



Highlights

in Canadian Dairy Cattle Research

March
2006



Dairy Farmers
of Canada



Les Producteurs laitiers
du Canada



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada

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Canada has more than 15 research centres, with some 150 researchers doing scientific work connected with dairy production. This research yields a large amount of information essential to the growth and profitability of Canada's dairy industry.

This information is disseminated in scientific journals that are often little known to and little used by dairy producers. The Dairy Farmers of Canada (DFC) and the Canadian Dairy Network (CDN) together asked, on behalf of Canadian dairy producers, that a document be developed to inventory the results of the research funded by all Canadian dairy industry partners. The purpose of this document would be to make the results published in the scientific journals accessible to as wide an audience as possible within the dairy industry.

First, we identified the scientific articles published by Canadian researchers working in this field. The period covered was 15 months, from July 2004 to September 2005. Then we wrote a short abstract in non-technical language for each of the articles, which we grouped into various categories: animal welfare, environment, feeding, genetics, health, herd management and reproduction. Once the abstracts had been written, we contacted the authors to obtain their approval of the information. The necessary modifications were made and a few researchers proposed their own abstracts (the name of the researcher who proposed the abstract is indicated).

This document is meant to showcase the results of research published by our Canadian researchers and to encourage Canadian industry stakeholders to consult the various scientific journals. With a view to proper interpretation of the results, each article includes a complete reference. Thus, you will be able to use the additional information to access the scientific articles for a better understanding of the research results. Copyright in the scientific articles cited in the document remains the property of the various scientific journals.

The document has been revised by Réjean Bouchard, PhD, of the DFC; Brian Van Doormaal, of the CDN, and Jacques Surprenant, PhD, of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC).

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Dairy cattle research is currently being carried out in four different locations:

1. Dairy and Swine Research and Development Centre DSRDC, Ennville QC, Ouelph ON
2. Pacific Agri-Food Research Centre PAFRC, Agassii BC
3. Ouelphbridge Research Centre RC, Ouelphbridge AB

Researchers

- Dr. Aren Beauchemin, Ruminant Nutrition Ouelphbridge
- Dr. Chaouki Benchaar, Metabolism and Nutrition of Ruminants Ennville
- Dr. Robert Berthiaume, Forage Utilization by Dairy Cows and Growing Cattle Ennville
- Dr. Nathalie Bissonnette, Biology of Actuation of Ruminants Ennville
- Dr. Johanne Chiouette, Rumen Microbiology of Dairy Cattle Ennville
- Dr. Louis Delbecchi, Biology of Actuation of Ruminants Ennville, Member, Canadian Bovine Mastitis Research Network CBMRN
- Dr. Anne Marie de Passill, Animal Welfare and Comfort Agassii
- Dr. Moussa Diarra, Microbiology, Immunology, Genetics Agassii, Member, CBMRN
- Dr. Christiane Girard, Ruminant Nutrition Ennville
- Dr. Michael Ivan, Ruminant Nutritional Physiology Ennville
- Dr. John Astelic, Bovine Reproduction Ouelphbridge
- Dr. Aren Goenig, Ruminant Nutrition Ouelphbridge
- Dr. Pierre Gacasse, Biology of Actuation of Ruminants Ennville, Member, CBMRN
- Dr. Carole Afreniere, Forage Crop Management and Silage Microbiology Ennville/ Apuskasing Experimental Farm
- Dr. Hélène Lapierre, Ruminant Nutrition and Metabolism Ennville
- Dr. Martin Essard, Immunology and Nutrition Ennville
- Dr. Ching Sun, Animal Genetics Ouelph
- Dr. Daniel Massé, Environmental Biotechnology and Farm Effluents Management Ennville
- Dr. Tim McAllister, Ruminant Nutrition, Microbiology and Metabolism Ouelphbridge
- Dr. Sean M. McInn, Environmental Health Ouelphbridge
- Dr. Filippo Miglior, Animal Genetics Ouelph
- Dr. Parya Mir, Ruminant Nutrition and Metabolism Ouelphbridge
- Dr. Daniel Guellet, Ruminant Nutrition and Metabolism Ennville
- Dr. Hélène Petit, Ruminant Nutrition and Metabolism Ennville
- Dr. Jeff Rushen, Animal Welfare and Comfort Agassii
- Dr. Asherber Sewalem, Animal Breeding and Genetics Ouelph
- Dr. Song-Su Eun, Ruminant Nutrition Ouelphbridge
- Dr. Doug Weira, Nutritional and Physiological Factors Affecting Cattle Health and Welfare Agassii
- Dr. Ken Ang, Ruminant Nutrition Ouelphbridge

Fields of research

1. Micro organisms and their substrates optimizing the ruminal function
2. Improving feed efficiency to reduce greenhouse gas H₂ emissions
3. Metabolic pathways involved in nitrogen digestion/increasing the transfer of feed proteins into milk proteins/improving protein efficiency and decreasing nitrogen excretion
4. Optimizing the use of forage in dairy cattle systems
5. Reviewing the dairy cow's need for complex B vitamins to optimize health and productivity
6. Studying the effect of dietary fats in the rations on milk production and dairy cow reproduction
7. Studying the nutritional impact on milk composition
 - Enhancement of lactation persistency in dairy cows
 - New approaches to control bovine mastitis
10. Using molecular biology to better understand bovine metabolism and to identify genes involved in important biological pathways
11. Genetic improvement of livestock
12. Reproduction
13. Animal welfare and comfort

GREENHOUSE GAS MITIGATION PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

The Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Program for Canadian Agriculture (GHMP) was announced in 2002, as part of the Action Plan 2000 on Climate Change. Various industry groups, in partnership with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), have delivered this five-year program to create awareness among producers about management practices that reduce these emissions while bringing them economic benefits and to demonstrate these practices.

DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

The dairy component of the GHMP, delivered by the Dairy Farmers of Canada (DFC) and called "Our Cows, Our Air," have carried out demonstration projects in various regions across Canada.

ATLANTIC PROJECT

This project consisted of two initiatives one carried out by the Nova Scotia Agricultural College at the Sipawo Holsteins farm in Grand Pre, Nova Scotia and the other by the Atlantic Dairy and Forage Institute (ADFI) in Essexville, New Brunswick. The project was divided into two components. One involved comparing the methane emissions from dairy cows fed pasture- or silage-based diets. The second component involved testing two feed supplements- roasted soybean and confectionery waste- to determine their potential to reduce methane emissions and improve cow performance.

First component

The methane emission levels were found to be comparable for cows fed pasture and those fed silage. However, from the standpoint of total farm greenhouse emissions (emissions from fuel use, electricity, fertilizer, etc.), the researchers determined that pasture feeding generated lower total emissions than silage diets.

Second component

Although earlier research showed that adding fat to cow rations could reduce methane emissions, the findings of the present study concerning the effects of roasted soybean supplements are inconclusive, because the cows did not eat the full amount supplied. The dietary addition of sugar confectionery waste did not have a marked effect on methane emissions however, the researchers found that the cows given sugar supplements produced more milk. This shows that a little bit of sugar can be beneficial.

QUEBEC PROJECT

This project, which was carried out under the supervision of AAFC in Lennoxville, Quebec, compared greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from cows and from manure on dairy farms with different levels of milk production and different management practices. The project consisted of two components. The first component involved identifying practices that limit GHG emissions, while maintaining herd productivity. The second component involved demonstrating the potential that biofiltration has for reducing methane emissions from cow barns and manure pits on commercial dairy farms.

First component

On two different farms, gas-measuring equipment was installed to permit continuous sampling and analysis of the air entering and exiting mechanically ventilated cow barns. This was done to determine the amount of methane produced indoors by the animals. The two farms differed in terms of cow breed, diets and supplements used, number of meals per day and manure management practices. At both farms, peak emissions were found to be correlated with the animals' feeding schedule.

A single cow produces between 350 and 650 kg of methane per day. There are several ways to treat these emissions and to reduce the methane level in the exhaust air from cow barns. Cost and environmental effects are important considerations in choosing a technique for this purpose.

Second component

Biofiltration appears to be a promising approach. This natural process uses bacterial oxidation for the aerobic degradation of contaminants in air streams. The contaminants are absorbed and then oxidized by the microorganisms in the biofilter medium (e.g., peat, compost, wood chips). The microbes "eat" the particles of methane, converting them into the less harmful gas carbon dioxide and water.

A large-scale experimental biofilter was developed and built. It has four compartments, each with a different filtering medium. The biofilter was mounted on a trailer so it could be moved from farm to farm to evaluate its effectiveness in oxidizing methane from different sources. Based on preliminary results, a methane reduction efficiency of 90% is attained for concentrations of 0.5 to 2.5 g/m³.

ONTARIO PROJECT

This project was undertaken by researchers at the University of Guelph researchers at the Elora Dairy Research Farm and at Mayhaven Farms in Rockwood, Ontario. Two feeding strategies using corn and the dietary addition of myristic acid, an extract from palm oil, were evaluated for their potential to reduce methane emissions from dairy cows.

The results showed that dry-rolled corn reduced methane emissions by 7% per day, per kilogram of milk produced, compared with steam-flaked corn. Myristic acid had an even greater effect, reducing methane emissions by 2% per day, per kilogram of milk produced.

Incorporating dry-rolled corn into rations involves making only a slight change in cow diets hence, it is a more practical strategy and one that producers will find easier to implement. Adding dry-rolled corn to diets can benefit the environment as well as cow performance.

WESTERN CANADA PROJECT

A team from AAFC's Athabasca Research Centre (ARC), in Alberta, conducted feeding trials to determine the amount of methane produced by commercial dairy farms and then looked at ways of modifying cow diets in order to reduce emissions.

Amount of methane generated by commercial dairy farms

Methane emissions, which were measured in air downstream from dairy barns using laser technology, ranged from 43 to 51 g per animal per day. All cows older than three months were included in the analysis. It was predicted that, because of their higher feed intake, lactating cows would generate about 600 g of methane per day, which, over the long run, adds up to a large amount.

Feeding strategies to reduce emissions

Several feeding strategies aimed at reducing methane emissions were evaluated. A 3-4% increase in the amount of plant-derived fat supplied in cow rations could reduce the amount of feed energy lost as methane by 20%. Edible oils or oilseeds such as sunflower seeds, rapeseed, ground canola or flax seed, can be used as fat supplements.



