

# PRACTICE TIPS

Methylene blue, 2.5 g per 100 ml. diluent, is an excellent treatment for early cases of anaplasmosis. The treatment must be given intravenously, daily.

*Louis Levinson, D.V.M., Middletown, Delaware.*

If simultaneous auscultation and percussion of the right flank produces a high pitched gas sound, it is sometimes confusing whether it is due to a right side displaced (dilated) abomasum or just intestinal gasses. I have found the following procedure helpful in differentiating the two conditions. Place the cow on her back, rock her back and forth a few times, let her roll onto her *right* side and then get her to her feet. If her abomasum was involved, it will now be on her left side where it can be diagnosed by auscultation and percussion. Occasionally it cannot be heard on the left side until the following day. The cow may have to be rolled twice to create the left D.A. I have found that if the gas sound remains on the right flank after twice rolling, the cow will recover without surgery. "Tranvet" is a great aid in rolling cows."

*Gale Harvey, D.V.M., Perry, N.Y.*

I have found that 250cc of a 20-25% sterilized solution of  $MgSO_4$  has been very helpful in getting some of those downer milk fever cows on their feet again, especially those that just can't seem to get their hind legs under them. I inject the solution sub-cutaneously on both sides of the neck and prescapular area. Calcium should be given immediately preceding this, as magnesium tends to slow the heart rate. I have also found this very successful in treating grass tetany. The solution is very easily prepared and cost is a very minimum.

*Laurence Smith, D.V.M., Shreve, Ohio.*

To keep a cow or calf down and immobile during minor surgical procedures and difficult hoof work, place a loop around the neck with the same rope used to make a half hitch in the back of the front legs and in front of the hind legs—pull the rope in a caudal direction and tie.

"Hard milkers" (stenosis of the streak canal) can be relieved by making two-four radial cuts in the teat sphincter, but the most important part in the aftercare, consisting of stripping the teat and folling the end of the teats between the fingers, every 15 minutes for two hours, every 30 minutes for two more hours, and then every hour for eight hours.

*James N. Boydson, D.V.M., Wauseon, Ohio.*

When your office receives an emergency call because a cow is bleeding from an injury to the "milk vein", have your wife or secretary direct the farmer to clamp the wound with a pair of vice grips until you arrive.

*Walter L. North, Jr., D.V.M., New Enterprise, Penn.*

"We have abandoned the use of foreign protein therapy (sterile milk, etc.) for infectious keratitis ("pink eye") because of poor results. We have also discontinued subconjunctival injections in favor of what we think is a better procedure—namely, actual cautery of the lesion followed by the application locally of a steroid ointment. Several cauterizing agents have been tried, including phenol, iodine, mercurochrome crystals and others. All produce good results even in advanced cases. We have noticed a great reduction in the number and severity of problems following the institution of a vaccination program for IBR & BVD. The significance of this phenomenon is unknown."

*W.E. Sanders, D.V.M., Hillsboro, Ohio.*

Where prolonged (four to six weeks) epidural anesthesia is desired, such as in vaginal, cervical, or uterine prolapse. use 3-5 ml. pure ethyl alcohol. *Caution:* Dosage exceeding 5 ml. may cause the cow to remain down for several weeks. The cow must be observed closely in cases of impending parturition as assistance in delivery may be necessary.

The same effect can be produced by using *Everclear* (190 proof grain alcohol, U.S.P.).  
*James P. M. Syler, D.V.M., Athens, Texas*



For multiple warts ("angleberries") we have found vaccination and topical therapy to be ineffective. Removing the warts with a Burdizzo emasculator, together with the application of hemostat powder, produces good results.  
*Richard Shawley, D.V.M., and Eric I. Williams, F.R.C.V.S. Stillwater, Okla.*

On purebred and show cattle, hematomas can be drained, infused, etc., through a small plastic, self-retaining teat cannula inserted through the hole left by a 12 gauge needle used for aspiration.

Always check the knees of downer cows—protect by either dry, clean straw, or cover with burlap. Always check for enough space in front of the cow.

Mount bumper hitch on front bumper to position chute easier in close places.

When a prolapsed uterus occurs as a result of parturient paresis (95%), treat the milk fever first, then replace the uterus. When properly replaced, there is no need to suture the vulva.

*John E. Lippincott, D.V.M., Virginia Beach, Va.*

The aids for dystocias and prolapsed uterus published in the January, 1969 issue were true in their claims and are now invaluable practice aids. I would like to see published numerous samples of the type herd health contracts that bovine practitioners are using.

*Edwin L. Zemo, V.M.D., Loganville, Penn.*

"I have successfully used sulfachlorpyridazine (*Vetisulid-Ciba*) in treatment of resistant E.Coli mastitis. By dissolving one-half a 55GM. vial *Vetisulid* powder and suspending it in a suitable oil-base vehicle and adding a steroid of choice I make a suspension totalling 480 cc. At 40cc. per quarter, this is enough to treat 12 quarters."

*R. F. Hirt, D.V.M., Arcade, N. Y.*

There is a tremendous increase in tansy ragwort in western Washington state and a good many parts of the North West, causing the death of a large number of live-stock. In some areas it has been the largest factor in death and economic loss. Direct increase in parasitism in herds debilitated by the tansy ragwort impresses on the practitioner that parasitism is more often a symptom than a causal factor.

*George D. Duby, D.V.M., Centralia, Washington.*

In examining for bovine pregnancy, if there is any doubt of the veterinary diagnosis, inform the herdsman of the palpation problem immediately. Taking a guess at non-pregnancy or sterility can be ample reason for client's loss of confidence in the veterinary profession when the cow has a normal pregnancy and offspring in 283 days or less.

*L. M. Cropsey, D.V.M., Denver, Colorado  
President, International Beef Breeders*