

APRIL

Agricultural Calendar



Prevent Respiratory Disease in Dairy x Beef Calves

Written by UW Extension Division of Livestock Sandra Stuttgart

Many Wisconsin dairy farmers are breeding some of their dairy cows to beef. The calves from these matings are not raised as dairy replacements but are either raised by the dairy for beef or sold to a variety of calf and cattle operations. Dairy and dairy-beef calves that are sold as pre-weaned (wet) are particularly vulnerable to disease challenge as their young and immature immune system increases their susceptibility to disease.

Passive transfer of immune components in colostrum is the key for helping wet calves survive their next feeding phase after leaving the farm. It can be difficult for dairies to timely collect and deliver enough good quality colostrum to the calves they intend to raise as dairy replacements; let alone for those they plan to sell as beef. Calves intended for beef, however, must receive the same excellent colostrum as the female calves destined for dairy replacements!

Respiratory disease is the biggest health challenge to young calves entering beef production. Bovine Respiratory Disease (BRD) is a disease complex involving bacteria and four commonly found viruses: Infections Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR), Parainfluenza-3 (PI3), Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus (BRSV) and Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD). Just one respiratory episode may damage the animal's lung capacity for life. Beef calves with lung damage have lower carcass finished weight and quality grades as compared to their non-affected pen mates.

BRD is triggered by the stress and increased exposure to respiratory pathogens that occurs during transportation and re-grouping of calves. BVD is especially problematic because it causes profound immunosuppression and is often diagnosed as 'undifferentiated respiratory disease' with nasal discharge and rapid breathing. BVD can cause persistently infected (PI) cattle which maintain BVD in the herd. Work with your herd veterinarian to establish BVD prevention protocols on your dairy which may include timely vaccinations and testing for BVD PI cattle and calves. Do all that you can to avoid having a BVD PI calf leave the farm.



Dairy managers cannot compensate for failure of passive transfer by simply vaccinating the calf. For the first three to four months of life, the calf's immune system is immature and not able to mount adequate duration of immunity to injected (intramuscular or subcutaneous) vaccines. The young calf is dependent on immune factors obtained from colostrum to provide protection from pathogens. If the dam was vaccinated correctly, maternal antibodies found in colostrum will block vaccine response of injected vaccines.

Intranasal vaccines are not blocked by maternal antibodies. The dairy farm's veterinarian can devise an effective BRD vaccination protocol for perinatal calves using intranasal products. When correctly timed and administered, these vaccines help prime the immune system for future respiratory vaccinations as protection against respiratory disease challenges.

The goal is to prevent BRD at the feedlot. Dairies can help to reach this goal by providing adequate colostrum, BVD prevention and an intranasal respiratory vaccine to the dairy and dairy-beef calves leaving their farms. Some calf buyers and cattle feeders are seeking dairy farms willing to get calves off to a good start and setting up private treaty contracts that reward them for doing so.

2023

	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
04							1
APRIL	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30						

- **April 2, 2023**
Palm Sunday
1:00pm – 4-H Arts Festival • Richland Center High School Auditorium
- **April 5, 2023**
6:00pm – Supporting Youth Mental Health For Volunteers Training
- **April 7, 2023**
Good Friday
- **April 9, 2023**
Easter Sunday
- **April 13, 2023**
7:00pm – Global Exploration Series
- **April 14-16, 2023**
UW-Madison Science Expeditions
- **April 22, 2023**
Earth Day

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

From Martha's Kitchen



Martha McLean

Ham & Asparagus Casserole

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 cups fresh asparagus
- 1 inch pieces
- 1 loaf Italian bread torn into bite size pieces
- 2 cups cubed ham
- 4 green onions sliced with tops
- 2 cups shredded swiss cheese - divided
- 8 eggs
- 2½ cups milk
- ½ cup sour cream
- 1 tbsp. dijon mustard or Martha's Hot Mustard
- ½ tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. dried red pepper flakes



"Martha's Hot Mustard" For more info www.allmustard.com

DIRECTIONS:

1. Cook asparagus pieces in a small amount of water until crisp tender. Drain & set aside.
2. Use non-stick cooking spray or butter to grease a 13 x 9 x 2 in baking dish.
3. Spread bread pieces along the bottom of the baking pan.
4. Arrange ham, asparagus, and onions on top.
5. Sprinkle with 1½ cups cheese.
6. In a mixing bowl, beat eggs slightly, add milk, sour cream, mustard, salt & red pepper flakes. Blend well.
7. Pour egg mixture evenly over casserole.
8. With the back of a spoon lightly press bread down into egg mixture.
9. Cover tightly and refrigerate overnight.
10. Bake at 325° F uncovered for 50-60 minutes.
11. Sprinkle with the remaining cheese and bake an additional 5 minutes.

Walsh's ACE Hardware

The Helpful Place

1525 Bohmann Dr.
Richland Center, WI
(608) 647-8925

115 W. Nebraska St.
Muscodia, WI
(608) 739-3175

SIMPSON'S TRACTOR INC.

Pine River Leasing Inc.

New & Used Equipment Sales & Service & Rentals
1710 US Hwy 14 East • Richland Center
(608) 647-6343 • Fax (608) 647-3813
www.simpsonstractor.com

OUR SECRET INGREDIENT is OUTSIDE

Visit the **Retail Outlets** today!

507 W. Main Street • La Farge, WI
Monday-Friday: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

509 Organic Drive • Cashton, WI
Monday-Friday: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday: Closed

CHET'S FEED, SEED N' SUCH

BIRD SEED
PET FOOD

877 N. Orange St., Richland Center, WI 53581 • (608) 647-8833

CONCRETE FORMS INC.

Poured Concrete Walls and Floors
Residential
Ag - Commercial

Over 40 Years Experience.
583-3622
Lone Rock, WI

WE BUY SCRAP

cars, trucks, farm machinery, appliances, copper, stainless steel, aluminum, batteries
"We can tow or haul your scrap!"

RUNICK METAL RECYCLING

608-464-5552
W9794 Hwy. 33 • Wonevow, WI
(Just outside of Union Center)
www.runickmetal.com

HOME STYLE SAUSAGE

RICHLAND LOCKER CO. INC.

Where Friendly People "Meat"
Complete Meat Processing, Retail Sales,
Venison Processing, & Sausage Making
608-647-4577
Carl, Susan & Craig Huth - Owners
Since 1939

590 S. Main St. • Richland Center, WI 53581

LIME RIDGE AG SUPPLY

Lime Ridge, Wisconsin • 986-2626

- Independently owned since 1986
- Customized Feed Mixes
- Dairy and Beef Ration Formulation

Monday - Friday 8:00 to 5:00
Saturday 8:00 to Noon

STEEL PANELS

Sheds • Garages • Barns • Commercial • Residential • Roofing

40-Yr. XL Paint Finish Warranty
Exposed Fastener & Standing Seam
50-100 Year Lifespan

PANELS • TRIM • ACCESSORIES • COLORS • INSTALLATION VIDEOS
VISIT AllAmericanSteel.net

ALL AMERICAN STEEL
608-377-7200
1201 N. Superior Ave.
Tomah, WI