

left corner of each square so that much space is allowed for making notations. I hang these calendars where they can be easily seen by the dairyman and myself. On these calendars I jot down animals that are to be rechecked, etc., and what was found or done with the animal previously. Sometimes the dairymen make notations on these about cows they see with abnormal uterine discharges, etc. These calendars aren't meant to take the place of individual health sheets but are just to serve as a helpful reminder to the dairyman and to the veterinarian of things to be done.

Practice Tip

George Washington, D.V.M.
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I live in Purcellville, Virginia, which is just up the Potomac from Mt. Vernon. Ever since the Arab boycott a few years ago, we've had a lot of talk about shortages and how wasteful the American people are, so my first practice tip deals with something we can recycle from a cocktail party! There is a half-gallon ginger ale or cola bottle from Safeway that makes a real good fluid bottle. With an aluminum rod and some metal chains and clips, you can make a nice rack for them. You can hang them up in the barn any place you want to. If you can, you can hook them up in series with a willowby outfit. They work real nice.

Now, my next tip, someone got the jump on me, because the *Bovine Practitioner* came out about a week ago and I read part of it in there, but I'll still go ahead and cover it because there are some things I do a little bit different. These are four items I like for acute or coliform mastitis. One thing I like to do when I treat an acute mastitis is to do a lot of culture work because I like to see what the organism is. This one happened to be a coliform organism; I got a triplate that has selected media on it. I use a lot of tetracyclines on acute mastitis; I use pretty high levels, 6-8 mg/lb. of body weight. I use gentamicin in the quarter, depending on what kind of cow it is. I've gone as high as 200 mg initially, but my usual dose is about 75 mg every 12 hours. I used qs dose with 50 cc of furacin. I have one case of a real good show heifer and the owner was really worried about it. He called and said the back of the quarter was turning blue; it was. The quarter was really in bad shape. It looked bad, the mastitis was bad, but I thought it was gangrene, which it was, but we saved the quarter. We ended up putting about 25 cc of gentamicin in it, but the cow is milking right now and the quarter is not light. This is a real good treatment for acute or coliform mastitis. Being a little ways west of Washington, we are getting a lot of big farms in our area! They are 5-10 acres and we have a lot of calls on these. There is the big fancy house and big barn. They have a four-acre field in the back and have a big herd of about three heifers. We have a lot of calving

cases here. They will call for help; you ask them if it's up and they say, no, she's in the field but she's lying down in the corner, nice and gentle. They usually jump up and take off when you get there. I figured there was some easier way of chasing them or trying to lasso them because I'm not much of a cowboy. About a year and a half ago I came across something that works real nice. I'm not talking about the drug, but I have had a lot of experience with Rompun. I did some field trials for Chemagro for about two years. It is a very good drug in cattle. The recommended I.M. dose is 0.1 mg/lb., I.V. dose is .05 mg/lb. I don't think you have to go much higher than this I.V. to get them on the ground, but we have used real high doses on some animals and it didn't affect them much. It puts them down a little deeper, but this drug works very well. For these animals you need to deal with, and they don't have any chutes or anything, it is an eight-foot long pole syringe. There is a three cc on the end of it, you use a 16-gauge, 1½" needle. You have about an inch of it out. You usually get close enough to these wild animals to hit them in the rump with it, and you can sedate them enough to be able to do something with them. I couldn't get my pole through airport security so I didn't bring it with me. My associate, who does mostly equine practice, borrowed it from me to use on a two-year-old stud horse, who had never had a halter on, that needed to be castrated. He used Rompun to sedate it; he wouldn't give it back so I had to get another one for myself!

Practice Tip

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My topic concerns the oral use of Acepromazine Maleate on show and sale cattle. I myself am a purebred beef breeder and I have a son and daughter who show steers and heifers at the county, state and national levels. I started using Acepromazine orally approximately three years ago and have been very satisfied with the results from this drug via oral administration. Some of the advantages of using Acepromazine orally are:

First, in steers that are going to be shown and possibly slaughtered in a few days, when given this drug intramuscularly, there is always the possibility of an abscess or a muscle stain due to the color of Acepromazine. You have completely eliminated these possibilities by administering the drug via the oral route.

Second is the ease of administration. I am sure everyone at sometime in their practice has been called upon to tranquilize an animal that has been tied to a post or a fence on about six foot of rope and with both hind feet in high gear. I find by oral use of this drug there is much less chance of injury to myself or the owner or whoever might be helping. The majority of the cattle that I am tranquilizing are cattle that are