

Topic of the Month

Importance of Treatment Records

Lately, increasing attention has been paid to drug residues in cull dairy cattle, especially for flunixin (Banamine®). Regulators continue to screen suspect cull dairy cattle for the presence of not only antibiotics, but for flunixin also. One study recently found that over 7% of suspect cull cows tested for flunixin had positive levels in excess of the legal limit.

Suspect cows are those cows with certain obvious conditions, such as lameness or mastitis, that trigger testing at the slaughterhouse. The scary figure is that over 7% of these cows test positive for flunixin residues at the slaughterhouse.

This should reinforce the importance of maintaining treatment records. Records not only help to prevent the unintentional sale of an animal with a drug residue, they also are the first thing an investigator wants to see in the unfortunate event that a cull cow you sold tests positive for a drug residue.

Records should include, among other things, animal ID, drug given, date, dose person administering the drug and appropriate withhold times. Record forms can be found at www.nationaldairyfarm.com.

Commodity Futures

Source: CME

	\$6.34
Soybeans(as of June 29) bu	\$14.27
Soybean meal ton (Aug) (as of June 29)	\$436
Cheese (July) (as of June 29)	\$1.702
Class III milk (July) (as of June 29)	\$16.87

Upcoming Events

Ag Progress Days August 14-16

Somerset County Fair August 18-25

In The News

Report: more than 1,000 dairy calves die in heat wave (From Dairyherd.com)

More than 1,000 dairy calves have died in the Midwest heat wave, according to this story from the Milwaukee *Journal Sentinel*.

Half of the herds affected by the deaths are in Wisconsin, officials from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection said on Friday.

All cases involve dairy calves between two to seven days of age that have been housed in outdoor calf hutches with no shade, according to this news release from the agency.

"Dairy operators who are expecting calves or who have very new calves are advised to follow some of the same procedures used in high heat areas of the country, like Arizona, where it is common practice to hose down one- to seven-day-old calves with cool water in the late afternoon," said Donald Sockett, epidemiologist/microbiologist with the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.

Practice News

Your Veterinarians are keeping up with new ideas and trends--

Dr. Dan Zawisza has just returned from a meeting at New Sweden Dairy, an affiliate of the University of Minnesota on milk quality and mastitis. Some of the topics explored were:

- Impact of Milk Quality on Economics
- Pharmacology behind Mastitis Therapy
- Recent Research on Coliform Mastitis
- Evaluating Milk System Function