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Why Navel Infection Gets Serious

Navel infections have long been a problem with calves. It is often associated or complicated by damp unsanitary conditions. Bacteria infect the navel and multiply quickly. Calves starved of colostrums are most-affected. This infection can lead to serious complications and if untreated can result in death.

It is important to understand the role of the umbilical cord. This cord has two veins to deliver oxygen rich blood and nutrition to the fetus. Blood and nutrients flow direct to the liver; then the veins carry oxygen deprived blood back to the placenta. Typically at birth the cord dries up and the veins collapse to become a fibrous ligament attached to the bladder and ultimately becomes a nonfunctional band of tissue. For a short time during birth and after bacteria can get into these veins and start infection.

OMPHALITIS infection of, in and around the umbilical cord can produce generalized infections of the penis, liver, joints, stomach, pneumonia, intestines and eye infections.

To help protect calves from this illness, keep calves in a clean environment. Get the proper amount of colostrums into the calf at the proper time (all in 12 hours). No treatment is required if the foregoing is ongoing.

Producers should monitor their calves during the first several weeks following birth. A veterinarian should be contacted and prompt treatment initiated if navels look swollen, are draining, feel warm to the touch or show infection. This is your best chance for a successful outcome with an old disease. A veterinary bill to potentially save the calf seems like a good investment considering you won't have this same chance again for 12 months.

February Specials

GOAT & SHEEP BLOCK'S (While supplies last....)

Buy 2 and get the 3rd at no cost.

BEEF 1 kg PREMIX #8365

When you buy 2 metric tonne bulk, receive \$10.00 off per tonne.

OUR MARCH SPECIALS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT OUR DAIRY MEETINGS

For Sale

Nubian Does due soon

Boer Doe kids

Open or bred Boer Does

Boer Bucks ready to breed

Dairy Does bred to Nubian bucks

Dorper Ram. Ewe lambs available most of the time.

Dorpers breed off season, stay conditioned on less feed, and lambs grow vigorously.

New Zealand Rabbits for breeding stock (Does \$25.00 and Bucks \$35.00)

Bred Does when available \$30.00

We trim sheep and goat hoofs, vaccinate and deworm.

Please contact Elmer & Vera Martin at 519-638-5720.

**WE WILL BE CLOSED
ON FEBRUARY 18TH
FOR FAMILY DAY AND
ON MARCH 29TH FOR
GOOD FRIDAY.**

**PLEASE ORDER YOUR
FEED ACCORDINGLY.**

FUTURES MARKET

BEEF

FEBRUARY	128.95
APRIL	133.40
JUNE	128.87

PORK (US \$ PER CWT.)

FEBRUARY	86.83
APRIL	88.93
JUNE	97.08

TRADE SHOWS

**CHECK OUT OUR BOOTH AT
THE DAIRY EXPO IN STRAT-
FORD ON FEBRUARY 6 & 7.**

**SEE YOU AT THE SOUTH-
WESTERN DAIRY SYMPOSIUM
ON MARCH 21, 2013 IN
WOODSTOCK.**