Faculty and Adjunct Professors

- Dr. Roger I. Cue, Associate Professor in Animal Breeding
- Dr. Humberto Monardes, Associate Professor of Animal Breeding
- Dr. Arif F. Mustafa, Assistant Professor of Dairy Nutrition
- Dr. Kevin M. Wade, Associate Professor in Information Systems
- Dr. David Adworny, Associate Professor of Molecular Biology
- Dr. Lin hao, Professor of Animal Physiology, Member, Canadian Bovine Mastitis Research Network

Fields of research

1. Heifers management
2. Interactive visualization techniques
3. Machine-learning-based interpretation of lactation curves
4. Milk planning
5. Mammary gland health
6. Using molecular biology to better understand bovine metabolism and to identify genes involved in important biological pathways
7. Genetic improvement of livestock



Faculty and Adjunct Professors

- Dr. Alan Fredeen, Dairy systems, Ruminant Nutrition
- Dr. Leslie MacAren, Dairy Reproduction

Fields of research

1. Evaluation of marine algae as a feed source in dairy cattle
2. Reducing greenhouse gas (H₂) emissions
3. Supplementation and transition cows strategies
4. Prediction of the effect of grazing on environmental and economic sustainability of dairy systems in Atlantic Canada
5. Lifecycle assessment of pasture-based and confinement dairy systems
6. Biodiversity in pasture agro-ecosystems
Pasture management strategies to enhance biodiversity and habitat
7. Dairy Reproduction/Cell biology of pregnancy establishment



Réseau canadien de recherche
sur la mammite bovine
Canadian Bovine Mastitis
Research Network

Overview of the Canadian Bovine Mastitis Research Network

Mastitis affects every dairy farm worldwide and costs the Canadian dairy industry as much as 300- 400 million each year. Canadian researchers have joined forces with Canadian dairy farmers to minimize the impact of this complex disease on the production of high-quality milk and to reduce usage of antibiotics on farm. CBMRN is a partnership of nine Canadian research institutions: Université de Montréal, Université Laval, Université de Prince-Édouard, Université de Guelph, Université de Saskatchewan, Université de Sherbrooke, McGill University, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AAFC and Public Health Agency of Canada with Canadian dairy industry organizations. Partners include dairy farmers of Quebec, Alberta, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario and Canada, The Canadian Dairy Network (CDN), Pfizer Animal Health and *Valorisation-Recherche Québec*. The dairy industry contributes management and planning leadership and collaboration. The mission of the CBMRN is to mobilize national and international scientific and financial resources to decrease the incidence of mastitis, reduce financial losses, and maintain milk quality through concerted research, and effective and rapid transfer of results to end-users. The CBMRN administrative team of 4 people is located at the *Faculté de médecine vétérinaire, Université de Montréal*, in Saint-Hyacinthe, QC.

The CBMRN's multidisciplinary research program coordinates the expertise and resources of Canada's established scientists working on bovine mastitis with scientists possessing complementary skills in a unique nation-wide research effort. The CBMRN also collaborates closely with other professionals serving the industry from across Canada, and with animal health biotechnology industry, to carry its research and to transfer the resultant knowledge and technology back into farmers' hands. Moreover, the CBMRN provides integrated training to Canada's future scientists, including both graduate students and post-doctoral fellows. Trans-disciplinary research collaboration and linkages between laboratories provide students with unique opportunities for multidisciplinary training and networking.

The Research Program

The research program consists of a Core Research Platform (CRP) to which are linked the Mastitis Monitoring and Mastitis Control Research Themes. The CRP is unique in bovine mastitis research and it consolidates multiple data collection and archival needs and geographically extensive dairy farm participants into one uniform plan.

It comprises

- 1 a national cohort of cooperating dairy farms to serve as a basic source of material and data,
- 2 a network of laboratories for milk bacteriologic analysis, and
- 3 a mastitis pathogen culture collection linked to an epidemiology database and to a host DNA archive.

In the context of the CRP, the diagnostic laboratories at the country's four veterinary faculties will analyze milk samples from the cohort with coordinated protocols for milk bacteriology, quality control and reporting of results. All isolated mammary pathogens will be characterized and archived in the mastitis pathogen culture collection and host DNA will be archived for current and future host genetics research.

The Mastitis Monitoring and Mastitis Control Research Themes integrate applied and fundamental research techniques together. The Monitoring Theme aims to develop and transfer monitoring knowledge and technologies by benchmarking pathogen-specific mastitis incidence, devising efficient monitoring strategies, identifying virulence factors and testing rapid diagnosis methods. The Control Theme aims to develop and transfer knowledge and technologies with research on host-pathogen interaction, therapy strategies and antibiotic resistance.

The Atlantic Dairy and Forage Institute

Contacts

- Ieabe Dykstra, Executive Director
dykstra@nbnet.nb.ca
- Marian Gilbert, Administrator
margilin@nbnet.nb.ca

The Atlantic Dairy and Forage Institute (ADFI) is a private research facility located on a 150-acre working dairy farm in Fredericton, New Brunswick. It was created in 1966 on behalf of the dairy producers of Atlantic Canada and is managed by a board of six regionally elected directors. Their goal is to provide a venue for on-farm research in dairy production for both producers and industry manufacturers. The institute has a tie stall operation with 55 lactating cows. ADFI can conduct on-farm research trials related to dairy and forage production. Their experiments include the evaluation of feedstuffs on milk production, nutrient utilization and cow reproduction and soil, crop and manure management.

ADFI Research projects

1. Study Evaluation of Ingredients for Ruminants - tested in Cannulated Dairy Cows
2. Study Effect of Amino Acid AA Supplementation on Nutrient Digestion and Microbial Protein Synthesis in the Rumen of Dairy Cows
3. Study 5 Samples of Dung (Cattle, Camel, Horse, Sheep)
4. Study Evaluation of Factors Affecting Milk Components on New Brunswick Dairy Farms
5. Study Livestock Environmental Initiative - Improvement in Nitrogen Utilization by Feeding Flax Seed to Dairy Cows
6. Study Testing a Product that can be used to Enhance Rumen Digestion
7. Study In vivo Evaluation of Coatings to Protect Nutrients from Rumen Degradation

- Study S Derivatives Degradation in Lactating Dairy Cows
- Study Greenhouse Gas Mitigation in the Dairy Industry - demonstrate the effectiveness of pasture grazing, conventional "slug feeding" and total mixed ration (TMR) feeding, validate the greenhouse gas emission reductions associated with changes in dairy feed rations



Faculty and Adjunct Professors

- Dr. John Ennelly, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics
- Dr. Burim Ametaj, Assistant Professor, Ruminant Nutritional Immunology
- Dr. Corrairie Doepel, Assistant Professor, Dairy Cattle Nutrition and Metabolism, Director, Dairy Research Technology Centre (DRTC), Dairy Cattle Nutrition and Lactation Physiology
- Dr. David Limm, Research Associate, Dairy Cattle Economics
- Dr. Reza Horasani, Manager, Dairy Research and Technology Centre
- Dr. Masahito Iba, Assistant Professor, Dairy Nutrition and Physiology
- Dr. Divakar Ambrose, Dairy Research Scientist Adjunct Professor, Reproductive Physiology and Management, Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
- Dr. Steven Moore, CABIDF Chair in Beef Economics

The Dairy Research Technology Centre

The DRTC is a partnership between the University of Alberta, the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science and Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, Alberta Milk Eastern Dairy Science Inc. This union brings together the resources of all partners with the vision to be Canada's leading centre for excellence in dairy research, teaching and technology transfer to stakeholders in the dairy industry.

- Rick Corbett, Dairy Nutritionist, Technology Transfer Specialist

Fields of research

1. Increasing the longevity of dairy cows
 2. Improving cow nutrient utilization and efficiency
 3. Modifying milk composition and development of new dairy products
 4. Improving health and wellness benefits of milk and milk products
 5. Improving reproductive efficiency
 6. Improving health status in transition cows
 7. Decrease stress susceptibility in dairy cows
- Beef Economics program



Faculty and Adjunct Professors

- Dr. David Fraser, Professor of Animal welfare
- Dr. Jim Lowe, Director, Animal Care
- Dr. D. Rajadurai Rajamahendran, Professor, Agroecology
- Dr. Marina Nina von Keyserlingk, Assistant Professor
- Dr. Dan Teare, Professor, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council NSERC, Industrial Research Chair in Animal welfare

Fields of research

1. Early detection of lameness in dairy cows
2. Improving cow comfort
3. Feeding behaviour of dairy cows to improve feeding management
4. Feeding behaviour as an early indicator of disease
5. Improving methods of feeding milk to dairy calves
6. Reducing pain associated with dehorning dairy calves
7. Dairy cattle reproduction



Research Mission Statement

Undertake innovative research to support competitive and sustainable dairy production, while improving the Ontario environment and ensuring quality and safety of Ontario dairy product.

