

Topic of the Month

LDA Surgery

Many of you probably remember a little project from a couple of years ago involving testing for ketosis before performing surgery for a twisted stomach. Since we were in the process of trying to get the paper published, we were unable to write about it in the newsletter.

Well, it's finally been published and here is what we found. At the time of surgery, cows *without* ketosis were 2.5 times more likely to leave the herd at 30 days than were cows with either subclinical or clinical ketosis.

A surprising result of the study was that high ketone levels had no effect on whether or not a cow that had surgery left the herd. That was actually the question we wanted to answer.

This information can be useful if you have a cow with an LDA and are on the fence about surgical repair. It gives a little more information about whether or not she would be a candidate for surgery.

Commodity Futures

Source: CME

Corn(Dec) as of Oct 31	\$4.28
Soybeans(Dec) as of Oct 31	\$12.66
Soybean meal(Dec) as of Oct 31	\$403.60
Cheese (Nov) as of Oct 31	\$1.87
Class III(Nov) as of Oct 31	\$18.79
Class III(Dec) as of Oct 31	\$18.33
Class III(Jan) as of Oct 31	\$17.40

Practice News

- Winter is coming. Just a reminder that dairy calves under a month old are not at all tolerant of cold temperatures. An extra feeding of milk should be offered when the temperature drops below 40° F. Also, calf blankets are very helpful in preventing weight loss during prolonged periods of cold. We offer 2 sizes of calf blankets for sale at \$30.00 each and \$140.00 for 5 blankets.

In The News

From Dairyherd.com

According to the USDA's latest "Livestock, Dairy and Poultry" report, milk production for the current year was reduced fractionally in September from the August forecast to 201.8 billion pounds.

Price forecasts for the major dairy products are raised in the September forecast. Demand, particularly foreign demand, remains firm, while a U.S. production rebound is not expected until 2014.

Stronger demand across the board tightens stocks; however, higher expected production next year lowers prices on a year-over-year basis for cheese and butter. Nonfat dry milk price forecasts for 2013 are raised in September to \$1.675-\$1.695 per pound and to \$1.675-\$1.745 per pound next year.

Whey prices are unchanged from August at 58.5-60.5 cents per pound for the current year, increased slightly in 2014 to 58.5-61.5 cents per pound. Milk prices are increased to reflect the higher product prices.

The Class III price is forecast higher than August 2013 at \$17.90-\$18.10 per cwt and forecast at \$17.05-\$18.05 per cwt in 2014. The Class IV price for 2013 is projected higher this month at \$18.60-\$18.90 per cwt and is also raised to \$18.45-\$19.55 per cwt for next year. Similarly, the all milk price is raised this month to \$19.70-\$19.90 per cwt and to \$19.35-\$20.35 per cwt for 2013 and 2014, respectively.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Nov. 28. Thanksgiving Day. We will be closed. Emergency calls only.

Monday, Dec. 2. First day of buck season.

North American International Livestock Exposition Nov. 9-22 Louisville, KY