Trichomoniasis in South Dakota

Within the past year, fifteen (15) South Dakota beef herds have been diagnosed with Trichomonas foetus infection. Herds were detected in Oglala Lakota, Corson, Ziebach, Dewey, and Mellette Counties. Please remember to consider “Trich” when a producer has a higher than expected number of open cows. This is certainly true in the western part of the state, but it can occur in any part of South Dakota.

Many of these positive herds have re-tested previously negative breeding bulls used this summer after they have been pulled from the cows. To this point, all of these bulls have continued to test negative, which illustrates the disease can be controlled if producers follow good management practices and advice.

Any herd that adds cows or bulls from an outside source or has commingling (either on purpose or accidental) with another herd may be at some risk for Trich infection. Testing of herd bulls after finding a higher open percentage than expected should be strongly considered. The earlier your client is aware of a disease problem, the more flexibility they will have in containing and controlling the disease.

Salmonella Heidelberg Update

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has recently identified human cases of a multidrug-resistant Salmonella Heidelberg in several states. Epidemiologic and laboratory findings have linked the cases to contact with dairy calves.

This month a case reported by SDSU ADRDL involved acute death loss of South Dakota dairy calves. Multidrug-resistant Salmonella Heidelberg was serotyped. The attending veterinarian implemented a prevention program including several biosecurity measures that has stopped the spread of the pathogen.

Only healthy animals should be considered for all movements. Consider sampling clinically ill dairy calves so that an accurate and timely diagnosis can be made. Good biosecurity practices are critical in protecting human and animal health.


The Veterinary Medical Loan Repayment Program

The submission deadline for nominations of designated shortage situations is February 8, 2017. If you would like to assist in the development of a nomination for South Dakota please contact Todd Tedrow, DVM at the AIB office 605-773-3321 or todd.tedrow@state.sd.us.

Visit NIFA’s website for more information: http://www.nifa.usda.gov/nea/animals/in_focus/an_health_if_vmlrp.html