Dairy Research Scientists

- Dr. Dean Betts, Department of Biomedical Sciences
- Dr. Mary Buhr, Department of Animal and Poultry Science
- Dr. John Cant, Department of Animal and Poultry Science
- Dr. Randy Dingwell, Department of Population Medicine, Member, Canadian Bovine Mastitis Research Network CBMRN
- Dr. Todd Duffield, Department of Population Medicine
- Dr. Patricia Entry, Department of Biomedical Sciences
- Dr. Spencer Henson, Department of Agricultural Economics and Business
- Dr. Robert Jacobs, Department of Pathobiology
- Dr. Niel Arrow, Department of Animal and Poultry Science, Member, CBMRN
- Dr. David Elton, Department of Population Medicine, Member, CBMRN
- Dr. Stephen LeBlanc, Department of Population Medicine
- Dr. Len Leslie, Department of Population Medicine, Dairy Research Coordinator, Member, CBMRN
- Dr. Terry Issemore, Department of Population Medicine
- Dr. Bonnie Mallard, Department of Pathobiology, Member, CBMRN
- Dr. Brian McBride, Department of Animal and Poultry Science
- Dr. Suzanne Millman, Department of Population Medicine
- Dr. Fern Sborne, Department of Animal and Poultry Science
- Dr. Andrew Peregrine, Department of Pathobiology

- Dr. Andy Robinson, Department of Animal and Poultry Science
- Dr. Barry Schaeffer, Department of Animal and Poultry Science
- Dr. Jim Squires, Department of Animal and Poultry Science
- Dr. Henri Stampfli, Department of Clinical Studies
- Dr. Don Trout, Department of Clinical Studies
- Dr. John Walton, Department of Animal and Poultry Science
- Dr. Scott Weese, Department of Clinical Studies
- Dr. Darren Wood, Department of Pathobiology
- Dr. Jim Fisher, Emptville College
- Dr. Dennis McNight, Emptville College
- Dr. Jonathan Morgan, Emptville College
- Dr. Paul Sharpe, Emptville College

Fields of research

1. Improving dairy cow productivity through nutrition
2. Improving dairy cow productivity through genetics and reproduction research
3. Improving the longevity of dairy cows
4. Understanding the impact of disease on cattle health and productivity
5. Improving dairy animal welfare
6. Reducing the impact of dairying on the environment
7. Improving quality and safety of milk products



Dairy Research Scientists

- Dr. van Chouinard, Lipid Metabolism, Modifying Milk Composition, Member, Canadian Bovine Mastitis Research Network CBMRN
- Dr. Doris Pellerin, Farm and Herd Management, Optimizing Forage Use
- Dr. François Richard, Oocytes and Granulosa Development and Culture
- Dr. Claude Robert, Genetic Improvement of Production Traits, Genomics, Member, CBMRN
- Dr. Marc-André Sirard, Reproductive Biotechnology and Genomics
- Dr. Linda Saucier, Meat Quality and Salubrity

Fields of research

1. Studying the effect of dietary fats in the rations on milk production and composition
2. Producing forage with specific characteristics
3. Producing milk from forages in Quebec, the economic alternative
4. Using genomics and proteomics to understand oocyte and early embryo functions in farm animals

Centre de recherche en biologie de la reproduction

The *Centre de recherche en biologie de la reproduction* CRBR research centre in reproductive biology is a very active team of researchers interested in human and animal reproduction, advanced technology, the responsible use of such technology and ethical issues related to the field. The complementary skills of the CRBR researchers allow them to work jointly towards improving reproductive performance in domestic mammals and humans. By furthering scientific knowledge and contributing to the advancement of technology, the CRBR aims to facilitate the training of high-level scientists in the field.

Research themes:

- ovarian Function
- Embryonic Development
- Testicular Function
- Foetal-maternal interactions
- Transdisciplinarity
- Toxicology



Faculty and Adjunct Professors

- Dr. Martin Ittenberg, Department Head, Ruminant Nutrition, Forage Utilization
- Dr. Gary Crow, Associate Department Head, Animal Breeding and Genetics
- Dr. Alma Kennedy, Associate Professor, Physiology
- Dr. Les Plamier, Assistant Professor, Dairy Cattle Nutrition and Management.
- Dr. Jim Minski, Assistant Professor
- Dr. Laurie Connor, Reproduction Physiology

Fields of research

1. Study the impact of subacute ruminal acidosis (SARA) on health and production of dairy cows
2. Preventing SARA in barley-based diets
3. Improving nutrient utilization by optimization of feeding time and feeding patterns
4. Development of a dynamic model describing the relationships between chemical and physical diet composition, feeding strategy and rumen conditions

Faculty and researchers

- Dr. Marie Archambault, Department of Pathology and Microbiology
- Dr. Pascale Aubry, Department of Clinical Sciences
- Dr. Michel Bigras-Poulin, Department of Pathology and Microbiology
- Dr. Nicole Bouchard, Department of Clinical Sciences Member, Canadian Bovine Mastitis Research Network CBMRN
- Dr. Paul D. Carrier, Department of Veterinary Biomedicine Member, *Centre de recherche en reproduction animale* CRRA animal reproduction research centre
- Dr. Pierre Del Castillo, Department of Veterinary Biomedicine
- Dr. Luc DesCoteau, Department of Clinical Sciences Member, CBMRN
- Dr. André Desrochers, Department of Clinical Sciences
- Dr. Monique Dorval, Department of Pathology and Microbiology Member, CBMRN
- Dr. Pascal Dubreuil, Department of Clinical Sciences
- Dr. S. Mehdy Elahi, Department of Pathology and Microbiology/Diagnostic Service/Laboratory of Virology
- Dr. John M. Fairbrother, Department of Pathology and Microbiology
- Dr. Gilles Fecteau, Department of Clinical Sciences
- Dr. David Franco, Department of Clinical Sciences
- Dr. Carl A. Gagnon, Department of Pathology and Microbiology
- Dr. Alan Goff, Department of Veterinary Biomedicine Member, CRRA
- Dr. Marcelo Gottschalk, Department of Pathology and Microbiology Member, CBMRN

- Dr. Josée Harel, Department of Pathology and Microbiology
- Dr. Denis Harvey, Department of Clinical Sciences
- Dr. René Jéffe, Department of Clinical Sciences Member, CRRA
- Dr. Jacques Jussier, Department of Veterinary Biomedicine Member, CRRA
- Dr. Serge Messier, Department of Pathology and Microbiology Director, *Laboratoire de bactériologie clinique* clinical bacteriology laboratory Laboratory Coordinator, CBMRN
- Dr. Bruce D. Murphy, Department of Veterinary Biomedicine Director, CRRA
- Dr. Christopher Price, Department of Veterinary Biomedicine Member, CRRA
- Dr. Jean-Philippe Roy, Department of Clinical Sciences Member, CBMRN
- Dr. Daniel Scholl, Department of Pathology and Microbiology Director, CBMRN
- Dr. David J. Silversides, Department of Veterinary Biomedicine Member, CRRA
- Dr. Jean Sirois, Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Veterinary Biomedicine and Member, CRRA
- Dr. Lawrence C. Smith, Department of Veterinary Biomedicine, Director, *Chaire de recherche en clonage et biotechnologie de l'embryon*, Member, CRRA
- Dr. Grant Tomita, Department of Pathology and Microbiology Scientific Assistant, CBMRN
- Dr. Eric Troncy, Department of Veterinary Biomedicine
- Dr. Denis Vaillancourt, Department of Clinical Sciences
- Dr. Alain Villeneuve, Department of Pathology and Microbiology

Research groups and other fields of research

- CBMRN
- CRRA
- *Chaire de recherche en clonage et biotechnologie de l'embryon*
- *Groupe de recherche et développement en gestion informatisée de la santé (DSA R&D)* research and development group for computer-managed animal health
- *Laboratoire de biotechnologie vétérinaire et alimentaire (LBVA)*



Faculty

- Dr. John A. van Leeuwen, Associate Professor, National Director, Production Limiting Diseases Dairy Research Project, Coordination Group Member overseeing national development program of John's Disease D, Member, Canadian Bovine Mastitis Research Network CBMRN
- Dr. Herman Barkema, Associate Professor, Farm Service and Epidemiology, leader of the monitoring team of the CBMRN, Member, CBMRN
- Dr. Ian Dohoo, Professor, Epidemiology, Member, CBMRN
- Dr. Greg Geffe, Professor, Dairy Health Management, Member, CBMRN
- Dr. Shawn McEneaney, Department of Health Management
- Dr. Olivier Sanche, Research Associate in Epidemiology
- Dr. Henrik Stryhn, Associate Professor, Biostatistics, Department of Health Management, Member, CBMRN
- Dr. Jeffrey Mitchell, Associate Professor and Chairman, Department of Health Management

Fields of research

1. Monitoring and control of parasites in lactating dairy cattle
2. Mammary gland health
3. Infectious diseases of dairy cattle
4. Trace mineral/milk quality off-flavour milk/reproduction
5. Impact of high milk urea nitrogen on dairy cows reproduction



Department of Animal and Poultry Science

Faculty and Adjunct Professors

- Dr. Bernard Aarveld, Professor, Physiology and Metabolism
- Dr. David A. Christensen, Professor Emeritus, Dairy Cattle Nutrition and Production
- Dr. Timothy Mutsvangwa, Assistant Professor, Ruminant Dairy Cattle Nutrition and Metabolism
- Dr. Henry Soita, Post-Doc Fellow, Dairy Cattle Nutrition
- Dr. Pei Jiang, SAF Research Chair, Synchrotron Applications, Feed Research and Development, Ruminant Nutrition, Feed Science and Feed Chemistry

Fields of research

1. Basic ruminant nutrition and metabolism, with emphasis on nutrient utilization by splanchnic tissues i.e., gastrointestinal tract and liver and how this affects post-absorptive delivery of nutrients especially AA to peripheral tissues i.e., mammary gland, muscle
2. Nitrogen urea recycling in ruminants, and how this impacts on AA supply to and protein turnover in peripheral tissues. The mechanisms that control nitrogen recycling to the different gastrointestinal compartments will be investigated so as to improve our understanding of this process and, consequently, develop strategies to improve N retention in ruminants
3. Feeding strategies to manipulate milk composition e.g., fatty acid FA composition.
4. Beef and dairy cattle molecular genetics and includes gene mapping and developing gene tests for traits of economic importance
5. Rare breeds of livestock



Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Faculty, Adjunct Professors and Associate Members

- Dr. Norman Rawlings, Department of Veterinary Biomedical Sciences and Associate Dean Research
- Dr. Gregg Adams, Department of Veterinary Biomedical Sciences
- Dr. A.D. Barth, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences
- Dr. Terry Carruthers, Department of Veterinary Biomedical Sciences
- Dr. Patricia Dowling, Department of Veterinary Biomedical Sciences
- Dr. Deborah Haines, Department of Veterinary Microbiology
- Dr. John Astellic, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences
- Dr. Raul Mainar-Lima, Department of Veterinary Microbiology
- Dr. Reuben Mapletoft, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences
- Dr. Jonathan Naylor, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences
- Dr. Colin Palmer, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences

Fields of research

1. Reproduction in the male and female cattle
2. Infectious diseases and vaccinology
3. Herd health and epidemiology
4. Food safety and public health
5. Toxicology
6. Animal behaviour and welfare



VIDO RESEARCH PROJECTS
IMPACTING THE DAIRY INDUSTRY

Researchers

- Dr. Jose Peregrin-Casal, Project leader Canadian Bovine Mastitis Research Network
- Dr. Andrew Potter, Associate Director Research Chief Science Officer - Head Science Management
- Dr. Ian Drunen, Program Manager Nucleic Acid Technologies
- Dr. Phil Millson, Program Manager Vaccine Development

Fields of research

1. Vaccine against mastitis
2. DNA vaccines for cattle
3. Needle-free delivery/High-pressure jet injection
4. Pathogenomics and mucosal immunity
5. The bovine respiratory disease
6. The bovine enteric disease

Animal welfare



the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased from 10.5 million to 13.5 million, and the number of people aged 75 and over has increased from 4.5 million to 6.5 million (Office for National Statistics 2002).

