

Summary

A 250 cow holstein herd experienced clinical mastitis in 50% of their first calf heifers at parturition. At the same time the bulk tank leucocyte count elevated to 540,000 from a usual 250,000. Cultures reveal *C. pyogenes* in the heifers, and *S. aureus* in the lactating herd. The heifers were successfully treated before freshening with a dry cow benzathine cloxacillin product. The staph problem was traced to inadequate flushing action in a home made backflush system. Various strategies for Staph control are discussed.

References

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Abstracts

Sero-epidemiological survey of *Dictyocaulus viviparus* infections in first-season grazing calves in The Netherlands

J. H. Boon, H. W. Ploeger, A. J. Raaymakers

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A sero-epidemiological survey of *Dictyocaulus viviparus* infections in calves was carried out using an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay. Infection level with *D viviparus* was correlated with farm, herd and management characteristics. At least 75 per cent of the herds were infected with *D viviparus*. Calves on zero-grazing farms were infected at a lower level than calves grazing pasture. No regional differences in infection rate were observed. On 15 per cent of the farms calves had clinical husk while 51 per cent of farms had experienced husk in the past. A higher level of infection was seen when calves were housed later in the autumn. The number of calves grazing together and the stocking rate had a significant positive influence on the level of infection. No significant difference in the occurrence of clinical husk was observed between calves vaccinated against lung-worm disease and calves not vaccinated against the disease.

Effect of halothane on bronchial calibre of anaesthetised cattle

G. C. G. Watney

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A computer-aided forced oscillation technique was used to examine the effects of halothane on bronchial calibre in three adult cows after anaesthesia had been induced with xylazine and thiopentone. The administration of halothane failed to produce bronchodilatation, possibly owing to low resting bronchomotor tone in the animals. However, an increase in expiratory reserve volume, associated with a small fall in airway resistance, was observed, suggesting that changes in elastic recoil may make a significant contribution to changes in airway resistance during anaesthesia. The results also emphasise the importance of relating airway resistance to lung volume.