



Countryside Veterinary Clinic November 2016 Newsletter



Fall Vaccination to Prevent Winter Disease

Peter G. Ostrum, DVM

The transition of fall to winter can be a challenging time to keep your herd healthy. Respiratory issues often surface this time of year as barn ventilation can be compromised during fluctuating weather patterns which further stress a cow's immune system. Check to make sure that side curtains and all fans are properly functioning before winter temperatures arrive. First calf heifers may also benefit from clipping as they often freshen with long hair coats predisposing them to sweat in a warm barn.

Fall is the perfect time to review vaccination protocols with particular focus on respiratory disease prevention. "Triangle 10" (killed vaccine 5cc IM or SQ) is again readily available and can be given to all cattle regardless of pregnancy status. (Mark Thornton) If you are using a modified live vaccine such as "Bovi-Shield" make sure that the first dose is given to animals that aren't pregnant. Remember to booster all cattle (regardless if you are using killed or modified live vaccine) that have never been vaccinated before. We recommend waiting 2 – 4 weeks between the primary vaccination and the booster dose.

If your herd is still experiencing pneumonia cases despite being properly vaccinated, please talk to your herd veterinarian. Further testing may be needed to help determine the correct diagnosis. For example, cattle that die from respiratory disease should be necropsied (a post mortem exam). Recently we have found that *pasteurella* vaccines may be helpful to use in certain herds.

"Bovilis Coronavirus" A New Calf Scours Vaccine

Merck Animal Health recently received a license to market "Bovilis Coronavirus" vaccine. This is the first modified – live intranasal vaccine available for the reduction of calf scours caused by coronavirus. Coronavirus, a very common enteric pathogen, typically infects calves in their first month of life causing moderate to severe diarrhea. Calves can now be vaccinated at one day of age even if the herd is already using "Inforce" intranasal vaccine. Field trials conducted throughout the US, including selected Lewis County herds, have proven "Bovilis Coronavirus" vaccine safe and effective. Furthermore, depending on

housing conditions, there may also be a reduction in respiratory disease caused by coronavirus often seen in pre-weaned calves.

No single product can replace good colostrum management as the most important factor in raising healthy calves. However, if scours continue to be an issue on your farm, "Bovilis Coronavirus" may be helpful to prevent or at least reduce the severity of this common calf hood disease. If you would like more information regarding this new vaccine, please contact your herd veterinarian.

Available in 50 doses, 10 doses and singles.



We will be closed on Thursday November 24 for Thanksgiving.

READ OUR NEWSLETTERS: Remember that if you spot your name in our newsletter and call us within 5 days of the billing date, we will give you a \$10.00 credit on your bill.