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the needs of older people, and the need to ensure that the health care system is able to meet the needs of older people. The Department of Health (2001) has set out a strategy for the health care system to meet the needs of older people. The strategy is based on the following principles:

- To ensure that older people have access to the same range of health care services as younger people.
- To ensure that older people are able to live independently for as long as possible.
- To ensure that older people are able to participate in decisions about their care.

The strategy also sets out a number of key objectives for the health care system to meet the needs of older people. These objectives are:

- To reduce the number of older people who are admitted to hospital.
- To reduce the length of stay of older people in hospital.
- To reduce the number of older people who are admitted to care homes.

The strategy also sets out a number of key actions for the health care system to meet the needs of older people. These actions are:

- To improve the training of health care professionals in the care of older people.
- To improve the recruitment of health care professionals to work with older people.
- To improve the support for health care professionals who work with older people.

The strategy also sets out a number of key indicators for the health care system to meet the needs of older people. These indicators are:

- The number of older people who are admitted to hospital.
- The length of stay of older people in hospital.
- The number of older people who are admitted to care homes.



1

Bacterial populations on teat ends of dairy cows housed in free stalls and bedded with either sand or sawdust

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2004. Vol. 87, No. 6, p. 1694-1701.

Zdanowicz, M.
Shelford, J.A.
Tucker, C.B.
Weary, D.M.
von Keyserlingk, M.A.G.

The purpose of this experiment was to compare bacterial populations related to mastitis on teats of lactating dairy cattle housed on sand and sawdust and to assess the relationship between bacterial counts on teat ends and those present in the two bedding types. Cows were housed in free stalls bedded with either sand or sawdust and bedding samples were collected. Samples from teat ends were also collected. Both of these samples were analyzed for coliform, *Klebsiella* spp. and *Streptococcus* spp. populations. Teat ends samples contained twice more coliforms and six times more *Klebsiella* for cows bedded on sawdust than for the ones bedded on sand. However, teat ends samples of cows bedded on sand showed ten times more *Streptococcus* spp. bacteria. There was a general tendency among treatments for an increase in bacterial counts over each experimental week. Bacterial counts in sawdust and in sand were related to bacterial counts on teat ends. It was concluded that there were more coliforms and *Klebsiella* spp. on teat ends of cows bedded on sawdust but more *Streptococcus* on teat ends of cows bedded on sand.

Main Canadian Institution



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2

Bedding on geotextile mattresses: How much is needed to improve cow comfort?

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2004. Vol. 88, No. 9, p. 2889-2895.

Tucker, C.B.
Weary, D.M.

This study aims to assess how the amount of sawdust bedding on mattresses affects dairy cattle behaviour and preferences. Eleven non-lactating cows were housed individually in pens and given access to three free stalls with geotextile mattresses varying in the amount of kiln-dried sawdust they were covered with. The experiment was divided into two phases: a restriction phase, where cows were given access to only one of the three stalls at a time and a free-choice phase, where cows were given access to all three stalls. A more important amount of bedding increased the time spent lying down and the number of lying bouts of the cows. It was also observed that when there was more sawdust in the stalls, cows spent less time standing with only the front hooves in it. During the free-choice phase, there was an overall preference for the stall with the larger amount of sawdust and cows spent more time lying and standing in this stall. It was concluded that cow comfort is improved by an important amount of sawdust in stalls with geotextile mattresses.

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3

Claw hardness of dairy cows: Relationship to water content and claw lesions

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2004. Vol. 87, No. 7, p. 2085-2093.

Borderas, T.F.
Pawluczuk, B.
de Passillé, A.M.
Rushen, J.

Lameness is a major welfare and economic problem in dairy herds. Chances of injury or of claw lesions are influenced by the degree of hardness of claws, which can become soft when exposed to moisture. This study aimed to assess the relationship between hardness of the claw horn, quantity and rate of absorption of water and incidence of claw lesions. Four experiments were performed to achieve this goal. The first three consisted in soaking pieces of the claw horn in water for a period of 12 hours to 24 hours. The water was absorbed as soaked claws weighed more and were softer after the treatment. One-third of the water was absorbed within the first hour. It was also found that the sole was the softer part. Yet, the base of the axial and the dorsal walls of the claw softened more rapidly than the sole. Significant negative correlations were found between claw hardness and the severity of claw lesions in the fourth experiment, meaning that softer claws produced the most severe claw lesions. It was concluded that succinct exposure to moist surfaces results in softer claws and those cows with softer claws are at greater risk for lameness.

Main Canadian Institution



PAFRC, Agassiz (BC)

4

Competition for teats and feeding behaviour by group-housed dairy calves

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2004. Vol. 87, No. 12, p. 4191-4194.

von Keyserlingk, M.A.G.
Brusius, L.
Weary, D.M.

The object of this study was to determine how calf competitive behaviour and meal-based feeding patterns, and milk intake are affected by a restricted access to teats. Fifteen female calves were fed a teat-to-calf ratio varying on a daily basis from 1:3 to 4:3. The number of meals was not affected by a decrease in the number of teats but the total time on the teat and milk consumption decreased as the number of teats changed from 4 to 1. Competitive interactions were affected by teat access, it happened more frequently with a reduction in teat access. The number of displacements from one teat to another increased as the number of teats decreased from four to one. It was concluded that in group-housed calves, competitive interactions were increased and feeding time and milk intake decreased as a result of a reduced access to teats.

Main Canadian Institution





5

Designing better water troughs: Dairy cows prefer and drink more from larger troughs

Researchers

Applied Animal Behaviour Science. 2004. Vol. 89, No. 3-4, p. 185-193.

Machado Filho, L.C. Pinheiro
Teixeira, D.L.
Weary, D.M.
von Keyserlingk, M.A.G.
Hotzel, M.J.

The aim of this study was to evaluate the effects of water trough height and size on the preference and water intake of cows in pasture. To achieve this goal, two experiments were performed. The first one involved 14 cows that were given access to two water troughs that varied in height and size. A preference was observed for the higher and larger trough, from which cows drank more water, spent more time drinking and took more sips. In the second experiment, the two troughs were at the same height. It was found that cows spent more time drinking and drank a larger quantity of water from the larger trough. Water consumption was also measured to see if it was affected when cows did not have any choice between troughs. All cows drank more water when they had access to the larger and higher trough.

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6

Effect of feeding space on the inter-cow distance, aggression and feeding behaviour of free-stall housed lactating dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2004. Vol. 87, No. 5, p. 1432-1438.

DeVries, T.J.
von Keyserlingk, M.A.G.
Weary, D.M.

The aim of this study was to evaluate whether doubling the feed bunk space from 0.5 to 1 m per cow results in increased spacing between cows at the feeder, fewer aggressive interactions, and increased feeding activity. Feed bunk space of 0.5 and 1 m per cow were provided and the inter-cow distance, incidence of aggressive displacements and time spent feeding were recorded. The results indicated that when cows were given more feed space, they were less aggressive and there was more space between the cows. These effects resulted in increased feeding activity during the day and, moreover, during the 90 minutes after the delivery of fresh feed. This effect was strongest for the subordinate cows. It was concluded that increasing the available space at the feed bunk will increase feeding activity and decrease competition between cows.

Main Canadian Institution



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7

Effect of rubber flooring in front of the feed bunk on the time budgets of dairy cattle

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2004. Vol. 87, No. 5, p. 1203-1207.

Fregonesi, J.A.
Tucker, C.B.
Weary, D.M.
Flower, F.C.
Vittie, T.

In this research, the effect of rubber flooring in front of the feed bunk was evaluated in relation to the immediate behavioural response of dairy cattle. Cows were alternatively housed in sections of the free stall barn with 1.85 m of rubber flooring or grooved concrete area in front of the feed bunk. Time spent standing increased slightly, not only in the area in front of the feed bunk but also elsewhere in the pen, in stalls with rubber. Rubber flooring did not affect time spent eating. However, time spent lying down in the free stall with rubber in front of the feed bunk was smaller. It was concluded that cows housed in free stalls with rubber in front of the feed bunk showed small differences in the time they spent standing and where they stood in the pen. However, the biological implications of these changes remain unclear.

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8

Improving stall design: Use of 3-D kinematics to measure space use by dairy cows when lying down

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2004. Vol. 87, No. 7, p. 2042-2050.

Ceballos, A.
Sanderson, D.
Rushen, J.
Weary, D.M.

Recommendations for the dimensions of cow stalls are available but there is not much research supporting these recommendations. Stall dimensions are quite important since uncomfortable stalls reduce the time cows spend resting and increase the risk of lameness. This study aimed to provide the first accurate measures of space used by Holstein dairy cows during lying-down movements in an open space and in a free stall. To perform this study, kinematic techniques were used. It was found that cows used up to 300 cm of longitudinal space when they are lying down, which is more than recommended for stall length, and up to 109 cm of lateral space, which is within width recommendations. Lateral displacements at the hip when cows were lying down occurred in two vertical zones; between 95 and 135 cm and less than 50 cm above the lying surface, while maximal longitudinal displacements of the nose are between 10 and 30 cm above the surface. Results also showed that cows can contact inappropriately placed stall partitions and the lying surface with considerable force. It was concluded that kinematic techniques could be good indicators of the space required by cows in order to further improve stall design. Further work is needed to assess the space requirements for a wider range of cow sizes and stall configurations.

Main Canadian Institution



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9

Training cattle to approach a feed source in response to auditory signals


Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. 2004. Vol. 84, No. 4, p. 567-572.

Wredle, E.
Rushen, J.
de Passillé, A.M.
Munksgaard, L.

This study aimed to evaluate whether heifers could be trained to approach a feeder in response to a tone emanating from their collar to see if cow traffic in automated milk systems can be improved using this method. Ten heifers were trained by operant conditioning and eight of them went to the feeder more frequently and in a shorter period of time after the tone than in the control periods. Eight others were trained by classical conditioning. When four heifers were trained while loose in the pen and had a second tone that predicted an aversive treatment, the animals approached the feeder more often after the positive tone. It was concluded that operant conditioning was more effective than classical conditioning and that it is important to define the optimal training procedures before implementing automated milk systems.

