

CALVING EASE

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DAIRY-L, DAIRYNEW, AND CALF NOTES Electronic Tips for Calf Feeders

If you have a computer and a modem you are ready to tap some really interesting sources of dairy information. Once you have access to the internet (for example, through AOL, CompuServ, a local internet service provider) and paid your provider, all the services below are free.

Most well known is the forum called **DAIRY-L**. It was started by Mark Varner (University of Maryland) and is moderated by several persons including Dr. Varner. The subscribers include producer-farmers, suppliers of agricultural goods and services, veterinarians, educators and others. Each subscriber receives daily a number of e-mail messages submitted by other subscribers. For example, during the third week in June there was an exchange about feeding waste milk to calves asking if there are there risks involved. An earlier exchange dealt with bloating in 5 to 15 day old calves. In each case a variety of ideas are submitted for you, the subscriber, to read and consider.

One of the nice features of **Dairy-L** is that all the messages are saved (in what the moderators call the "archives"). Then if you want to know what has been submitted on a subject you just ask their computer to search the archives for all the messages related to that subject. For example, when we had a problem with salmonella we searched for "salmonella." Among the thirty-plus messages were two that applied directly to our situation and a third gave us the name and telephone number of a person to contact who was a specialist in salmonella in dairy situations. Similar searches are possible in areas of housing, health, nutrition - you name it.

To subscribe to **DAIRY-L**, send an e-mail message to:

listserv@umdd.umd.edu

Modify the following line and put it in the body of the message and NOT the subject:

SUB Dairy-L Firstname Lastname

For example, if your name is Jane Doe, then you would send a message that had the following line in the body of the message:

SUB Dairy-L Jane Doe

DAIRYNEW

Another helpful source of longer messages such as newsletters and abstracts is called **DairyNew**. It is brought to us by Mark Varner, Stan Fultz and Ken Olson. A number of universities have regular dairy newsletters that deal with virtually every dairy-related topic. Even *Calving Ease* is distributed on **DairyNew**. These letters are usually about two pages long and deal with a timely topic. Most e-mail software permits you to save these on your hard disc for future reference.

To subscribe to **DairyNew**, send an e-mail message to:

listserv@umdd.umd.edu

Modify the following line and put it in the body of the message and NOT the subject:

SUB DairyNew Firstname Lastname

For example, if your name is Jane Smith, then you would send a message that had the following line in the body of the message:

SUB DairyNew Jane Smith

CALF NOTES - a web site

If you have software for accessing the web you might want to visit Jim Quigley's **Calf Notes** web site at:

www.calfnotes.com

A few of the currently available **CALF NOTES** are entitled:

Colostrum Feeding: To Nurse or Not to Nurse
Colostrum Feeding: How Much Colostrum is Enough?
A Primer on Colostral Immunoglobulins
Timing of Colostrum Feeding

In this Calf Note, Jim explains why early feeding of colostrum is important for calf survival. You will be interested to read about how the number of absorptive sites in the intestine start going down as soon as 30 to 60 minutes after birth. He talks about winning the race between bacteria and antibodies. Convincing ideas.

Respiratory Acidosis and IgG Absorption
Freezing and Thawing Colostrum

Water, Water, Everywhere...
Rumen Bacteria for Calves (Or, What Culture?)
Methods of Feeding Liquid to Calves

There are more - visit this exciting web site and see for yourself.

If you know of someone that doesn't currently receive **Calving Ease** but would like to, tell them to **WRITE** to Calving Ease, 11047 River Road, Pavilion, NY 14525 or to **CALL** either 585-591-2660 (Attica Vet Assoc. office) or 585-343-8128 (Offhaus Farms Office) or **FAX** (585-591-2898) or **e-mail** sleadley@frontiernet.net or pams91@2ki.net . A limited number of back issues may be accessed on the Internet at www.calfnotes.com and clicking on the link, Calving Ease.