

Getting Ready for Show Season: What You Should Know!

What You Should Know Before the Show:

1. Daily Growth
 1. Calves and heifers should gain about 1.5-2lbs of body weight a day, or about 50 lbs a month.
 2. This can be measured using a weight tape around the heart girth of your calf or heifer.
 3. Feeding a 18-22% calf starter with free choice good quality grass hay should be sufficient to reach daily and monthly growth goals
2. Normal Temperature
 1. 101.5-102.5 degrees F.
 2. Anything measuring 103 degrees F or higher is considered a fever.
3. Vaccinations
 1. Rabies
 1. Protects against Rabies disease if bitten by infected animal
 2. Given any
 3. Required by law for cattle exhibited at public events such as the fair
 4. Must be administered by a veterinarian no less than 30 days before the fair
 2. Triangle 10
 1. Protects against respiratory disease and leptospirosis
 2. Given every 6 months, but first administration needs 1 month booster
 3. Not required by law, but highly recommended in cattle traveling, mixing with other cattle, or undergoing stress
 4. Does not have to be administered by a veterinarian
 3. Tetanus
 1. Protects against Tetanus disease from infected wounds
 2. Given once a year, but first administration needs 1 month booster
 3. Not required by law, but highly recommended in all cattle housed out side
4. Health Certificates
 1. Required when animals are traveling to any show
 1. Must have animal listed by official USDA form of identification
 2. Must have correct destination location listed
 1. Ex: if going to the Big E in Mass, health certificate must have MA listed as a location
 2. Used as proof of vaccination and testing
 3. Must be provided by veterinarian within 60 days of show



What Should be in Your Tool Box?

1. Thermometer
2. Weight Tape
3. Up to date health certificate

What do I do if my Calf or Heifer is Sick?

1. Take a rectal temperature, if there is a fever call your veterinarian!
2. No fever, but not eating, with or without diarrhea
 1. Try adding probiotics to grain
 1. Probiotics paste, pills, or powder
 2. Plain yogurt
 2. If severe diarrhea - give magnesium oxide
 1. Magnalax/Rumalax "pink pills" boluses or powder
 2. Kaopectate or Peptobismol
 3. Offer lots of fresh hay and warm water
3. Coughing without fever
 1. Make sure there is access to fresh air
 2. Make sure bedding is dry and clean
 3. Avoid dusty hay or bedding
4. Sore or limping, but able to get up
 1. Give anti-inflammatories
 1. Aspirin boluses
5. If there is no improvement in 24 hours, call your veterinarian!

What are the Signs of a Sick Calf or Heifer?

1. **Not eating, slow eating**
2. **Diarrhea, or very stiff manure**
3. **Cough**
4. **Fever (103 +)**
5. **Dehydrated - skin tent**
6. **Sore, limping, not getting up**

STAY SAFE AND HAVE A GREAT TIME AT THE FAIR!