Main Canadian Institution

 Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
 Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada
PAFRC, Agassiz (BC)

10

Vigilance as a measure of fear in dairy cattle

Researchers

Applied Animal Behaviour Science. 2004. Vol. 87, No. 1-2, p. 1-13.

Welp, T.
Rushen, J.
Kramer, D.L.
Festa-Bianchet, M.
de Passillé, A.M.

In the course of this research, dairy cattle were tested to determine if time spent vigilant varied according to the novelty of their location, the presence of a dog or the presence of an aversive, gentle or unfamiliar handler. Increased vigilance may indicate increased fear. The first experiment used 40 cows, which were observed individually in a large outdoor enclosure with an attractive food source, in which vigilance time was defined as any time the animal's head was raised. The degree of vigilance decreased as the number of trials increased and was higher in the presence of a dog than in the presence of a human or when neither were present. The second experiment consisted in observing 20 cows in an indoor pen containing an attractive food source with either an aversive, gentle or unfamiliar person nearby. Cows were trained before the testing period to recognize an aversive or a gentle person. Vigilance time was increased when cows were in the presence of the aversive person and vigilance time did not decrease as the number of trials increased. It was concluded that the cows' vigilance is related to their degree of fearfulness towards people and diverse environments so that vigilance may be measured and provide information on the fearfulness of the cows.

Main Canadian Institution

 Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
 Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada
PAFRC, Agassiz (BC)



11

Calf response to caustic paste and hot-iron dehorning using sedation with and without local anaesthetic

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 4, p. 1454-1459.

Vickers, K.J.
Niel, L.
Kiehlbauch, L.M.
Weary, D.M.

Dehorning causes pain. Dairy producers should use effective methods to reduce this pain. The use of analgesics may be useful to reduce pain caused by hot-iron dehorning but these interventions are not practical for all producers. Caustic paste is another way to reduce pain associated with dehorning but very little research has been carried out to document the pain associated with caustic burns. Two experiments were therefore performed to assess the pain following dehorning with caustic paste. The pain was assessed by observing head shaking and head rubbing behaviours. In the first experiment, caustic paste, with or without lidocaine local block, was used to dehorn sedated calves. No reductions in pain were shown in calves treated with lidocaine. In the second experiment, the authors compared the response to dehorning with caustic paste with a sedative only and the response to hot-iron dehorning using a sedative and local anaesthetic. Calves dehorned with the hot-iron method shook their heads more than the others. It was concluded that dehorning with a hot-iron and a sedative and local anaesthetic is more painful for calves than using caustic paste with sedative.

Main Canadian Institution



12

Can we measure human-animal interactions in on-farm animal welfare assessment? Some unresolved issues

Researchers

Applied Animal Behaviour Science. 2005. Vol. 92, No. 3, p. 193-209.

de Passilé, A.M.
Rushen, J.

Stockmanship has an effect on animal welfare. Measures of animal responses to people could possibly be used in on-farm animal welfare assessment. What is discussed here are some unresolved issues related to the efficiency of the current measures of animals' responses to people in on-farm welfare assessment. These measures include the uncertainty about the best type of measure to use, the low reliability of some tests, the difficulties in establishing a clear cut-off point, and questions about the viability of the measures, considering the effects due to the identity of the test person, the location of the test, the influence of motivations other than fear and finally, poor correspondence with the type of handling actually used on farms.

Main Canadian Institution



PAFRC, Agassiz (BC)



13

Changes in feeding, drinking and standing behavior of dairy cows during the transition period

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 7, p. 2454-2461.

Huzzey, J.M.
von Keyserlingk, M.A.G.
Weary, D.M.

The purpose of this research was to assess how measures of feeding, drinking and standing behaviour change over the period around calving, to derive objective criteria about the time spent eating and drinking and describe the consistency of these behavioural measures within cows. The measures were taken on 15 transition dairy cows from 10 days before to 10 days after calving. It was observed that the average number of meals per day was higher after calving. But the adverse effect was observed during the time spent eating, which decreased from the pre- to post-calving period. Time spent drinking increased gradually after calving, while the daily time spent standing was similar over the observation period but was higher around calving and lower during the pre-calving period. An important increase in the number of standing bouts was noted on calving day. There are many changes in the feeding behaviour of cows during transition and the results of this study may account for these changes. These results also suggest that cow comfort is important around calving time.

Main Canadian Institution



14

Effect of feed barrier design on the behavior of loose-housed lactating dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 7, p. 2377-2380.

Endres, M.I.
DeVries, T.J.
von Keyserlingk, M.A.G.
Weary, D.M.

The effects of two feed barrier systems on the feeding and social behaviour of dairy cows were examined in this study. Two types of feed barriers, post-and-rail and headlock, were tested on 48 lactating Holstein cows. Time spent feeding was not influenced by the feed barrier type, but feeding time changes were observed during periods of peak feeding activity. During those periods, cows that had lower feeding times than group mates when using the post-and-rail barrier were able to increase their feeding times to levels similar to the other cows when using the headlock barrier. Fewer displacements were also observed at the feed bunk when cows used the headlock barrier. The authors concluded that aggressions at the feed bunk may be reduced through the use of a headlock barrier and that this type of barrier also improves the access to feed for socially subordinate cows during peak feeding periods.

Main Canadian Institution





15

Effect of flooring type and social grouping on the rest and growth of dairy calves

Researchers

Applied Animal Behaviour Science. 2005. Vol. 91, No. 3-4, p. 193-204.

Hanninen, L.
de Passilé, A.M.
Rushen, J.

The aim of this research was to evaluate the effect of flooring softness and the presence of a companion calf on the growth and rest of calves. Three housing treatments were provided during 20 weeks on one-week-old calves. They were either housed in pairs, in concrete-floor double pens, individually housed in concrete-floor pens, or individually housed in identical pens but with soft rubber mats. The total daily duration of activity, frequency of bouts and mean duration of bouts of total resting, resting on the side or resting on the sternum, were recorded. The daytime effect was also evaluated for various ages. It was found that the mean daily gain and the total time spent resting were positively related. The proportion of the time that calves were resting on the side decreased with age and two-week-old calves were not observed lying on their sides. With the introduction of solid feed, calves spent less time around feeding. The only differences recorded between treatments were that calves housed in pairs in concrete-floor double pens spent more time resting on the side and had a higher bout frequency than calves individually housed in concrete-floor pens. The longer the calves rested, the better they grew, which means that adequate rest is fairly important for calves. It was also found that calves housed in pairs rested more often and for longer periods on their side than individually housed calves.

Main Canadian Institution



PAFRC, Agassiz (BC)



16

Feeding behaviour identifies dairy cows at risk for metritis

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 8, p. 2843-2849.

Urton, G.
von Keyserlingk, M.A.G.
Weary, D.M.

Early diagnosis of diseases and metabolic disorders after calving is still a challenge for dairy producers. Metritis is a common disease occurring in the time immediately after calving and can produce negative effects on milk yield (MY) and reproductive performance of the cow, but often goes undetected, as there are few visible signs of illness. The purpose of this study was to evaluate whether changes in feeding behaviour in the weeks prior to calving could identify cows at risk for this disease after calving. Feeding behaviour beginning two weeks prior to calving until three weeks after calving was recorded for 26 Holstein cows. The researchers also monitored body temperatures and body condition scores during this period as well as the condition of the vaginal discharge in the weeks after calving. Sixty-nine percent of the cows showed some sign of metritis after calving and these cows spent less time at the feed bunk prior to and after calving. A relationship between the average daily feeding time and the risk of diagnosis for metritis was observed. For each period of 10 minutes decreased in feeding time during the day in the period before calving, cows were two times as likely to be diagnosed with metritis after calving. It was concluded that a reduction in the time spent at the feeder in the precalving period can be used to identify cows at risk for metritis. Further investigation is needed to determine whether this relationship can apply to other diseases and metabolic disorders in transition dairy cows.

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17

Free stall maintenance: Effects on lying behaviour of dairy cattle

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 7, p. 2381-2387.

Drissler, M.
Gaworski, M.
Tucker, C.B.
Weary, D.M.

This study aimed to document how sand-bedding depth and distribution changed within free stalls after new bedding was added as well as the effect of these changes on lying behaviour. A series of three experiments was conducted to achieve this goal. The first experiment consisted in measuring changes in bedding depth during a period of 10 days. Over time, the stall surface became concave and the depth of bedding decreased, with the more important decrease being the day after new sand was added. It was also observed that sand depth decreased more in the centre portion of the stall. In experiment two, changes in the lying behaviour were measured and it was shown that cows spent more time lying down in stalls that had more bedding. For each centimetre decrease in bedding, 11 minutes less were spent lying down by cows on a daily basis. Finally, the third experiment consisted in four treatments varying in sand depth within stalls. Again, reduced levels of bedding resulted in a reduction in lying times.

Main Canadian Institution





18

Frequency of feed delivery affects the behaviour of lactating dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 10, p. 3553-3562.

DeVries, T.J.
von Keyserlingk, M.A.G.
Beauchemin, K.A.

The purpose of this study was to evaluate how the frequency of feed delivery affects the behaviour of group-housed and group-fed dairy cows and the extent of feed sorting. Two experiments were conducted with 48 cows. In the first, cows were delivered feed once a day and twice a day. In the second experiment, they were delivered feed twice a day and four times a day. Increasing the frequency of feed provision caused changes in the distribution of feeding time, resulting in more equal access to feed during the day. Further, daily lying time and incidence of aggressive interactions at the feed bunk were not changed by the frequency of feed delivery. A high frequency of feed delivery did result in subordinate cows being displaced less often than at low frequency. It was also found that the increase in the frequency of feed delivery from one time to two times per day decreased the amount of feed sorting. The authors concluded that access to feed for all cows was improved by the frequent delivery of feed, especially during peak feeding periods and reduced the amount of feed sorting.

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19

Hoof pathologies influence kinematic measures of dairy cow gait

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 9, p. 3166-3173.

Flower, F.C.
Sanderson, D.J.
Weary, D.M.

In this research, gait profiles of cows with no visible injuries, sole lesions, and sole ulcers were studied in order to evaluate how hoof pathologies affect the gait of dairy cattle. Healthy cows walked faster, had shorter stride durations and longer strides. Cows with sole ulcers were more often supported on three legs only to reduce the load on the affected leg. As there were important variations in the number, severity and location of the injuries with sole lesions, few differences were detected between healthy cows and the cows affected by sole lesions. It was concluded that the kinematic gait analysis had a great potential for understanding how hoof pathologies affect dairy cow gait.

