



Weaning time is rapidly approaching! Our hope is that whichever stage you are at we can help you be proactive in keeping your herd healthy this fall! Get in touch with us so that we can help to customize a weaning vaccination program that is right for YOUR calves. 605-956-7756

IMPORTANT REMINDERS WHEN IT COMES TO VACCINATING YOUR CALVES:

- **Timing is everything!** A stressed animal will not respond very well to vaccinations. So, **PRE-weaning** is the best time to vaccinate your calves as they will be at their lowest level of stress. Being at their lowest level of stress will allow for a healthy immune system response to the vaccinations.
- Below are a couple of examples of weaning protocols and their recommended timing. **For more information or to help tailor a plan to better fit your operation's needs, give us a call!**
- Modified live vaccines (those that require mixing) elicit a much greater immune response and offer a more robust protection vs. killed vaccines.
- Intranasal modified live vaccines kick in faster and are "gentler" vs. the injectables which is especially important to keep in mind when it comes to vaccine timing during times of stress (dehorning, weaning, banding, etc).
- **BOOSTERS:** giving a second round 3 to 4 weeks after the first round is recommended for better protection.

GOLD STAR/BEST OPTION

Vaccine Protocol Example A:

First Round: 4 to 6 weeks PRIOR to weaning (3-4 weeks prior to 2nd round):

- Bovi-Shield Gold 5
- Autogenous Respiratory Bacterin
- Ultrabac CD
- Pour On
- Castrate/Band Bulls + Tetanus Vaccine
- Dehorn

Second Round: 1 to 2 weeks PRIOR to weaning

- Inforce 3
- One Shot BVD
- Vision 7 with Somubac
- Pour On
- Oral Dewormer
- +/- Implant

SILVER STAR/NEXT BEST OPTION

Vaccine Protocol Example B:

First Round: 3 to 4 weeks PRIOR to weaning - while on pasture:

- Bovi-Shield Gold 5
- Autogenous Respiratory Bacterin
- Ultrabac CD
- Pour On
- Castrate/Band Bulls + Tetanus Vaccine
- Dehorn

Second Round: Day of weaning and coming off pasture:

- Inforce 3
- One Shot BVD
- Vision 7 with Somubac
- Pour On
- Oral Dewormer
- +/- Implant

Extras:

1. Remember to give a tetanus vaccine to all bulls being banded/cut
2. Internal Parasite Control via an ORAL product (Valbazen/Synanthic/Safeguard) give when coming OFF grass
3. External Parasite Control



Castration/Dehorning

Consider utilizing a medication for pain control when castrating or dehorning calves. Pain control during these events helps to lessen time off feed!! Give us a call for more information!

PREGNANCY CHECKING

With a grass and feed shortage it is more important than ever to consider early pregnancy checks and early weaning.

- Early pregnancy checks will help to eliminate the feeding of open cows.
- With ultrasound it is possible to catch early pregnancies 3-4 weeks along in gestation without harm to the fetus.
- Early weaning will help the cows put the energy into raising next year's calf and decrease the demand of feeding the cows that much more.
- This is also a great time to take advantage of body condition scoring your cows – this allows you to sort off those who need extra feed away from those who can just be fed at a maintenance rate.

Less Stress, Less Mess!

Consider utilizing a low-stress weaning method this fall. The two most popular methods are Fenceline Weaning & Two-Step Weaning (pictured example of the weaning nose flaps).



Deworming

Deworming your cattle is crucial after a summer of grazing. A summer spent grazing = months of your cattle ingesting numerous parasite eggs. These eggs hatch and mature into worms that rapidly reproduce all while robbing your cattle of nutrients.

- Parasites negatively affect your cattle's digestion and nutrient absorption. This DIRECTLY affects their feed intake and efficiency and therefore their growth, immune systems, reproduction, milk production, etc. **Parasites affect your animals' performance and therefore they directly affect your pocketbook!**
- These worms live on the inside of the animal and only the eggs are shed – it is extremely rare to see adult worms in the stool of cattle!
- Orally administered deworming products such as Synanthic, SafeGuard, and Valbazen will get the most thorough job done when it comes to internal parasites.
 - *Deworming through the feed does not do as good of a job as you have no control over dosing – one cow may eat 4 doses worth and another may not get even 1 full dose.*
- Just like vaccines; timing is an important factor! If you give a dewormer and they go right back to grazing they will reinfect themselves almost immediately – **wait to deworm until they are coming off pasture for the year.**

Fall Vaccinations for Cows:

- Pour On (remember to rotate!)
- Oral Dewormer (remember to rotate!)
- Vira-Shield 6 VL5*
- Clostridial "7 Way"*
**If you gave a pre-breeding vaccine you can skip the Vira-Shield 6 VL5 until it is time for your pre-calving "scour" vaccines (REMINDER: if you are giving your calves Inforce 3, Dual-Force, & CD Antitoxin at birth you don't need to give the pre-calving "scour" vaccines to the cows!)*
**If you gave 7 way pre-calving or at pre-breeding do not need to do it now (give once a year)*

Fall Vaccinations for Bulls:

- Pour On
- Oral Dewormer
- Vira-Shield 6 VL5*
- Clostridial "7 Way"*
** If gave a 7 way and a Pre-Breeding vaccine before turn out they do not need fall vaccines*

Other Things to Consider:

- Signing your calves up for a verified pre-conditioning program such as one of those offered by Zoetis or Merck. Otherwise, we can provide you with an official "shot sheet" to take along to the sale barn.
- Pelvic measuring and ultrasound examination of potential replacement heifers. (At this age pelvis size and assessing the maturity of the reproductive tract can help in the decision process.)
- Genetic testing on potential replacement animals – another way to help weed through your options.
- Bang's (Brucellosis) Vaccination of replacement heifers (must be done prior to 1 year of age and no younger than 4 months of age).

