AVA NEWSLETTER

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Disinfecting Calf Feeding Equipment and Premises using Chlorine Dioxide

Aqua Tab 20g(chlorine dioxide) is a new disinfectant that is effective against cryptosporidium, Johne's, mycoplasma and other common disease causing organisms. It may be used daily in the face of a cryptosporidia problem in calves or weekly as a control measure. This new product can be used on feeding equipment as well as housing such as hutches.

Below you will find some directions for using this product:

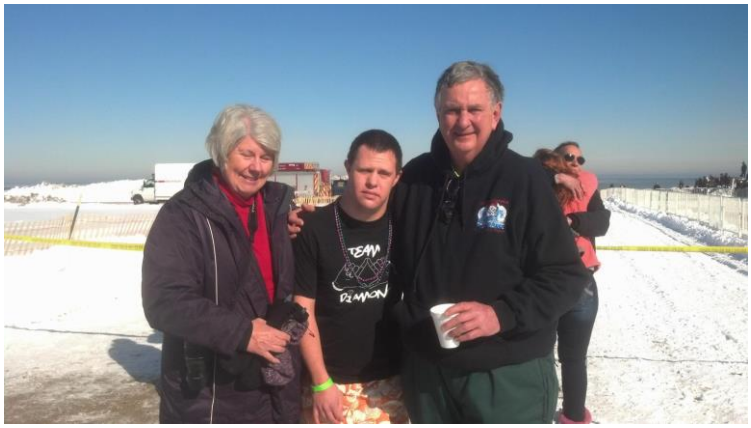
- Dissolve the solid tablet in room temperature water. One tablet makes 5 gallons of 100ppm solution appropriate for disinfecting calf equipment and premises.
- For small objects (bottles, tube feeders, pails) after thorough washing submerge them in the solution for 1 full minute in order to destroy live organisms.
- For larger objects after thorough washing fill them with the solution and let it soak for a minimum of one minute.
- After premises are cleaned to remove as much organic material as possible the solution can be sprayed on surfaces unitl they are soaked and the solution runs freely.
- It is not necessary to rinse after disinfecting.
- Tablets are available individually ($5 each) or in packets of 5 and 20.

For more information about this product stop into the clinic or speak to your veterinarian.

4-H Show Calves

Contact Loren Wolf for more information
585 259-9829

Thank you to everyone who contrubuted to the 2013 Polar Plunge fundraiser!!



Future Production of Calves Set by Day 56 of Life

Early life events can have long-term effects on the performance of your calves. Calf management approaches and systems should therefore recognize these effects and capitalize on them. There is potential profit in spending more time and resources on the calves at this early stage of life.

In a study conducted at Miner Institute, Ballard et al. (2005), reported that at 200 days in milk, the calves fed milk replacer at approximately twice normal feeding rates produced 1,543 pounds milk more than the calves that received one pound of milk replacer powder per day.

The research data of Pollard et al. (2007) also demonstrates the positive response of early life nutrition on first lactation milk yield. In this study calves were fed either a conventional milk replacer (22:20; i.e. 22% protein, 20% fat) at 1.25% of the body weight (BW) or a 28:20 milk replacer fed at 2% of the BW for week one of treatment and then 2.5% of the BW from week 2 to 5 and then systematically weaned by dropping the milk replacer intake to 1.25% of the BW for 6 days and then no milk replacer. Milk yield on average was 1,841 pounds greater for calves fed the higher level of milk replacer prior to weaning.

These studies illustrate just how important early life stage nutrition is on the future productive life of your calves. By the time calves are 56 days old their future productive lives are set. Therefore, we should make a concerted effort to provide the best environment and nutrition especially during the first 60 days of life to optimize each and every calf's productive potential.

Spring is just around the corner and it will soon be time again for spring vaccines and deworming. Now is a good time to discuss with your veterinarian what vaccine program is best for your herd this spring.