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20

Influence of neck-rail placement on free-stall preference, use and cleanliness

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 8, p. 2730-2737.

Tucker, C.B.
Weary, D.M.
Fraser, D.

The object of this study was to assess how the presence of a neck rail at different heights and locations influenced dairy cattle behaviour and stall cleanliness. Four neck-rail heights were compared in a preference test: no neck rail, neck rails of 102, 114 and 127 cm. No preferences were observed in heights. When cows were restricted to each treatment, cows spent less time standing fully in the stall with the lowest neck-rail height and more time in the stall with no neck rail. The distance to the neck rail (constant height) from the curb was evaluated in a second experiment. Cows spent more time fully standing when the neck rail was further from the curb than when it was closer but cows showed increased defecation in the stalls when the neck rail was further. In the third experiment, the soiling of the stall was compared between cows having no neck rail or having a neck rail at a height of 124.5 cm. It was observed that the stalls were soiled more without the neck rail. It was concluded that restrictive neck-rail placement decreased the time cows spent fully standing in the stalls and thus helped keep stalls clean by providing a more comfortable flooring surface outside the stall, which might mitigate the adverse effects of restrictive neck rails.

Main Canadian Institution



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21

Physiological and behavioural changes in Holstein calves during and after dehorning or castration

Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. June 2005. Vol. 85, p. 131-138.

Schwartzkopf-Genswein, K.S.
Booth-McLean, M.E.
McAllister, T.A.
Mears, G.J.

This study aimed to compare physiological and behavioural responses of 17 bull and 12 heifer dairy calves to hot-iron dehorning or dehorning followed by scalpel castration to both control and sham procedures and to each other. To compare these responses, blood samples were collected at various times post-procedure, sham or control. It was observed that cortisol concentrations were high for at least 2 hours following castration and 30 minutes after dehorning. A higher cortisol level was observed after castration than after dehorning, 2 hours and 4 hours after the procedure. Dehorned calves struggled and kicked more than castrated calves. Both castrated and dehorned calves kicked and struggled more than during sham procedures. Both sham and dehorned calves showed higher heart rate compared to control. Calves that were not anaesthetized had higher heart rate, cortisol and more severe behavioural responses to castration and dehorning than sham and control. These different responses may be due to the way calves were handled or to prior dehorning experience.

Main Canadian Institution



LRC, Lethbridge (AB)



22

Tie-stall design and its relationship to lameness, injury and cleanliness on 317 Ontario dairy farms

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 9, p. 3201-3210.

Zurbrigg, K.
Kelton, D.
Anderson, N.
Millman, S.

This study aims to identify the relationships between tie-stall design and selected cow based injury, lameness and cleanliness measurements. Lactating dairy cows were evaluated once and scored for neck and hock lesions, broken tails, back arch, hind claw rotation and udder and limb cleanliness. Stall dimensions were recorded as well. It was found that neck lesions were significantly associated with tie-rail height. Positive relationships were found between hock lesions and the presence of an electric trainer and between broken tails and udder and limb cleanliness. Negative relationships were found between hock lesions and tie-chain length as well as between broken tails and tie-rail height. An increase in mean stall length tended to decrease the number of cows having hind-claw rotation. Stall and chain length were negatively associated with the number of dirty cows, which was also positively associated with the presence of an electric trainer. Proportion of cows with clean udders increased with the percentage of cows with clean hind limbs and with tie-rail height. Finally, as the prevalence of clean udders increased, the prevalence of broken tails decreased. These results showed how tie-stall dimensions can influence aspects of dairy cow welfare.

Main Canadian Institution



23

Time of feed delivery affects the feeding and lying patterns of dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 2, p. 625-631.

DeVries, T.J.
von Keyserlingk, M.A.G.

The aim of this study was to determine if the daily feeding behaviour patterns of dairy cattle are more affected by the return from milking or by the delivery of fresh feed. Forty-eight cows were exposed to two treatments: milking coinciding with feed delivery and feed delivery 6 hours after milking. It was found that the total daily feeding time increased when cows were fed 6 hours after milking. A high portion of this feeding time occurred during the first hour after feed delivery. Feeding cows 6 hours after they were milked did not affect the lying time of the cows, but did affect their lying patterns, as cows tend to lie down 20 minutes earlier after milking. It was concluded that feeding behaviour was mostly stimulated by the delivery of fresh feed and that changes in feeding management can affect the feeding and lying behaviour of lactating dairy cows.

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1

Mitigation strategies to reduce enteric methane emissions from dairy cows: Update review

Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. 2004. Vol. 84, No. 3, p. 319-335.

Boadi, D.
Benchaar, C.
Chiquette, J.
Massé, D.

One of the major contributors to the greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) is the enteric methane (CH_4) from ruminants. The enteric methane is also a loss of feed energy during production. This article aimed to provide an update on current management practices and new dietary strategies to reduce CH_4 emissions from ruminants. Some dietary practices, e.g., nutritional changes, have been well researched and applied, such as the addition of ionophores, fats, the use of high-quality forages and the increased use of grains. All these decrease the CH_4 emissions through the manipulation of ruminal fermentation, direct inhibition of the methanogens and protozoa or by a redirection of hydrogen ions away from the methanogens. New mitigation options have been recently identified in the current literature such as the addition in the ration of probiotics, acetogens, bacteriocins, archaeal viruses, organic acids and plant extracts. The immunization and genetic selection of cows have also been identified as potential approaches to decrease CH_4 emissions. However, more research is needed to evaluate the efficiency in vivo of these approaches in decreasing the CH_4 production by dairy cows. The economical cost of these approaches is also to be established as well as their evaluation in terms of GHG budget. Finally, to exploit these strategies, a more basic understanding of the natural differences in the digestion efficiency among animals and a better knowledge of methanogens and their interactions with other organisms in the rumen is needed.

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DSRDC, Lennoxville (QC)



2

Compatibility of delayed cutting regime with bird breeding and hay nutritional quality

Researchers

Agriculture Ecosystems and Environment. 2005. Vol. 107, No. 2-3, p. 245-253.

Nocera, J.J.
Parsons, G.J.
Milton, G.R.
Fredeen, A.H.

The purpose of this study was to study the breeding phenology of three grassland bird species under delayed cutting regimes (post-1 July) in managed fields of Nova Scotia. The bird species were bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*), savannah sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*), and Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni subvirgatus*). Peak fledging usually occurred in the first week of July and delaying the cutting by one week in late June or beginning of July led to a slight decrease in the nutritional quality of hay, while a delay of 1.5 week resulted in a decrease in the mean crude protein percentage of 2.1. However, this cutting delay secured an increase in the rate of fledging from 0% to 20% for bobolink, 56% for the savannah sparrow and 44% for Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrow. The maximum fledging rates for all species were obtained through postponing cutting one more week. However, the crude protein percentage loss was of 3.5%, which is not enough to support high maintenance requirements of periparturient cows and feeder/finisher cattle. Nevertheless, this could be made profitable through mineral supplementation. In terms of other nutrients, the acid detergent fibre (ADF) were quite high and Ca and P improved in the same period. The results obtained showed that delayed hay cutting can be a viable option for farmers who decide to conserve breeding birds on hay fields and the possibility of delaying cutting depends on the farm's specialization and the breed kept. These practices may be incorporated in a holistic approach to the agroecosystem management.

Main Canadian Institution



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Feeding





1

Effects of feeding micronized and extruded flaxseed on ruminal fermentation and nutrient utilization by dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. June 2004. Vol. 87, No. 6, p. 1854-1863.

Gonthier, C.
Mustafa, A.F.
Berthiaume, R.
Petit, H.V.
Martineau, R.
Ouellet, D.R.

This study evaluates the effects of feeding flaxseed heat-treated on fermentation of nutrients in the rumen and site and extent of nutrient utilization. Four lactating Holstein cows were fed four different diets: no flaxseed, raw flaxseed, micronized flaxseed and extruded flaxseed. The inclusion of flaxseed in the ration increased the proportion of propionate and decreased acetate in the rumen. A lower digestion of acid detergent fibre (ADF) in the rumen was also observed with diets containing flaxseed. Post-ruminal digestibilities of dry matter, organic matter, neutral detergent fibre (NDF) and gross energy were also increased without affecting the ruminal digestion of dry matter, organic matter, NDF, crude protein (CP), fatty acids, and gross energy. Extrusion of flaxseed did not protect against ruminal digestion and the value of undegraded protein in the rumen was increased by the micronization treatment.

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2

Effects of subacute ruminal acidosis on sodium bicarbonate-supplemented water intake for lactating dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. July 2004. Vol. 87, No. 7, p. 2248-2253.

Cottee, G.
Kyriazakis, I.
Widowski, T.M.
Lindinger, M.I.
Cant, J.P.
Duffield, T.F.
Osborne, V.R.
McBride, B.W.

The object of this study was to determine the effect of SARA on supplemented water intake. Four multiparous cows were induced SARA and given the choice between sodium-bicarbonate supplemented water and normal water. The induction of SARA decreased the daily pH of the rumen as well as the total mixed ration (TMR) intake. The total water intake was increased with greatest depression periods of ruminal pH of cows subjected to SARA. There was an overall preference for sodium-bicarbonate supplemented water during both control and SARA periods.

Main Canadian Institution

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3

Influence of parturition and diets enriched in n-3 or n-6 polyunsaturated fatty acids on immune response of dairy cows during the transition period

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. July 2004. Vol. 87, No. 7, p. 2197-2210.

Lessard, M.
Gagnon, N.
Godson, D.L.
Petit, H. V.

The purpose of this study was to determine the functional properties of immunocompetent cells in dairy cows during the transition period receiving a diet enriched in n-3 or n-6 polyunsaturated fatty acids. In this study, 21 primiparous and 27 multiparous Holstein cows were fed three different rations; with Megalac (rich in saturated and monounsaturated fatty acids), micronized soybeans (rich in n-6 fatty acids) or whole flaxseed (rich in n-3 fatty acids). In order to measure the immune response in colostrum and serum, cows received two subcutaneous injections of ovalbumin, one at week 6 and one at week 3 before calving. Proliferative response to concanavalin A and the in vitro productions of interferon-gamma, tumour necrosis factor-alpha, nitric oxide and prostaglandin E2 were also assessed with a culture of blood mononuclear cells. The authors concluded that during the transition period, the functional properties of lymphocytes and monocytes/macrophages lineage are modulated by parturition and by the composition of polyunsaturated fatty acids in the ration.

