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FEED MILLS LTD.



The Calf Bowl

February 2019

Jones Feed Mills Calf Update – Published by Lisa Zieleman, JFM Market Support Specialist — Mobile/ Text: 519-807-3870

Are Coccidiostats Necessary?

Written by Lisa Zieleman with excerpts (with permission) from Calf Notes.com

Ever wonder why some feed mills (ex: Jones Feed Mills) add coccidiostats (ex: Deccox®, Rumensin®, Monensin, Bovatec®) into some of their calf starters? There is a good reason. The purpose of this article is to help explain their use. Coccidiosis is an internal parasite that infects many types of species, including young dairy cattle. It grows inside of the intestinal cells of animals and can cause extensive damage to the intestines as they grow. When intestines are damaged digestibility is reduced, scours may occur, and the appetite of the calf is reduced. Clinical signs of coccidiosis include bloody diarrhea, loss of appetite, dehydration, weight loss, rough hair, weakness and lethargy. If proper management is not in place coccidiosis can be very severe and even deadly in some cases. One of the easiest ways to prevent the disease from maturing and causing damage is by using a coccidiostat in feed. This is a very cost effective and easy way to help control the parasite.

Below are some reasons coccidiostats are added to calf starters:

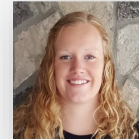
- Most of the economic loss caused by coccidiosis occurs in animals with subclinical cases – the hardest to detect.
- You can't easily stop the spread of coccidiosis on many farms once it has become established. Using a coccidiostat is the best means of control.
- Prevention is key! It will cost an operation more on treatment and economic loss than it will to prevent it.
- Coccidiostats are economical!
- It is easy to use. FYI, all JFM calf starters (with the exception of organic) and all JFM milk replacers contain a coccidiostat.

A good question you may have is “how do I know my calves are eating enough to be protected?” Young calves typically don't consume enough starter to ensure they are taking in enough coccidiostat until they are around 3 to 4 weeks of age. As a feed company we estimate the amount coccidiostat to place in the feed depending on the type of feed, expected size of the animal, and how long we recommend the animal should be on the medicated feed for. For calves that are not fed a milk replacer that contains a coccidiostat and that are not eating enough calf starter yet, using a coccidiostat in whole milk is recommended, especially if your farm has a history of coccidiosis.

In summary, including a coccidiostat in your calf feeding program to help prevent coccidiosis makes economic and good common sense. Want more information about coccidiosis? Contact Lisa Zieleman or a member of the JFM Dairy Team.

Got Calf Questions?

Contact:



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We're here to help!

Toxins in Calves

Written by Tricia Dunn, JFM Market Support Specialist

Mycotoxins are naturally occurring compounds that occur as a result of mold in corn or other grains. Mycotoxins can develop either in the field or storage, and there are several types of toxins. Most commonly we hear of vomitoxin, or DON, but other toxins include aflatoxin, zearalenone and T-2. Calves are unable to handle levels of toxins that the lactating herd can because they do not have fully functioning rumens. Calves fed corn with high toxin levels will likely have reduced feed intake and higher feed refusals. Additionally, toxins are associated with weight loss, diarrhea, digestive tract damage and impaired immune function. For calves to have the best possible start, feeding corn with toxins should be avoided. If you are using your own on farm corn in your calf starter and grower, but are unsure of the toxin levels, talk to Lisa or a member of the JFM dairy Team about testing your corn for mycotoxins.

You're Invited...



Dairy Producer Meeting

"Calf College ~ Ensuring a Profitable Future"

Tuesday February 26th at Elmira Lions Hall, Elmira ON

40 South Street West, Elmira, ON

10:00AM to 2:30PM

Presenters:

Tana Dennis PhD & Dennis Wood, Calf and Heifer Specialists, Provimi North America

Tom Gutteridge, DVM, Associate Manager - Veterinary Services, Zoetis Canada Inc.

Lisa Zieleman, Calf Specialist, Jones Feed Mills Ltd.

Roast Beef Lunch Provided!

RSVP by Feb 22 by calling 1-800-265-8735 or talk to your JFM Dairy Sales Consultant

Rides to and from meeting available upon request



JFM Calf Feeding Guide



Looking for a complete, simple to read, all inclusive, research-based calf feeding guide? Talk to Lisa or a member of the Jones Dairy Team for your copy of the JFM Calf and Heifer Feeding Guide.

Programs can be customized to meet your individual needs.

The Right Advice!

Looking for good, solid calf advice from one of the most renowned calf researchers? Visit www.calfnotes.com by Dr. Jim Quigley and search for the topic you are looking for information on!

The information in Calf Notes.com is based on research (published and unpublished), observation, anecdotal reports, comments of experienced calf raisers, and other sources.

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