

Topic of the Month

Coccidiosis

Fall is a good time of year to consider the effects of parasites on your herd. For most gastrointestinal parasites, a sensible protocol for pasture based herds is to treat with an oral dewormer twice in the spring and then after it frosts in the fall. But coccidia is a different type of parasite that is easily overlooked because it is not affected by standard dewormers. It can reproduce rapidly in infected animals and quickly contaminates the environment. It is particularly hard on young stock, causing malnutrition, diarrhea, occasionally neurologic signs, and death.

This particular parasite is easily diagnosed on routine parasite exams on manure samples. Merck Animal Health sponsors low cost parasite exams for producers. This could be a good time to talk to your herd veterinarian about the parasite risk in your herd and perhaps make use of available testing to improve the health of the next generation of milking cows on your farm.

Practice News

- We wish the best of luck to all of our producers traveling to and competing at World Dairy Expo in Madison this month.
- We are in the initial stages of planning a winter producer's meeting. The focus will be, at least in part, on protocol development and making rational treatment decisions. Given the current environment in dairy production and marketing, this is sure to be a relevant topic whether you need to develop protocols from scratch or dust off your existing set for a review. Stay tuned for more information.

In the News

- In the aftermath of Hurricane Irma, Florida dairies are working diligently to rebuild and continue producing milk. Damage varied widely among farms, and with generators, some farms were able to carry on with only brief disruptions. Nevertheless, many south Florida grocery stores remained without power, forcing producers to dump milk.
- In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, AgriPlastics will manufacture pink calf hutches during the month of October. The company will make a donation to The National Breast Cancer Foundation for each hutch sold.

Commodity Futures

Prices

As of September 30, 2017

Corn	\$3.55/bu
Soybean Meal	\$311.50/ton
Milk (October)	\$16.24/cwt
Beef (Live cattle)	\$109.10/cwt

Upcoming Events

- World Dairy Expo will be October 2-7 in Madison.
- Zoetis will be sponsoring a Calf College course on October 10. A limited number of spots are available for motivated calf raisers. Contact the office for more information or stop by for a flyer.