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4

Effects of feeding or abomasal infusion of canola oil in Holstein cows-1. Nutrient digestion and milk composition

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Research. August 2004. Vol. 71, No. 3, p. 279-287.

Chelikani, K.
Bell, A.
Kennelly, J.

The purpose of this study was to assess the effects of feeding or infusing canola oil (into the abomasum) on rumen fermentation, nutrient digestibility, duodenal flows of fatty acids and milk composition of dairy cows. Five Holstein cows were given three different treatments; a control treatment, a supplement of canola oil in the diet and an abomasal infusion of canola oil. The canola oil supplement in the diet did not affect feed intake, ruminal fermentation characteristics and digestibilities of nutrients in the rumen or total tract but increased duodenal flows and concentration of some fatty acids in milk. The infusion of canola oil had an adverse effect on feed intake, production of volatile fatty acids, flow of nutrients in the intestine, digestibility and yields of fatty acids in milk and fat content in milk. Both treatments with canola oil decreased the proportions of saturated and medium-chain fatty acids and increased 18:1 in milk. The infusion of canola oil also had a positive effect on concentrations of 18:2n-6 and 18:3n-3 in milk. The authors concluded that a supplement of canola oil decreased saturated fatty acids and increased unsaturated C18 in milk. However, infusing canola oil into the abomasum produced adverse effects on nutrient digestion.

Main Canadian Institution





5

Effects of feeding or abomasal infusion of canola oil in Holstein cows. 2. Gene expression and plasma concentrations of cholecystokinin and leptin

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Research. August 2004. Vol. 71, No. 3, p. 288-296.

Chelikani, K.
Glimm, R.
Keisler, H.
Kennelly, J.

This study examined the influence of CCK, leptin and fatty acid (FA) concentrations in plasma in mediating the satiety effects of supplemental fat in lactating cows. Five late lactating Holstein cows were fed three different rations; one for control, one with a dietary supplementation of canola oil and one with an abomasal infusion of canola oil. Results showed there was a reduction in feed intake with the abomasal infusion of canola. Furthermore, both treatments with canola oil stimulated the expression of the CCK gene in the duodenum and increased the concentration of CCK in the plasma. Canola oil supplementation did not affect the mRNA abundance of leptin, lipoprotein lipase, acetyl-CoA carboxylase in adipose tissue and did not affect plasma concentrations of leptin, insulin and IGF-I either. Abomasal infusions of canola oil also increased plasma concentrations of 18:1n-9 and 18:2n-6. It was concluded that the hypophagic effects of fat supplementation depended on the amount of unsaturated fatty acids reaching the intestine. This satiety effect is mediated through CCK, oleic acid and/or linoleic acid, but leptin is not involved.

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6

Grain processing, forage-to-concentrate ratio and forage length effects on ruminal nitrogen degradation and flows of amino acids to the duodenum

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. August 2004. Vol. 87, No. 8, p. 2578-2590.

Yang, W.Z.
Beauchemin, K.A.

The object of this study was to evaluate the effects of barley grain processing (coarse or flat), forage-to-concentrate ratio (high or low) and forage particle length (long or short). These dietary factors were evaluated on the degradability of N in the rumen, microbial protein synthesis, duodenal flows and digestibility of AA in the intestines and in the total tract. Eight cows were fed TMR at will. A greater forage-to-concentrate ration increased the passage of microbial protein to the duodenum, increased digestibility of N in the rumen, decreased the flow of dietary AA and increased the flow of microbial AA. The shorter forage particle length increased the passage of microbial protein to the duodenum, decreased the digestion of N in the intestine as well as it decreased the flow of dietary AA to the duodenum. Increased grain processing improved the digestibility of N in the intestine and in the total tract, enhanced duodenal flow of AA and increased the flow of many individual a AA as well as their digestibility. Interactions between dietary factors were also observed. Processed barley combined with long forage particle length increased Arg, Thr, Asp, Glu, Ser, Tyr and non-essential amino acids (NEAA).

Main Canadian Institution





7

Performance of dairy cows fed roasted sunflower seeds

Researchers

Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture. August 2004. Vol. 84, No. 10, p. 1179-1185.

Sarrazin, P.
Mustafa, A.F.
Chouinard, P.Y.
Raghavan, G.S.V.
Sotocinal, S.A.

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the effects of feeding roasted whole sunflower seeds to dairy cows on milk yield (MY), milk composition, ruminal fermentation and total tract nutrient utilization. Nine Holstein cows were fed three different diets; a control diet, a raw sunflower seeds diet and a roasted sunflower seed diet. The inclusion of sunflower seeds in the diet decreased dry matter intake as well as milk fat content and yield relative to the control diet. It also decreased the concentrations of short-chain and medium-chain fatty acids, while it increased those of long-chain fatty acids. Sunflower seeds in the diet also decreased the concentration of acetate and increased the concentration of propionate. The authors concluded that feeding sunflower seeds improved the efficiency of milk production as well as concentrations of long-chain and polyunsaturated fatty acids. However, roasting the sunflower seeds had no additional benefits on MY or milk FA composition.

Main Canadian Institution



8

Replacing chopped alfalfa hay with alfalfa silage in barley grain and alfalfa-based total mixed rations for lactating dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. August 2004. Vol. 87, No. 8, p. 2495-2505.

Plaizier, J.C.

The object of this study was to evaluate the effects of replacing chopped alfalfa hay with alfalfa silage in barley grain and alfalfa-based total mixed rations (TMR). It was observed that replacing chopped alfalfa hay by alfalfa silage reduced dry matter in the ration. It also increased soluble protein and physical effective NDF without having any effect on dry matter intake, rumen pH, rumen volatile fatty acids, blood lactate, milk fat and milk protein percentage. However, it decreased blood glucose, MY and protein yield in milk. It also tended to increase blood urea. The authors suggested that a mild subacute acidosis was induced by all the rations provided.

Main Canadian Institution





9

Trichoderma enzymes promote *Fibrobacter succinogenes* S85 adhesion to, and degradation of, complex substrates but not pure cellulose

Researchers

Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture.
August 15, 2004. Vol. 84, No. 10, p. 1083-1090.

Morgavi, Diego P.
Beauchemin, Karen A.
Nsereko, Victor L.
Rode, Lyle M.
McAllister, Tim A.
Wang, Yuxy.

The purpose of this study was to better understand the effects of feeding enzymes additives on the digestion of fibre by ruminants. The authors used an enzyme preparation made of *Trichoderma longibrachiatum* (TE) and evaluated the effects of its addition on adhesion and growth of bacteria that digests fibre in the rumen (*Fibrobacter succinogenes* S85). For the adhesion experiment, they used crystalline cellulose, alfalfa hay and corn silage and for the growth experiment, crystalline cellulose and corn silage. In the case of pure cellulose (crystalline), the addition of the enzyme preparation made of TE decreased bacterial adherence to fibre. As for corn, the addition of TE increased NDF disappearance and stimulated growth rate and gas production. The addition of TE at a low concentration also increased the adhesion of bacteria to fibre as well as the degradation of fibre.

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10

Use of synchrotron Fourier transform infrared microspectroscopy to identify chemical differences in barley endosperm tissue in relation to rumen degradation characteristics

Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. September 2004. Vol. 84, No. 3, p. 523-527.

Yu, P.
Christensen, D.A.
Christensen, C.R.
Drew, M.D.
Rossnagel, B.G.
McKinnon, J.J.

With SR-FTIR microspectroscopy, it is possible to explore the chemical makeup of intact plant tissue with a high signal-to-noise ratio at fine spatial resolution, which is not the case with traditional "wet" chemical analysis. The purpose of this study was to use SR-FTIR microspectroscopy to explore and identify chemical differences in the ultra-structural matrix of the endosperm tissue of the Valier and Harrington barley varieties, which are related to differences in rumen degradation characteristics. The authors observed a variation, not significant, in the infrared (IR) absorbance intensity of starch and protein between the two varieties. There was a wider range of starch-to-protein IR absorbance intensity ratio with Harrington but a lower ratio of starch-to-protein IR absorbance intensity for Valier. It was concluded that the chemical makeup of intact plant tissues can be carried out by SR-FTIR microspectroscopy at ultra-spatial resolution.

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Department of Animal and Poultry Science



11

Effects of alfalfa particle size and specific gravity on chewing activity, digestibility and performance of Holstein dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. November 2004, Vol. 87, No. 11, p. 3912-3924.

Yansari, A.T.
Valizadeh, R.
Naserian, A.
Christensen, D.A.
Yu, P.
Shahroodi, F.E.

The purpose of this study was to investigate the effects of alfalfa particle size and functional specific gravity (FSG) on chewing activity, digestibility, rumen kinetics and production of lactating dairy cows fed diets based on corn silage. Two experiments were carried out. In the first, the authors determined the water-holding capacity (WHC), insoluble dry matter, hydration rate and FSG changes in alfalfa hay and corn silage. The results were that a reduction in particle size increased bulk density, FSG and hydration rate, while it decreased alfalfa's WHC. The second experiment consisted in feeding nine Holstein dairy cows TMR containing three sizes of alfalfa hay. A reduction in particle size decreased the rumen pH, total chewing activity, rumination, eating time and milk fat, while it increased milk protein, bulk density, FSG and hydration rate of alfalfa. The authors concluded that the most influential factor affecting dry matter intake, milk composition and chewing behaviour is the reduction of forage particle size.

Main Canadian Institution



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12

Effects of feeding whole, unprocessed sunflower seeds and flaxseed on milk production, milk composition and prostaglandin secretion in dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. November 2004. Vol. 87, No. 11, p. 3889-3898.

Petit, H.V.
Germiquet, C.
Lebel, D.

In this study, the effects of different fat sources on milk production and composition, N utilization, follicular development and prostaglandin secretion were evaluated. Four cows were fed four different TMR containing different fat sources, calcium salts of palm oil (Megalac), whole flaxseed, whole sunflower seeds and no fat source. Ether extract digestibility was lower for cows that were not fed any fat source, while digestibility and feed intake were similar for the other sources of fat. Cows fed whole flaxseed and Megalac showed a higher MY. But milk protein concentration in milk was lower with Megalac. Concentrations of n-3 fatty acids were higher and then n-6: n-3 fatty acids ratio lower with whole flaxseed. The authors also observed that the concentration of 13, 14-dihydro-15-keto-PGF₂α in plasma were higher for cows having had the sunflower diet. It was suggested that diets containing high proportions of n-6 fatty acids (sunflower seeds) increase the secretion in blood of series 2 prostaglandins.

