

- ◆ Make sure to record calf birth dates if you may want to age and source verify your calves this fall
- ◆ Rapid breedback on cows requires good body condition at breeding time
- ◆ With projected record high feeder calf prices this fall, we need to keep our herd health programs at their best.

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Latest News—Staff changes

As many of you may have heard or seen, we have a new doctor at the clinic. John Waddell has moved on to a full time position with Boehringer-Ingelheim in the swine professional services division and will be relocating near St. Louis. In his place we have been fortunate to add his son Jess Waddell. Jess is a 2010 graduate of Iowa State University and was previously employed with Boehringer-Ingelheim working in Central and Eastern Europe since graduation. He is excited to be onboard at the clinic and will be utilized in all areas with special expertise in swine production medicine. We would like to thank John for his many years of leadership and service to the clinic and its clients and wish him the best in his new endeavor.

We also have added a new employee to the staff at the Sutton clinic. Jackie Griess decided it was time to retire after many years of dedicated service. We would like to thank her for always being there and taking care of the many things we never found time to do. In her place now is Tonya Rademacher. She lives in Clay Center with her husband and 2 children. If you have called in lately you may have talked to her on the phone. She is currently splitting her time between the Sutton and Geneva offices.

Product Delivery available:

If you are in need of products for spring work let us know. We may be able to deliver it if we are in the area. The other option is to have it shipped directly to your farm. Simply call in your order and in most cases receive it the next day. Shipping is free with minimum order.

Spring Cow vaccinations:

Express 3FP VLS
Caliber 7
Autogenous Pinkeye
Cydectin Pour On

Calf Vaccinations

Pyramid 5
Caliber 7 unless given at birth
Autogenous Pinkeye
Cydectin Pour On
Synovex C
This is the best time to castrate and deworm calves.

Benefits of Spring Deworming

We all know the benefits of deworming in the fall to get rid of the worms that were consumed all summer while out grazing, but deworming at turnout time in the spring may have even more economic benefits. When cattle begin grazing in the spring, they are picking

up thousands of worm larvae every day. It is in early spring when the conditions for larvae survival are the best. Young calves are the most susceptible to the effects of parasite infection. They cause loss of production by suppressing the appetite and

robbing vital nutrients from the digestive tract. Dewormers such as Cydectin that have a long duration of action can keep cows and calves free of parasites for up to 40 days after treatment.. Contd on page 3

Prebreeding Vaccinations

The goal of vaccinating your herd in the spring is to prevent disease in the calves and ensure that cows are protected from agents that can cause abortions. Exposure to these pathogens can come from a variety of sources including fence-line contact with other cattle or co-mingling on a ranch. Current vaccinations protect the investment you have made in building your herd. We have listed the recommended products on the front of this newsletter. We have selected products that have a known track record of successfully protecting your

herd from diseases commonly seen in the area during the summer months. Many of the threats we are worried about come from outside sources such as fence-line contact with other herds or wandering bulls that seem to find their way into your pasture as the breeding season winds down and the heifer calves are beginning to come into heat. This year we are recommending **Express 3 FP VL5**. I know the name is long and hard to remember but we have confidence that it will be a great product for herd protection. It recently received a 12 month

duration of immunity claim for IBR and BVD. Additionally it has a protection claim against Lepto Hardjo Bovis. This organism is responsible for abortions and has been implicated as a cause of some weak calves. It is to be used in open cows prior to breeding. The dose is 2 ml and it is given subcutaneously.

Vaccinating your herd in the spring may be the single best time to prevent disease and increase profitability.

Pinkeye Update

The past few years have been a real challenge for us and for many producers with pinkeye infections during the summer. We have had several breaks even in herds that were vaccinated with a commercial vaccine. Over the past few years we have been gathering isolates from the affected calves and typing them. Two years ago we started working with a new company called Genova Labs and utilizing the

Kansas State diagnostic lab to type these isolates using DNA. We have discovered several different strains of *Moraxella bovoculi* with these cultures. This is not a strain used in the commercial vaccines. We took these isolates and had an autogenous vaccine made through Genova labs which can be used in herds that have experienced problems in the past. We have been updating the vaccine annually

with strains we find in the area during outbreaks. Contact us to discuss whether this vaccine would be a useful tool to prevent pinkeye in your herd.

