



1-800-658-3629

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## Preconditioning Calves Mick Harding, DVM

It is hot out. The last thing we want to think about is gathering pairs to process calves prior to weaning, but now is the time to start planning for the event. It will not be long before nights start becoming cooler which can often times lead to calf-pneumonia on pasture. Anyone that has dealt with this understands the severity. The best way to counter this issue is to get the calves vaccinated prior to an upcoming stressful event.

Make sure you work closely with your veterinarian as they will be familiar with disease challenges in your area. Commonly used vaccination programs used by Sioux Nation veterinarians include a 5-way viral vaccine, Mannheimia/Pasteurella vaccine, and

a 7-way Clostridial. These can be given as three separate shots or there are combination shots available. Which vaccines you choose to use should be based on past experiences with recommendations from your vet.

It is also recommended to castrate bull calves and use a dewormer at this time. By deworming calves at this time we remove one more potential stressor allowing the calves to respond more effectively to the vaccines. This will decrease the chance of pneumonia when calves are weaned, which is the most stressful time in a calf's life.

Some tips to remember:

- Get product purchased

ahead of time.

- Start early in the morning so work is finished before the heat hits.
- Mix vaccine as you go. Do not mix all at once as vaccine efficacy drops with time once mixed. Also, calves have been known to break out ending that days work before completed and there you sit with vaccine that will be useless.
- Keep vaccine cool
- When mixed keep vaccine shaded. Sunlight destroys modified-live vaccines rapidly.
- Consider spraying the cows for flies as they are usually covered

## Welcome Swenson Investment & Commodities!

- Sioux Nation is pleased to welcome Swenson Investments & Commodities to its Sioux Falls location. A new branch office of Swenson Investments & Commodities will open in Sioux Falls at the

Sioux Nation Ag Center location on August 1<sup>st</sup>. We have worked hard to provide our customers with the highest quality ag services in the business and now are very excited to add access to Swenson Invest-

ments & Commodities. More information will be coming out soon, but please contact your Sioux Nation field marketer or Sioux Nation directly at 800-658-3629 with any questions.

# Silage Management



Those attending the 3rd Annual Cattleman's College received valuable advice on silage management from silage expert Dr. Keith Bolsen.

Dr. Bolsen talked about the importance of four key management practices those being; 1. Achieving a high silage density, 2. Providing an effective seal, 3. Eliminating the negative effects of surface-spoiled silage and 4. Safety issues in managing bunker silos and drive-over piles.

## 1. Achieving a Higher Silage Density

Benefits of a higher silage density include "increased storage capacity of existing bunker silos (without over-filling) and decrease the height of drive-over piles (without decreasing storage capacity)".

Recent on farm surveys show that "many producers are not achieving the recommended minimum silage

density of about 15 lb per ft<sup>3</sup>".

## 2. Providing an Effective Seal

"The profitability of sealing bunker silos and drive-over piles with Silostop or standard plastic makes it clear that producers and their silage team should pay close attention to the details of this 'highly troublesome' task".

## 3. Eliminating the Negative Effects of Surface-Spoiled Silage

Dr. Bolsen referenced research out of KSU in which "rumen evacuation revealed that spoiled silage severely damaged the integrity of the forage mat. The results clearly showed that surface spoilage reduced the nutritive value of corn silage-based rations more than was expected".

## 4. Safety Issues in Managing Bunker Silos and Drive-Over Piles

Dr. Bolsen touched on 5 hazards

and how to prevent them. Those hazards were tractor or truck roll-over, entangled in or run-over by machinery, falls, crushed by an avalanche/collapsing silage and complacency. His final thoughts on safety were "Think safety first! It is best to take steps to eliminate hazards in advance than to rely upon yourself or others to make the correct decision or execute the perfect response when a hazard is encountered. Only experienced people should be permitted to operate equipment associated with harvesting, filling, packing, sealing and feeding in a silage program. The correct sizing of bunker silos and drive-over piles can reduce the risk of an accident".

If you would like to read more talk to your Sioux Nation representative to get a full copy of the 3rd Annual Cattleman's College proceedings.

*Look for Sioux  
Nation at  
DakotaFest.  
We are in  
booth 205E,  
east of the  
Livestock tent  
on 2nd St.*

## Penicillin Residues in Sows Monte Fuhrman, DVM

The USDA's Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) has recently reported a number of penicillin G violative residues in sows presented for processing. This occurrence raises concerns regarding the timing of antimicrobial use in sows intended for processing and the testing methodology currently being used by FSIS.

At this time, AASV, The National Pork Board and the National Pork Producers Council are working with FSIS to better understand the testing methodology currently in use to determine if extended withdrawal periods will be necessary to ensure compliance with the zero

tolerance level applied to penicillin. We have also been in contact with one of the major penicillin manufacturers to inform them of the recent findings and discuss any necessary changes to the withdrawal recommendations.

Reminder:

- Follow withdrawal periods on all swine shipped to market including sows and boars
- Penicillin G is only approved in swine for the treatment of erysipelas
- Labeled dose rate for penicillin G is 1 ml per 100 lbs of body weight
- Any use for other indications or at a different dosage rate would be considered extra-label drug use and can only be done at the direction of a veterinarian
- Extra-label use requires application of an extended withdrawal period which may be difficult to achieve with cull animals
- Long-acting penicillin (penicillin G benzathine) is not approved for swine and, thus, any use is extra-label