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The Calf Bawl

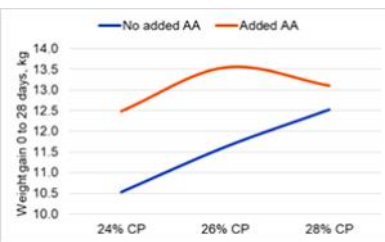
Jones Feed Mills Calf Update – Published by Lisa Zieleman, JFM Market Support Specialist — Mobile/ Text: 519-807-3870

Essential Lipids 4 Life

Looking at poultry and swine nutrition we know the specific amino acid requirements needed for the various stages of growth. But, for calves it is a different story and is much more complex when compared to poultry, swine and even adult livestock. Nutritionists have been formulating diets for these species by specifically looking at the amino acid requirements of these animals. Through this concept the poultry and swine industry have been able to improve feed efficiency, reduce wasted nutrients, and lower feed costs. Many dairy nutritionists formulate lactating rations to optimize amino acids provided to the cow for maximum yields. So, researchers from Provimi North America

looked how they can use this concept in dairy calf nutrition. Through various trials and studies, they have been able to find the limiting factors in pre and post-weaned calves. These specific amino acids plus short and medium chain fatty acids have been proven to boost immunity, increase average daily gain, add frame, and allow calves to

convert their feed to gain more efficiently. Here at Jones Feed Mills, we include this technology into all of our Whole Start Calf products (calf starters, growers and milk replacers), as well as an economical supplement for whole milk users, called Thrive. If you would like more information or have any questions on certain products, contact Lisa Zieleman or your Jones Dairy Sales Con-



Trial	ADG	Frame	G/F
1	+11%	--	+10%
2	+8%	--	+15%
3	+10%	+20%	+5%
4	+15%	+12%	+5%
Average	+11%	+16%	+9%

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Got Calf Questions?

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Say 'No' to Flies!

Summer time is here, which means so are the flies! As you know, flies can cause a lot of stress for calves and also spread disease. Having a good fly management program in place can make a big difference to calf health and reduce stress for you and your calves. Here's an example; a quick kill product like **Disvap Spray** or **Multi-vap Spray** will kill flies on the spot. This is effective, however this program requires frequent application (1-2 times day). An effective and economical solution is to combine this application with a residual fly control product like **Zap-it**. This spray only needs to be applied once every 1 to 2 weeks or when flies become troublesome. This combination of products are safe to use, can be used on calves, cows, horses, pigs and sheep and has no milk withdrawal for cows. Having a fly control plan in place will make it much easier for you as a farmer, and more importantly for your animals during the hot summer months when flies are very bothersome. Note, all fly control products are on sale at Jones Feed Mills until August 31/19.



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Should you be worried about Heat Stress in Calves?

The sun is shining, and the temperatures are warmer, as we are now into the heat of summer. Through the aid of calf blankets, heat lamps, and lots of straw most calves were able to make it through the winter with minimal issues or stress. But, what about the summer heat? Have you ever thought of the effects this may have on young calves? Calves have something called a 'thermoneutral zone' which is how a calf can maintain a constant body temperature without having to use any extra energy. The margins of the thermoneutral zone are not constant and are not determined by the outside temperature alone (Penn State, 2013). It is greatly affected by the ambient (air) temperature that a calf experiences. This is dependent on air movement, moisture, hair coat, sunlight, bedding, and rumination (Penn State, 2013). Housing and the environment are both factors that play a role in how the calf has to temperature regulate itself. In the winter we tend to focus more on cold stress in calves, especially in hutches. We tend to feed a little extra milk to ensure calves are getting enough energy to stay warm and still grow. In the summer months it is very much the same as there is reduced feed intake and increased maintenance energy needs coupled with lowered immunity can lead to poor growth, higher susceptibility to disease, and in extreme cases death (Penn State, 2013). Below are some strategies to help the calves beat the heat:

Provide Shade: Studies have shown that providing shade for a calf will help reduce the temperature inside the hutch. This allows for a lower body temperature and a respiration rate that will reduce the amount of energy required for the calf to try and cool itself.

Water! Due to the heat, calves lose water through increased respiration and evaporative cooling (sweating) (Penn State, 2013). Calves do this because they are trying to maintain their body temperature, therefore calves need to increase their water intake to replenish the water lost. Be sure to provide clean, fresh water every day. Studies have shown that rinsing the water buckets everyday increased average daily gain to 1.55 lbs./ day prior to weaning, compared to those cleaned weekly gained at 1.48 lbs./ day, and 1.40 lbs./ day for calves who's buckets where cleaned out every 14 days (Penn State, 2013).

Keeping Calf Starter Fresh: During heat stress periods, calves naturally eat less but fresh feed is still a necessity for growth and development of the animal. Typically, calves between 0 to 3 weeks of age do not eat much if any calf starter. Offer only small handfuls of starter at a time and increasing the amount as the calf gets older. Replace uneaten calf starter and clean out the pails every day, as this will encourage calves to eat starter much sooner (Penn State, 2013).

Udderly Hilarious Jokes!

Q: What does the farmer talk about when he is milking cows?

A: Udder nonsense

Q: Why did the cow jump over the moon?

A: Because the farmer had cold hands



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