

Topic of the Month

Nutraceuticals Newsletter of White

I recently came across an article in *Dairy Herd Management* discussing the work of a Texas Tech research team in the field of nutraceuticals. This is a rapidly growing area of interest, especially as these products may offer alternatives to antibiotic treatment in some situations. Here's the basics.

Nutraceuticals are broadly classified as oral supplements that improve an aspect of animal health or production. They may do that in a variety of ways; however, they are not regulated by the FDA. That means their product statements may not be validated and they are limited as to the efficacy claims they can actually make. They fall into three broad classes.

- **Prebiotics** are indigestible carbohydrates that modify bacterial growth and favor the production of beneficial bacteria. They can also stick to harmful substances such as mycotoxins. An example of this would be the product marketed as Bio-Mos®.
- **Probiotics** are live cultures of good bacteria that actually grow and compete with the harmful bacteria in the gut. They can also increase local immunity and have an anti-inflammatory effect in the gut. An example would be Probiotic gel or *Lactobacillus* cultures.
- **Phytonutrients** are plant extracts used as anti-oxidants, anti-inflammatories, or antimicrobials. An example of this would be Neonorm, the bolus used to treat calf scours.

Do they work? That's a good question. The benefits of nutraceuticals are supported by research, but because the products are unregulated, they vary widely in quality and composition. Sometimes they are also expensive. The decision to use them or not is probably best made by looking at available product data in consultation with your veterinarian.

World Milk Day

June is Dairy Month and we kick it off with World Milk Day on June 1st. National Milk Month was initially started by grocer organizations in 1937 as a way to distribute more dairy products during the warm summer months. By 1939, June had officially become dairy month.

For anyone active in social media, websites like American Dairy Association North East (www.americandairy.com/news/national-dairy-month-june-2022/) and others offer downloadable resources and hashtags to bring attention to our industry.

In the News

The US is requesting dispute settlement consultations with Canada under the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) because of Canada's dairy restrictions that are contrary to their obligations toward their trade partners.

Through its tariff-rate quota allocation measures, Canada is effectively undermining the access for US dairy producers and exporters to its market that it committed to as part of the agreement.

This is the second time the US has brought a dispute against Canada under the agreement.

Milk at the Finish Line

Marcus Ericsson got to celebrate his win at the Indianapolis 500 on Memorial Day weekend by drinking a bottle of milk. This tradition was started in 1936 when driver Louis Meyer drank buttermilk after winning the race.

Drivers are asked before the race what type of milk they would like if they should win- 25 drivers asked for whole milk, 6 requested 2%, no one requested skim, and one driver stated no preference.

Commodity Futures Prices

As of May 31, 2022

Corn (May)	\$7.53/bu
Soybean Meal (May)	\$414.80/ton
Milk (Class III)	\$24.57/cwt
Beef (Live cattle)	\$130.53/cwt