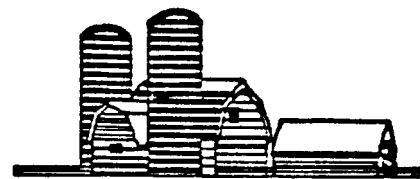




21st Century Dairying



A dairy newsletter for Fresno and Madera Counties

February 2006

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Dairy Herdsman Short Course

Enclosed are registration materials for the next Dairy Herdsman Shortcourse scheduled for April 25-27, 2006 at the Consumer Education Pavilion located by the Veterinary Teaching and Research Center, (VMTRC) in Tulare.

You can also register on-line at <http://cefresno.ucdavis.edu/Dairy/> where you can pay with a Visa or MasterCard.

Please register early as the course fills up rapidly. For further information on the short course contact Gerald Higginbotham, UCCE Fresno/Madera County dairy advisor, at (559) 456-7558.



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National Dairy Calf and Heifer Conference

March 21-24, 2006, Visalia California

Registration materials for the Tenth National Dairy Calf and Heifer Conference are enclosed. This conference is sponsored by the Professional Dairy Heifer Growers Association and is being held for the first time in the western states in Visalia, March 21-24, 2006. If your looking for one-stop shopping with regards to dairy calf or heifer information, try to attend this conference. Registration information is also available at: <http://www.pdhga.org/2006conferenceinfo.hth>.

Quick Tip: White Towel Test Checks for Teat Dip Coverage

The key to effective use of teat disinfectants as a mastitis control tool is consistent and complete teat coverage at every milking. The “white towel test” is an excellent way to provide immediate feedback to milkers about the effectiveness of their teat dipping. Immediately after the milker has dipped the teats, wrap a clean towel around the base of the teat while blotting the teat dip from the entire teat. Open the towel and display the teat pattern. If the pattern shows incomplete coverage, training should be implemented to show the milkers the proper procedures which will result in the bottom two-thirds of the teat completely covered with disinfectant.

Source: NMC, Udder Topics, Vol 28. No. 6

Milk Residues and Performance of Cows Administered High Doses of Monensin

Results of a study evaluating milk residues and performance in cows that were fed up to 10 times the recommended dose of monensin confirmed that cows receiving monensin at recommended levels are safe for human consumption. Following the acclimatization period which cows were fed a total mixed ration containing 24 ppm monensin, 18 lactating cows were grouped according to the level of feed intake and then randomly assigned within each group to 1 of 3 challenge rations delivering 72, 144, and 240 ppm monensin. There were no detectable monensin residues (<0.005ug/mL) in any of the milk samples collected. Lactating cows receiving a dose of 72 ppm monensin exhibited up to a 20% reduction in dry matter intake and a 5% to 15% drop in milk production from the prechallenge period. Cows receiving doses of 144 and 240 ppm monensin exhibited rapid decreases in feed intake of up to 50% by the 2nd day and milk production losses of up to 20% and 30%, respectively, within 4 days. Lactating cows receiving up to 4,865 mg of monensin/day had no detectable monensin residues (<0.005 ug/mL) in any of the milk samples collected.

Submitted by the NMC Residue Avoidance Committee. Source: Canadian Journal of Veterinary Research, Vol. 69, No. 3, pg. 180-185.

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For special assistance regarding our programs, please contact us.

