

Oral probiotics sorting out mastitis issues

Traditionally we have relied on antibiotics to prevent or treat mastitis so using oral doses of probiotics for this sound bizarre.

Chris Collier of Probiotic Revolution has been working with farmers for several years to successfully treat and prevent mastitis using a powerful dose of Bovine Boost.

Kaponga farmers John and Donna McCarty have not used any antibiotics for four seasons.

"I can't understand why more farmers don't do what we do," says John.

"We calve 350 cows and in the first two years we had 25 cows each year with mastitis. Of those, 24 came right - that's a 95 per cent cure rate.

Treatments

"The one per year that doesn't come right is culled. It's a package that we do, - not just a one-off treatment. At drying-off we treat the high somatic cell count cows with Bovine Boost.

"Then prior to calving and during lactation we feed BioRumen to the herd. It's designed to improve feed conversion, but it also provides a

reasonable dose of bacteria that helps cow's immunity.

"Then when we get a clinical case of mastitis, we use a potent dose of Bovine Boost to really fire up their immune system."

Chris recently started working with Brad Payne who runs a 650-cow herd near Cambridge, with most cows starting to calve from the first of May onwards.

"In March my cell counts were getting up to 300,000 so I treated 25 cows that had a cell count of more than 900,000.

"In April we started the whole herd on Rumicell in a feed blend, but because I could control individual cow dose rates in my rotary shed the high cell count cows, we had treated with

Bovine Boost, got one and a half times the daily dose of Rumicell.

"By early June the high cell count cows were down to around 240,000. We have had a stress-free calving - with only five out of 280 cases of calving mastitis.

"At this stage we would normally have had 50 mastitis cases. It's such a revolutionary way to prevent mastitis and get our cell counts under control."

Trial

Chris is often asked "Where is the science to back up your claims?"

"The best science," explains



Brad Payne runs a 650-cow herd near Cambridge.

Farmers urged to keep animals healthy

The New Zealand Veterinary Association is reminding people to ensure their animals' vaccinations are up-to-date

World Antimicrobial Awareness Week, which usually runs from November 18-24, is an annual reminder to increase people's understanding of antimicrobial resistance, which happens when viruses, parasites or bacteria change and no longer

respond to medicine, making them difficult or impossible to treat.

Vaccinations are a critical tool in preventing drug resistant viruses and bacteria developing and spreading amongst animals and humans.

NZVA's Antimicrobial Resistance Committee chair Mark Bryan says keeping animals up-to-date with their vaccinations is important in preventing them from getting sick and needing antimicrobials.

Chris, "is from a study last year on mastitis prevention - not treatment."

Maiden heifers that had probiotics pre and post calving had significantly lower cell counts. In this trial they also

used the probiotic treatment on cows that had mastitis the previous lactation.

If untreated their cell counts in days 51 to 75 of lactation were one million but if treated, they were only 10,000.

SOMATIC CELL COUNT VS PROBIOTICS

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- ✓ TO LOWER YOUR SOMATIC CELL COUNTS?
- ✓ EFFECTIVE HELP WITH NIL MILK WITHHOLD

LOOK TO TREAT YOUR HIGHEST SCC COWS WITH OUR PROBIOTIC FORMULATION

"This autumn I dosed 25 spring calving cows that had a cell count over 900,000 and followed up with rumicell in the herd.

By May, those 25 cows were under 250,000!!"

GIVE US A CALL:
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