

County Farm Centre Ltd.

November 2013

Picton

38 Cold Storage Rd.
 Store: (613) 476-2171
 Crops: (613) 476-9183
 Fuel: (613) 476-1613

Foxboro

552 Ashley St.
 Store: (613) 962-0769
 Fuel: (613) 961-0731

Madoc

278 Lawrence St. W
 Store: (613) 473-9040
 Fuel: (613)-473-2499

www.countyfarmcentre.com

Upcoming Seed Deadlines

November 20 - Hyland Corn Early Order Deadline
 November 20 - Hyland Early Pay Deadline
 November 27 - Dekalb Early Order Deadline

Please Note

1. The Agronomy office will be closed Saturdays, effective November 1st.
2. The last day for Fall Grain Seed returns is November 15th.

Plots are coming off with some excellent results. A big thank you goes out to the plot cooperators. To see results log onto www.countyfarmcentre.com

Agronomy Corner

With harvest underway, now is the time to think about soil test levels. Every bushel of crop removed, also removes valuable nutrients from the soil. The chart below outlines the removals. Be sure to talk to your County Farm Centre representative about how to replace the nutrients removed.

Nutrients Removed in Harvested Crops

Crop	Unit	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Potassium
Grain Corn	lb/bu	0.75	0.44	0.29
Soybean	lb/bu	4.00	0.80	1.40
Wheat	lb/bu	1.15	0.55	0.34
Oats	lb/bu	0.80	0.25	0.20
Barley	lb/bu	1.10	0.40	0.35
Alfalfa	lb/bu	56.00	15.00	60.00
Corn Silage	lb/bu	30.00	13.60	30.00

~ IN-STORE DEALS ~



Ready to Hunt!

County Farm Centre has several different deer feeds, whole grains, minerals and salts to attract the perfect trophy this Season.



Our holiday shipment of Melissa & Doug toys has arrived. Melissa & Doug's products have become increasingly popular. Great selection of unique, fun and educational toys.

Bale Plastic Collection

NOVEMBER 16TH, 2013



Loyalist College and 4 Counties of OFA and Scott Environmental Services will be holding a bale plastic collection depot at Loyalist College. A fee of \$50.00 will be charged for drop off.

If you plan on participating or require more info, please call Lynn Leavitt at 613-476-6214 or Jim Hair at 1-888-471-2066



Calving Ease

Feed Section

Managing Risk the First Week after Weaning

By Sam Leadley of Attica Veterinary Associates

Managing Risk the First Week after Weaning

- The last week before weaning many progressive dairies have daily rates of gain between 1.7 and 2.0 pounds.
- Once weaned many dairy heifer calves live on a grain and water ration.
- A low-risk strategy for the first week after weaning includes preparing calves to eat and efficiently digest grain.
- Immediately post-weaning, depending on environmental temperatures, how many pounds of grain does a weaned heifer need to eat to continue gaining at least 1.5 pounds a day?
- An acceptable low-risk strategy is to hold at half-ration milk for a full week in order to build up to 3 to 4 pounds of starter intake before eliminating milk entirely.

Pre-weaning Rates of Gain

The Dairy Calf and Heifer Association Gold Standards (Click here to go to Gold Standards) suggest for large breed calves a doubling of birth weight in 60 days as a profitable goal for commercial dairy herds. For example, a Holstein heifer calf weighing 90 pounds at birth grows to 180 pounds by 60 days of age. Or, approximately an average of 1.5 pounds per day over the 60 days.

Rates of gain vary by age. During the first week of life growth rates fall in the range of zero and one pound. During the eighth week of life growth rates may range from 1.5 to 2.2 pound per day.

Rations: Pre-weaning, during weaning and post-weaning

A common daily feeding protocol for large-breed calves for the last three weeks before a calf is completely weaned and moved to group housing may look something like this (assumes free-choice water and calf starter grain):

- Days 35-41** 8 quarts of milk replacer delivering 2 pounds of powder, calf voluntarily consumes 1 pound of calf starter grain.
- Days 42-48** 4 quarts of milk replacer delivering 1 pound of powder, by day 45 calf voluntarily consumes 3 pounds of calf starter grain.

Days 49-56 5 to 6 pounds of calf starter or grower pellets

All of these rations under environmental temperatures of 60F or greater should support 1.8 to 1.9 pounds gain

High-Risk versus Low-Risk Management

I consider the weaning management strategy described above as low-risk. Note in the table below that even under cold weather conditions weaned heifers are estimated to continue gaining at least one pound a day. Variations in feed density may change these estimates.

So, what is high-risk? One option is to go directly from full milk to zero milk on one day. Calves have to quickly ramp up their grain consumption from 1 to 5 pounds in order to avoid either weight loss or very low gains (see table below). They have to learn to eat more

Estimated Gain per Day for 3 Selected Environmental Temperatures for 4 Starter Feeding Rate

Environmental	Temp = 60F		40F		20F	
Amount	Energy	Amount	Energy	Amount	Energy	
Starter	Limited	Starter	Limited	Starter	Limited	
Consumed	Gain	Consumed	Gain	Consumed	Gain	
Lbs./Day	Lbs./Day	Lbs./Day	Lbs./Day	Lbs./Day	Lbs./Day	
2	0.7	2	0.1	2	0.3	
3	1.3	3	0.8	3	1.0	
4	1.8	4	1.3	4	1.0	
5		5		5		

Base values: 180 pound heifer calf, calf starter 18% c.p., DE(Mcal/kg)=3.69
NRC 2001 7th Edition estimates.

grain. And, the population of rumen microorganisms responsible for breaking down the carbohydrates and proteins in the grain has to multiply enough to achieve efficient digestion. This is the week when we see heifers managed like this “stand still.” And, weaker ones may break with pneumonia or coccidiosis.

Another high-risk option is to reduce milk replacer feeding by one-half and then drop the milk feeding as soon as starter intake increases to 2 pounds a day. In my experience that takes about two days. This really is not much different than “cold-turkey” weaning. That is why I really like to see these calves on half milk rations go a week before dropping the milk entirely. Given my intensive feeding program, it was rare to find one of my six-week old calves fed 1 pound of milk replacer powder in their AM feeding not consuming between 3 and 4 pounds of starter by the end of that week. Many were eating as much as 5 pounds a day. This is another reason to have a highly palatable feed.

