, but is also effective as a treatment, if the calf has not been scouring too long. If the scour has persisted for several days, the lining of the gut has been stripped away and nothing is going to be very effective.

The Gammulin does not do much for Cryptosporidiosis, but does help on the secondary infections that accompany "Crypto". You need to use the Deccox to control the "Crypto".

Control the scours the first week of the calf's life and you go a long way in preventing the pneumonia that usually follows the stress from the scours in 14 days.

Dosages vary for Gammulin. We have been using one ounce of Gammulin in the milk twice a day for the first 10 days, then 1/2 ounce twice a day for 7 days, then 1/4 ounce twice daily for a day or two and finally 1/8 ounce twice a day for a day or two. Weaning the calves off Gammulin gradually has proven

to be helpful. The microflora of the gut is altered by the Gammulin. If the Gammulin is stopped abruptly, a few of the calves "crash". We have raisers using larger doses of Gammulin and some using less, a few are going longer. It is whatever works for the individual. American Protein (manufacturer of Gammulin) has a recommendation of 3/4 ounce daily per calf for 21 days.

CAUTION needs to be used in the manner you feed Gammulin. We see some that feed too many solids without adequate water to start. The Gammulin has energy as well as the milk replacer. You know that suddenly increasing the amount of milk replacer will produce a sick calf. The same is true with Gammulin.

We had one case in which the calves were doing well, but due to the fact younger calves were doing so good on Gammulin the raiser abruptly added Gammulin (I am not sure of the dosage) to three week old calves. Three of the biggest calves developed an acidosis, followed by Enterotoxemia, and died. I equate the acidosis situation to the same result you get putting larger calves on a grain self feeder for the first time and ending up with dead calves.

Gammulin has helped bring poor doing individual veal calves along so they do not go to slaughter as lights.