

Topic of the Month

New tool for detecting chronic pneumonia

Pneumonia is a major cause of death and chronic disease in calves. Some of these calves, if they survive, may have damage to their lungs that is not apparent by looking at them. Dr. Pickett recently attended a workshop on ultrasound evaluation of lungs in calves. Lung ultrasound has several values in calf raising including calf selection and culling, evaluation of treatment protocol, and evaluation of vaccination protocol at both the individual and herd level. By ultrasounding the lungs, we can determine which calves will become chronic lungers. At the same time, her navel can be scanned for infection and her liver can be scanned for abscesses. This can have an impact on her prognosis.

Please contact Dr. Pickett if you're interested in setting up a calf audit or ultrasound evaluation!

Commodity Futures

Source: CME

Corn(Mar) as of Feb 29	\$3.53
Soybeans (Mar) as of Feb 29	\$8.53
Soybean meal (Mar) as of Feb 29	\$259.30
Cheese (Feb) as of Feb 29	\$1.52
Class III (Feb) as of Feb 29	\$13.80
Class III (Mar) as of Feb 29	\$13.74
Class III (Apr) as of Feb 29	\$13.57

Practice News

Starting March 1, White Oak Veterinary Clinic will be sharing emergency duty on Sundays with Dr. Steve Triol.

Dairy Cow Slaughter Up Over December

from: *Agweb.com*

Dairy farmers, perhaps waiting to take advantage of a new tax year, sent 10,000 more cows to slaughter in January this year than in December 2015, the United States Department of Agriculture reported this afternoon.

What's more amazing is that January 2016 had one less business day than December 2015, so on a daily basis, cow culling was actually up 9%.

On a year-over-year basis, dairy farmers culled 9,900 cows fewer in January 2016 than they did in January 2015. That's a 3.6% decrease.

The raw culling numbers: January 2016—265,500; December 2015—255,400; January 2015—275,400.

Upcoming Events

- Mar. 8. Producer meeting at Sipesville Fire Hall with Renaissance Nutrition featuring talks by Dr. Paul Fricke and Dr. David Welch. Save the Date!. Dr. Welch's talk will include a comparison of the costs of an IVF generated heifer calf versus an ET generated heifer calf, as well as the economics of timed AI
- March 18. Holstein Club Banquet at Sipesville Fire Hall 7PM