



Jones FEED MILLS LTD.

THE BI-MONTHLY BAWL



THE CALF GUY

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

@TheCalfGuy

**November
2016**

On October 17th, Tom Mosterd along with Vera and Andreas Nagel-hout of Nagelhaven Farms, and Haete and Erica Marks of Mark-A-Valley Farms travelled to Brookville, Ohio to the Akey Calf Research Centre.

Day 1-Upon arrival they listened to Mike Warsco (Akey Account Representative for Jones Feed Mills), give a history of the company and the purpose and motivation for the research they do. The group then travelled to the research farm where they saw the facilities and procedures used at the farm to conduct research.



Day 2-The following day they spent the morning listening to a few of the researchers from Akey including Jim Quigley (Calf Research) Dennis Wood (Calf Research) and Wibe Fokkink. This was to gain a better understanding of the program that Akey has developed, the service that Jones Feed Mills provides with their support, and how they have come to conclusions that they have come to.

Following that, Dennis Wood took the group to a farm that is using the research-proven practices. The farm is a 2,000 cow dairy using Akey proven feed and milk replacers, the same as available from Jones, - with fantastic yield results.



Overall the two day trip helped the group understand and see first hand where Akey Research Centre focus is directed, and how this can affect what we do here in Canada.

If you are interested in taking a trip down to the Akey Research Center, talk to your dairy rep or

Left to right: Tom Mosterd, Adreas and Vera Negalhout, Erica and Haete Marks.

Rumen Development

Developing the rumen should be a primary goal in the pre-weaning process. To develop the rumen to a point where the calf be weaned and not have a post-weaning slump, calves need to ingest enough starter in the pre-weaning period. Milk intake has a large effect on the amount of starter that a calf will eat. "Moderate" milk programs are the most effective in attaining this goal. Talk to your Jones Dairy Rep or Tom Mosterd to see how the Jones Whole Start Program can increase gains and decrease costs!

Got Calf Questions?

Call The Calf Guy!

Tom Mosterd

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Road Trip!

IF you are interested in traveling to the Akey Research Center in Ohio to tour the research center and area dairy farms, talk to your Jones Dairy Rep or call /text Tom Mosterd (The Calf Guy) at 519-807-3870

Molasses in the Winter Time

FYI, if you are using P19, Whole Start 18%, or Whole 16% calf starters/growers, you will soon see a small change in the product. During the winter months, JFM switches from summer molasses to winter molasses. You may see what looks like less molasses in your feed, but its still there, just with a thinner consistency!

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Colostrum Quality

When calves are born, they have no natural immunities to the threats of the environment they are in, or the health challenges that you may be facing on your farm. The only way to give calves this immunity is through colostrum.

Good quality colostrum contains immunoglobulins that facilitate that transfer of immunities (In addition to higher levels fat which is good for calves for the first few days of life.) Passive transfer refers to the success rate of the immunoglobulins being absorbed by the calf through the colostrum.

In order to determine if your colostrum program is effective, you should check the passive transfer of the colostrum, as well as the immunoglobulin levels of the colostrum itself.

One of the easiest ways to check colostrum quality is with a Brix Refractometer. This will give you an indication of the immunoglobulin levels in the colostrum. Tom Mosterd carries a refractometer and can evaluate your colostrum. Talk to Tom or ask your JFM Dairy Rep for more details.



Interested in measuring your calves' performance? The Calf Guy does calf trials! If you would like your calves weighed and measured call or text Tom Mosterd

Colder Weather

Colder weather is approaching! As the temperature begins to decline it is important to consider different feeding and management strategies. Three strategies to consider are increased milk replacer (age dependant), bedding, and calf coats.

Calves use a portion of the energy fed to them to produce heat to maintain body temperature. When the weather gets colder they use more of that energy to keep warm, leaving less energy available for growth. Increasing milk replacer in the first stage of life can give them the extra energy they require to maintain growth and body temperature.

Bedding is always important but it is extra important in cold weather. Clean, dry bedding is crucial to keeping calves healthy. Straw is the best bedding to keep calves warm. The calves will heat the straw, then the straw will retain that heat which will, in turn, warm the calf. As a rule of thumb, in the winter, when a calf lies in the straw, you shouldn't be able to see its knees.

Another very easy way to keep calves warm is with calf coats. Once the temperature drops below 10 degrees, calves will benefit from a calf coat – especially if there is draft in their housing area. Calf coats make it easier for the calves to maintain body heat, allowing them to use their intake for growth. Calf coats should be left on for 21 days- no longer! Call Jones or talk to your Rep or Tom to order your calf coats!

If you have any questions on cold weather



Laughy Calf

Q: What animals do you cover up with socks?

A: Your calves

Q: What did the mommy cow say to the baby cow?

A: It's pasture bedtime!

Q: What do you call cattle that tell jokes?

A: Laughing stock

Q: What do you call the spots on black and white cows?

A: Holstains

Don't Miss Out!



For more tips and updated information, follow "The Calf Guy" on Twitter — @TheCalfGuy



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