AVA Newsletter

December 2017

Holiday Hours:

Christmas Mon December 25 – Closed for routine work, available for emergencies

New Years Day Mon Jan 1 – Closed for routine work, available for emergencies

BioPryn – Christmas & New Years – samples will be picked up on Tues and plated on Wed

Product Update

A few products have recently gone on backorder. The clinic receives periodic allotments of these products. We may begin to dispense limited volumes should our storage run low (eg 1 allotment of dry treatment/farm/week). Please call the clinic at 585-591-2660 with any questions.

Attica Veterinary Associates
116 Prospect Street
Attica, NY 14011
585-591-2660

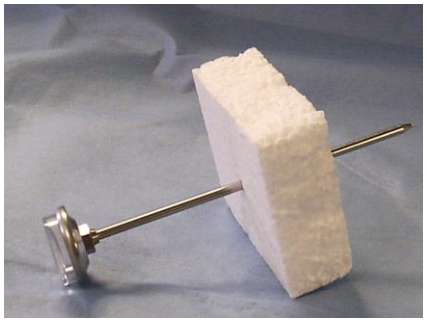
Is Your Wash Water For Calf Equipment Hot Enough?

Does this sound familiar? Too many calves seem to be requiring treatment for scours. Equipment used for colostrum collection, storage, and feeding is not getting clean enough. Neither is the milk or milk replacer equipment – it seems to have scum on it and it feels slimy. These problems may be attributed to the wash water temperature. Recently, on a number of farm visits, we have found many folks washing equipment in water that was too cool to do a good job.

Remember, in order to do a good job of manual washing of equipment that comes in contact with colostrum, milk and/or milk replacer, the wash water temperature needs to be above 120° F. In practice, that means when you drain or dump the wash water when finished washing up the water should be above 120°. While it seems obvious, if the water that you dump out after cleaning is above 120°, it has to start out considerably higher than that. It is very easy on a farm call for us to spot the wash water temperature problem – if the worker has their bare hands in the water it is too cool. Wash water should always be hot enough to require rubber gloves (not just nitrile milking gloves).

If using a stainless steel sink on very cold days**,** it may be difficult to have your wash water hot enough. A lot of energy is lost just to warm the sink and the water temperature may easily drop to 110° at the beginning of washing up equipment. Try filling the sink one-quarter full with straight hot water, let it warm the sink, let it drain out (maybe to feed calves?) and then refill the sink with hot water a second time. By trial and error, figuring out how much hot water is needed to take the chill out of the sink is easy.

Caution! If you have been out-of-doors in cold weather remember that your hands were conditioned by the cold. They will not be an accurate way to test for actual water temperature – using a rapid-read thermometer is much more reliable. Try pushing one of these thermometers through a small square of Styrofoam (picture below). This will allow it to float in your wash water while you work.



For Sale:

- NH 790 Chopper - 540 PTO, 824 2-row corn head, 890W hay head - $14,000. Call Robert Koithan at 716-807-1965

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