Grass Tetany

This is the time of year when we typically begin to worry about grass tetany in the cows as we move onto pasture. This condition is caused by a deficiency in magnesium. Lush green grass growth like we have this year with the abundance of moisture looks great for grazing, but it lacks many important microminerals. The one that causes us the most problems is magnesium. For this reason we must supplement grazing cattle with

high magnesium mineral. It is best to start this supplementation before sending cows to grass to build magnesium levels. Since high magnesium mineral is not as palatable, cattle are often less aggressive at consuming it and it may be best to feed it in a ration to ensure we are getting adequate levels of consumption before going to grass.

Breeding Soundness Evaluations

We have already begun testing many of the bulls in the area and have found that most bulls have survived the off season. Even though this winter has been relatively mild, cold weather isn't the only cause of reproductive failure in bulls. If you have not had your bulls tested in 2012, we would encourage you to do it soon before replacements become in short supply. Don't forget to include your bulls in your prebreeding vaccination schedule as they can be the primary source for spreading disease within the cow herd.



Is he a good breeder for another season?

Spring Deworming contd.

This can result in significant weight gains in the calves at weaning. The return on investment of spring deworming becomes very high when looking at current feeder calf prices. Reducing the parasite burden in the calves also helps to strengthen the immune system of the young calves. Keeping cows parasite free early in the grazing season will help put more weight back on quickly and can cut the

time to rebreeding. The other benefit of spring deworming is that it will decrease the amount of parasite contamination on your pasture for future years. The key to this program is to administer the product as close to turnout as possible for maximum benefit and use a product with a long duration of action such as Cydectin. If possible the ideal time for deworming is about 3 weeks after turnout. This

will kill all of the parasites taken in during the first few weeks of grazing and the residual effect takes further into the summer. This involves handling the cattle an extra time but many producers have found it to be a great time to put in fly tags as well and minimize the time spent spraying cows in the summer.

Spring deworming trials have shown up to 26 extra pounds per calf at weaning.

Trichomonas—Is it a risk in your herd?



Trichomonas is an emerging risk that can cause abortions in your herd.

What is Trich?

It is a venereal disease in cattle that the protozoan *Trichomonas foetus*

causes. The disease can cause infertility, abortions in the first half of gestation and uterine infections, resulting in cows having to be bred more than once per season.

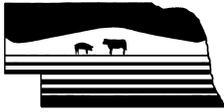
Control/Prevention:

- ◆ Purchase only virgin bulls
- ◆ Test your bulls prior to the breeding season
- ◆ Don't carry over open cows that didn't breed last year
- ◆ Use artificial insemination

Trich has become more of a concern with the large influx of cows moving in from the drought areas in the south. These cows are at a much higher risk of carrying the disease than those native to our area.

To know if you are at risk for this problem or should consider testing, please consult us for a herd evaluation.

SUTTON VETERINARY CLINIC, PC



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“Dedicated to improving the economic efficiency of livestock operations through effective resource management”

Feel free to send us comments about the newsletter or future topics you would like to see more information about. The goal is for this to be informative and address areas that are essential to your cattle health and well being. We will also discuss ways to make your operation more profitable.

Email us:

sutton.vet.clinic@hotmail.com

New BI Spring Cattle Producer Incentive Program Feb 20th-May 31st

This year Boehringer Ingelheim is offering you the opportunity to earn rewards points for your animal health purchases. These points can then be redeemed for more than 300,000 different products. To enroll, see us for a purchase claim form or log on to the BI producer rewards website at www.birewards.performnet.com. You will be required to submit an email address to access the program website. They will also be having a drawing for a John Deere Gator, iPads and a trip to Las Vegas just for enrolling. The list of qualifying products includes, Pyramid 5, Caliber 7, Alpha 7, Alpha CD, Pyramid 5 Presponse, Express 3FP VL5, Cydectin, Diaque and

Others. These are many of the products we are using in our spring processing protocols. I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to earn some extra rewards.