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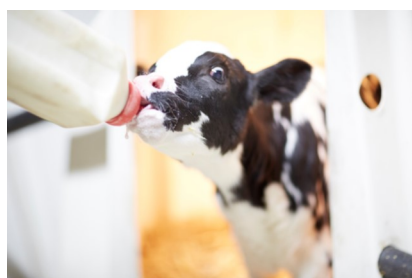


The Calf Bawl

Jones Feed Mills Calf Update— Published by Lisa Zieleman— Mobile/ Text: 519-807-3870

Pneumonia in Young Dairy Calves

Over the past few years the weather has been quite unpredictable, especially in late fall and winter. It has become a challenge to try and figure out how to set your ventilation equipment properly or have the correct settings in place to avoid any health issues like pneumonia. Young dairy calves are the most sensitive to poor ventilation and are susceptible to pneumonia. It is one of the most common diseases that producers face in



young calves and one of the most challenging ones too. Pneumonia is defined as a bacterial or viral infection of the lungs, where the air sacs fill with pus and may become solid. Once calves get pneumonia the damage in most cases is irreversible.

Things to look for:

Temperature:

The first sign of pneumonia in young calves is usually a fever, which would be considered anything over 39.4 °C (103° F) rectal temperature. It is hard to notice any physical signs at first but doing a routine weekly temperature check for calves on milk can be very beneficial in catching pneumonia early on. The sooner you catch it, and use the proper treatment method prescribed by your veterinarian the higher the success rate!



Physical Signs:

Typically when calves get pneumonia the physical signs can become very evident. Things that you may notice when a calf has pneumonia:

- Coughing
- Heavy breathing
- Nasal discharge
- Ears and head are down

When these signs are present it is very important to treat the calf right away! The longer treatment is put off, the worse the damage will be on the calf's lungs.

Got Calf Questions?

Contact:

Lisa Zieleman

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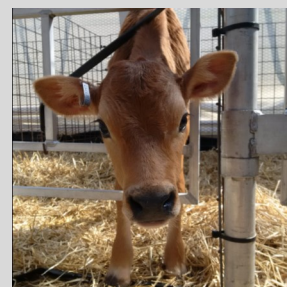
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A-moozing Hints!

Need a quicker way to thaw out frozen colostrum? Here is a handy tool that can speed up this process in a quick and safe way! This device is called ‘

Sous Vide’ is meant to cook meat in water, but can also be used to thaw out frozen colostrum. All you need to do is fill up a pail with warm water then insert

the frozen colostrum. Attached the ‘Sous Vide’ to the side of your pail and plug it into an electrical outlet. Set the desired timer and temperature (no higher than 120°F/50°C) on the device and the colostrum should be thawed in no time! Any questions contact Lisa Zieleman at 519-807-3870.



Calf Picture Contestant

Winners!

Congratulations to Sandra on having the winning picture for our calf photo contest!

Thank you to all who participated!



Continued...

Prevention of Pneumonia:

Colostrum Management: This is the most important step to having a successful calf- management/ raising program. Calves that do not receive a high quality and quantity of colostrum are at an increased risk for developing health issues like pneumonia and scours. Making sure calves receive enough antibodies through the colostrum will help calves fight off disease better.

Ventilation: The cold weather months are when pneumonia seems to be the biggest challenge. The reason for this is because many farmers close-up their barns and there isn't a proper ventilation system set in place. Calves can handle cold weather, but not the ammonia. It is important to let fresh air in and take the bad air out at the same rate. 1 calf needs air movement of 20 CFM's (cubic feet per minute), this is not a lot, just enough to circulate the air and not cause a draft.

Proper Vaccine Protocol: There are many different types of pneumonia vaccines that are available to give to calves. It is important to work with your veterinarian to setting a protocol/ program in place to help decrease pneumonia issues. Remember, no vaccine will correct a poorly ventilated and poorly colostrum managed calf raising system.

Nutrition: Make sure you work closely with your nutritionist/ calf specialist to make sure each calf is receiving the proper nutrients in their daily diets!

Jones Feed Mills offers calf barn ventilation audits, for more information call Lisa Zieleman at 519-807-3870

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