

Topic of the Month

Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus (BRSV)

One of the common causes of pneumonia that is preventable is BRSV. Clinical infection produces high fever, increased respiratory rate, spontaneous coughing, and nasal discharge. Cattle that have an uncomplicated infection can get over the disease with little treatment. However cattle affected by the virus may have their immunity weakened so that infection by bacteria may be life threatening.

Diagnosis may be made on clinical signs typical of viral respiratory disease, including fever, depression, inappetance, nasal discharge, spontaneous coughing, and increased respiratory rate. There is no treatment for BRSV, however antibiotics are often used to treat the secondary bacterial infection.

BRSV can be prevented by using live virus vaccines containing BRSV. In the face of an outbreak, the only vaccines that are likely to work are intranasal vaccines as Inforce™.

If you have cattle exhibiting respiratory disease, you may want to consider the use of Inforce™ and may want to review your vaccination protocols.

Commodity Futures

Source: CME

Corn(Dec) as of Nov 30	\$3.65
Soybeans(Jan) as of Nov 30	\$8.81
Soybean meal(Dec as of Nov 30	\$284.60
Cheese (Nov) as of Nov 30	\$1.65
Class III(Nov) as of Nov 30	\$15.29
Class III(Dec)as of Nov 30	\$14.62
Class III(Jan) as of Nov 30	\$14.40

Practice News

FARM

Animal rights activists have pushed the discussion on animal welfare to the point where it has become a real concern for consumers. The American Humane Association indicates nearly 95% of respondents in a recent study are “very concerned about farm animal welfare.” That’s up 7% from last year

Initiatives like the National Dairy FARM Program are assisting in changing the perceptions of animal abuse on farms by sitting across the table from retailers and addressing the issue of animal care and telling dairy producers’ stories to consumers.

FARM, or Farmers Assuring Responsible Management, managed by the National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF), sets national standards for dairy animal care and the production of wholesome milk. FARM is designed to create a culture of continuous improvement to inspire dairy farmers to do things a little better day after day. Dr Pickett recently completed two days of training on this program and is a certified FARM evaluator. If you are interested in the program contact Dr. Pickett.

Upcoming Events

.2016 Pennsylvania Farm Show

The 2016 Pa Farm Show will be held January 8-16, 2016 at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex,. Beef will be judged Jan. 8, 10, and 11. Steers will be judged Jan. 10. Dairy cattle will be judged Jan. 15, Market Goats will be judged Jan 9.

One long time favorite of local 4-H members is the State Square Dance Contest held Jan 11 from 7-9 PM