

Topic of the Month

Newsletter of White Oak Veterinary Clinic, PC

Aspirin- A Miracle Drug?

Everybody who spends time on a dairy has seen those fresh cows who are obviously not right but are really hard to pin down just exactly what is wrong with them.

A recent study out of PennState offers some insight. The process of parturition-giving birth to a calf- is stressful and causes a lot of inflammation. Researchers were looking for a simple but effective way to address these problems and help cows get over that slump.

The study design involved giving a treatment of aspirin within 12 hours after calving and then a second treatment 24 hours later. At 14 days in milk, these treated cows had a lower incidence of metritis and lower metabolic stress than their untreated counterparts. The study also found that multiparous cows (cows that have given birth more than once) who were treated produced 3.6 pounds more milk per day for the first 60 days in milk again as compared to their untreated counterparts.

The study itself did not include an economic analysis, but a press release from PennState speculates that factoring in current milk price, and expenses for labor and medicine, the increased milk production for an 80 cow herd would be about \$2,250 annually.

Grant Opportunities

- The Center for Dairy Excellence has several grant programs currently. They include:
 - Dairy Excellence Grants- 50% match up to \$5,000 for improvements to dairy farm efficiency. Application period ends October 15 or when funds run out.
 - Team Program Grants- up to \$3,500 for creating an on-farm team of professional consultants for strategic decision making. Application is first come, first served.
 - Dairy Decisions Consultants Grants- up to \$3,500 to pair you with a professional consultant in a field such as business planning or marketing. Application is first come, first served.
 - Dairy Processing Grants- 50% match up to \$10,000 for dairy processors collecting milk from multiple farms to make a processing improvement, expansion, or innovation. Application period will close when all funds have been committed.

Commodity Futures Prices

As of September 30, 2021

Corn	\$5.37/bu
Soybean Meal	\$326.20/ton
Milk (Class III)	\$18.11/cwt
Beef (Live cattle)	\$120.58/cwt

Upcoming Events

- World Dairy Expo concludes October 2.
- The CDE will host Dairy Appreciation Dinners on the evening of October 16th. Locations are in Mt. Joy, Williamsburg, and Washington. The dinner is free but registration is required.