

record system in a business-like fashion. This record system will provide information so that you will be able to answer questions as follows:

1. My total production cost for the fiscal year _____ was \$ _____ on a herd of _____ cows.
2. My number of calves weaned was _____ therefore giving me a production cost per calf of \$ _____.
3. The average weaning or market weight of my calves was _____ determining my break-even point of \$ _____ per hundred weight. I sold _____ calves for \$ _____.
4. My _____ (year) herd's conception rate was _____%.
5. _____ cows were culled (due to no conception _____, previous year breeding performance _____ or other reasons _____) and were sold generating \$ _____ income.
6. _____ heifers will be used to replace those cows culled. I will (purchase - raise) the replacements requiring \$ _____ if any.

7. My herd's average breeding interval was _____ days.
8. My herd's average calving interval was _____ days.
9. My expected calf crop for _____ (year) will be _____ at a futures market of \$ _____ per hundred weight generating a possible \$ _____ in revenues.
10. My hay or forage analysis indicated that my supplemental feed cost for winter feeding this year will be \$ _____. I will need to borrow \$ _____.
11. I plan to receive \$ _____ from sale of cows to help finance my winter feed costs therefore reducing my borrowing requirement by \$ _____.

Consistently answering these types of questions will enable a producer to keep his finger on the pulse of his enterprise. Periodic checkups will be beneficial, and appropriate corrective measures will help perpetuate the financial health of the enterprise.

Clinical Report

The Treatment and Control of Mastitis: A Summary of a Recent Survey

Robert J. Harris D.V.M.
Turlock, California

A summary of 72 questionnaires returned by bovine veterinary practitioners from all areas of the United States and Canada in 1975 indicates that certain drugs and procedures are preferred by practitioners in the treatment of bovine mastitis.

In the systemic treatment of acute mastitis the tetracyclines are the most commonly used drugs at 5 gm per cow or 5 mg per pound level. Triple sulfas are the second most commonly used drug at 60 gms per cow. The third most often used drug was a combination of tetracyclines and triple sulfa at near the same dosage level as used separately. Most veterinarians recommend systemic treatment for two to three days.

In acute mastitis, penicillin in combination with streptomycin or neomycin were the drugs of choice for prescription preparations. Penicillin was used at 1,000,000 units to 5,000,000 units level and neomycin and streptomycin at ½ to 1 gm level. Of commercial udder preparations used, ampicillin or neomycin were most commonly used. In areas where chloramphenicol may be used it was overwhelmingly the drug of choice.

In the treatment of chronic mastitis, again, tetracyclines and triple sulfas or combinations were still the drug of choice systemically and at about the same dosage level as used in acute mastitis. Again, systemic treatment was recommended for two to three days. In the use of prescription udder treatment for chronic mastitis, there was a definite trend toward using tetracyclines as compared to their use in acute mastitis, otherwise the drugs of choice were penicillin

in combination with neomycin or streptomycin and at only slightly lower doses as compared to acute mastitis.

In the treatment of dry cows, veterinarians in general are using the CMT or culture test to determine the status of new herds. Dry cow treatment is being recommended generally for all cows and after last milking before drying. The most recommended prescription for dry treatment is 1,000,000 units penicillin in combination with ½ gm of streptomycin or neomycin. The most often recommended base for dry treatment was 40 cc furacin liquid. In commercial preparations for the udder, penicillin and streptomycin are most often recommended. Retreating the dry cow is recommended when the udder history or clinical symptoms indicate it to be necessary.

Most dairymen are using Bovidine or Chlorhexidine for teat dipping.

Veterinarians are recommending regular milking machine checks to prevent malfunctions but the average dairyman as yet does not usually check machinery except as trouble develops.

Forty-three percent of 65 reporting felt that oxytocin was very important in the treatment of mastitis; 28% considered it to be helpful and 29% of little value. On the East Coast more emphasis was placed on frequent milking of the mastitic cow while more value was placed on the use of oxytocin in the western states. The average practice supplies service for 8,500 dairy cows.