

Topic of the Month

Coccidiosis

Recently I was called to see a five month old heifer that was unable to rise on its own. The calf was alert, had a normal temperature, breathing normal, but had a slight diarrhea and its mucous membranes were as white as a sheet. I examined the calf, gave it injections of B vitamins and selenium. To confirm what I thought was the real cause of the illness I collected a small sample of feces. Later in the day our technician confirmed my suspected diagnosis when she examined the fecal and found coccidia so numerous that they were stacked on top of each other. Coccidiosis is commonly a disease of young cattle (1–2 mo to 1 yr) and usually is sporadic during the wet seasons of the year. Crowding and reduced bedding are just two factors that increase the incidence. Coccidia do damage by robbing the host animal of nutrients, causing anemia and subsequent weakness. Coccidiosis is a costly disease, causing death and slowing growth. It can be controlled by feeding coccidiostats. Amprolium is the best treatment and can be given in water and in the feed. Coccidiosis can be easily monitored and diagnosis by inexpensive fecal tests. If you have any concerns ask us about this disease at our next farm visit.

Commodity Futures

Source: CME

Corn(July) as of May 30	\$4.66
Soybeans(July) as of May 30	\$14.93
Soybean meal(May) as of May 30	\$500.20
Cheese May 30	\$2.17
Class III(May) as of May 30	\$22.63
Class III(June) as of May 30	\$20.83
Class III(July) as of May 30	\$20.62

In The News

U.S. ag shipments overseas are projected to reach \$149.5 billion; Dairy exports forecast higher due to continuing strong global demand.

From: USDA

WASHINGTON— 2014 could set a new record for American agricultural exports.

USDA released its [Outlook for U.S. Agricultural Trade](#) report May 29, projecting that Fiscal Year 2014 agricultural exports will reach \$149.5 billion, an estimated \$6.9 billion higher than previous estimates. If realized, that would be a new record for American agricultural exports.

The report indicates that the record growth is due not just to rising prices, which have driven export numbers in the past, but also to an increase in the volume of U.S. agricultural exports, which is projected to increase by 31% between Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014.

Last Fiscal Year, agricultural exports reached \$140.9 billion and supported nearly 1 million jobs here at home. Fiscal Years 2009 to 2013 represent the strongest five years in history for agricultural trade, with U.S. agricultural product exports totaling \$619 billion over those five years.

USDA raised its fiscal 2014 export forecast for livestock, dairy, and poultry by \$600 million to a record \$32.2 billion. Increases in dairy and beef more than offset declines in pork and poultry. Dairy products are raised \$500 million to \$6.8 billion as exports are higher than anticipated due to continuing strong global demand. USDA increased beef exports by \$300 million to \$5.6 billion on higher prices and slightly larger volumes. Poultry is reduced \$100 million to \$6.2 billion on weaker shipments of eggs.

Practice News

This summer and fall we will be having veterinary school externs riding with us. This is a very valuable part of the education process for these students. We hope you will be able to help us make these students welcome to bovine practice and to Somerset County.