Main Canadian Institution



DSRDC, Lennoxville (QC)



13

Chemical composition and in situ ruminal nutrient degradability of normal and brown midrib forage pearl millet grown in southwestern Quebec

Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. December 2004. Vol. 84, No. 4, p. 737-740.

Mustafa, A.F.
Hassanat, F.
Seguin, P.

This study aims to evaluate the chemical composition and in situ ruminal degradability of normal and brown midrib (BMR) forage pearl millet grown in southwestern Quebec conditions. BMR forage pearl millet was harvested twice during the season. It was found that BMR millet contained less NDF and acid detergent lignin than the normal genotype and more crude protein. The first harvest showed a higher crude protein content than the second harvest. In situ ruminal degradabilities of dry matter, crude protein and NDF were higher for BMR than for the normal genotype without being affected by harvest.

Main Canadian Institution



14

Effects of dietary fenugreek seed on dairy cow performance and milk characteristics

Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. December 2004. Vol. 84, p. 725-729.

Shah, M.A.
Mir, P.S.

The aim of this research was to study the effects of providing fenugreek seed at a rate of 20% of the dry matter of the ration on dairy cow performance and milk characteristics. The study period was for three weeks. It resulted in an improved profile of functional fatty acids in milk and decreased the concentration of blood cholesterol. It also decreased the cholesterol concentration in milk. Furthermore, milk flavour or taste was not affected by the inclusion of fenugreek seed in the diet. It was concluded that these could be used as a means to improve milk characteristics.

Main Canadian Institution



LRC, Lethbridge (AB)



15

Effects of mechanical processing on the nutritive value of barley silage for lactating dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 87(2). December 2004. p. 4170-4177.

Eun, J.S.
Beauchemin, K.A.
Hong, S.H.
Yang, W.Z.

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the effects of feeding mechanical processed barley silage to lactating dairy cows as the main source of forage in their diet. The impacts of feeding mechanical processed barley silage have been evaluated on milk production, dry matter intake and body weight. For the purpose of this study, 24 Holstein cows were fed two different TMR; one with regular barley silage, the other with mechanical processed barley silage. The authors demonstrated that feeding mechanical processed barley silage had no impacts on dry matter intake, MY, milk composition, digestibility of dry matter and nutrients, save for starch. It was also found that the treatment had no effect on body weight, body condition score and degradation of dry matter in the rumen. Overall, mechanically processing barley silage did not significantly improve milk production and resulted in minor improvements of the nutritive value of barley silage and of its digestibility.

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16

Model prediction of nutrient supply to ruminants from processed field tick beans

Researchers

Asian-Australasian Journal of Animal Sciences. December 2004. Vol. 17, No. 12, p. 1674-1680.

Yu, P.
Christensen, D.A.

This study aims to compare the Dutch truly absorbed protein in the small intestine/degraded protein balance (DPB) (DVE/OEB) system and the NRC-2001 model in the prediction of protein supply to dairy cows using processed field tick beans. The parameters evaluated are the ruminally synthesized microbial crude protein, the DVE/OEB. It was shown that the two models had significant correlations in their predicted values. However, the average microbial protein supply based on available energy was higher. The DVE/OEB were lower with the DVE/OEB system than with the NRC-2001 model. The authors concluded that these differences should be attributed to factors that differed considerably in the calculations of the two models.

Main Canadian Institution

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Department of Animal and Poultry Science



17

Nutritional practices on Manitoba dairy farms

Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. December 2004. Vol. 84, No. 3, p. 501-509.

Plaizier, J.C.
Garner, T.
Droppo, T.
Whiting, T.

In order to document nutritional practices, compositions of diet and study relationships between diet composition and milk production, a survey was carried out on 40 farms across Manitoba. The results of the study showed that more farms are feeding TMR than component feeding and that only a small portion of farms working with TMR are using more than one ration in their dairy herd. In general, diets fed in Manitoba contain more net energy of lactation, rumen degradable protein, calcium, phosphorus, potassium, magnesium and sodium and less relative lag time (RLT) than general recommendations. It was also found that MY and milk fat percentage were affected by breed but not by feeding practices, diet composition and physically effective neutral detergent fibre (peNDF). There was a positive relationship between milk protein percentage and rumen undegradable protein as well as between milk urea nitrogen and rumen degradable protein, rumen undegradable protein, NDF and days in milk. Results of the study also suggests that reductions in crude protein, rumen degradable protein, Ca, P, Mg and K in the ration could contribute to reduce nutrient excretions in the environment without affecting milk production and health. Finally, it was also concluded that increasing the amount of rumen undegradable protein in rations could improve milk production on dairy farms in Manitoba.

Main Canadian Institution

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18

Comparison of predictions of digestible supply and measurements of net portal fluxes of essential amino acids in lactating dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Animal and Feed Sciences. 2004. Vol. 13, Suppl. 1. p. 327-330.

Pacheco, D.
Lapierre, H.

The digestible supply of AA predicted with the National Research Council (NRC) or the Cornell Net Carbohydrate and Protein System (CNCPS) were compared with measurements of net portal absorption in dairy cows. The estimated digestible flow of AA obtained from both models are good predictors of the AA profile flowing into the portal vein. However, for absolute amounts, the NRC model more closely predicts the changes measured in net portal fluxes compared to the CNCPS. The slopes of the regression "AA net portal flux vs. AA digested-NRC" indicated losses of branched-chain AA (oxidation) and Thr (endogenous loss) through metabolism across the gut with smaller losses for Lys. Slopes greater than unity for His, Met and Phe suggest either an underestimation of the digestible flow with the NRC model or an overestimation of the net portal fluxes for these AA.

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DSRDC, Lennoxville (QC)



19

Effect of level of metabolizable protein on splanchnic flux of amino acids in lactating dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2004. Vol. 87, No. 10, p. 3461-3472.

Raggio, G.
 Pacheco, D.
 Berthiaume, R.
 Lobley, G.E.
 Pellerin, D.
 Allard, G.
 Dubreuil, P.
 Lapierre, H.

This study aims to determine the response of the metabolism of splanchnic tissue to different levels of metabolizable protein (MP). Six lactating dairy cows were fed three different rations varying in the amount of MP provided—low, medium and high. Increasing MP supply increased milk protein yield (13%) to a lesser extent than urinary excretion, which was more than doubled. Concomitant to an increased catabolism of the EAA in the liver (histidine, methionine, phenylalanine and threonine), the efficiency of transfer of absorbed EAA into milk protein decreases markedly as protein supply increases. The efficiency of transfer of absorbed AA into milk varies also greatly between AA. These two important factors should be taken into account when building predictive schemes for milk protein output.

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20

Effects of barley silage chop length on productivity and rumen conditions of lactating dairy cows fed total mixed rations

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2004. Vol. 87, No. 9, p. 2987-2996.

Einarson, M.S.
 Plaizier, J.C.
 Wittenberg, K.M.

The object of this study was to assess the effects of barley chop length on productivity and rumen conditions of lactating dairy cows fed TMR. The barley silage was chopped long or short, ensiled and then mixed into TMR containing either a low or high percentage of concentrates. A reduction in barley chop length decreased the proportion of TMR particles retained by the 8- and 19-mm screens of the Penn State Particle Separator (PSPS) and dietary physically effective (pe) fibre for both levels of concentrates. It also increased the dry matter intake and rumen propionate again for both levels of concentrates. Increasing the level of concentrates in the diet reduced rumen pH and milk fat content and increased MY and milk protein content.

Main Canadian Institution



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21

Effects of feeding either fresh alfalfa or alfalfa silage on milk fatty acid content in Holstein dairy cows

Researchers

Animal Feed Science and Technology. 2004. Vol. 113, No. 1-4, p. 27-37.

Whiting, C.M.
Mutsvangwa, T.
Walton, J.P.
Cant, J.P.
McBride, B.W.

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the effects of feeding fresh alfalfa or alfalfa silage on profiles of fatty acids in milk of Holstein dairy cows. The experiment was carried out in two periods of five weeks each. Sixteen cows were fed either fresh alfalfa or alfalfa silage. Feeding fresh alfalfa resulted in a higher feed intake, proportions of stearic, oleic, linoleic and linoleic acids in milk fat while proportions of myristic and palmitic acids were lower. Overall, the inclusion of fresh alfalfa in the diet resulted in a lower content of saturated fatty acids and a higher content of polyunsaturated fatty acids in milk fat compared with feeding alfalfa silage.

Main Canadian Institution



22

Feeding micronized and extruded flaxseed to dairy cows: Effects on digestion and ruminal biohydrogenation of long-chain fatty acids

Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. 2004. Vol. 84, No. 4, p. 705-711.

Gonthier, C.
Mustafa, A.F.
Berthiaume, R.
Petit, H.V.
Ouellet, D.R.

The object of this study was to find out the effects of feeding micronized and extruded flaxseed on biohydrogenation (BH) and digestibility of fatty acids (FA) in the gastrointestinal tract. Four lactating Holstein cows were each fed a different diet: no flaxseed, raw flaxseed, micronized flaxseed and extruded flaxseed for a 21-day adaptation period plus 7 days to collect data. The inclusion of flaxseed in the ration of lactating dairy cows increased the flow of polyunsaturated fatty acids in the duodenum. The heat treatments did not protect unsaturated fatty acids in the rumen against ruminal BH.

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23

Risk factors for milk off-flavours in dairy herds from Prince Edward Island, Canada

Researchers

Preventive Veterinary Medicine. 2004. Vol. 64, No. 2-4, p. 133-145.

Mouchili, A.
Wichtel, J.J.
Keefe, G.P.
Halliday, L.J.

The object of this study was to investigate potential risk factors within a herd for milk off-flavours in bulk tanks of Prince Edward Island dairy herds as these have shown a sudden increase in their incidence since the late 1990s. Data were recorded from 2000 until 2002 from 62 dairy herds identified off-flavour-positive and 62 dairy herds identified off-flavour-negative. It was found that in the dairy herds identified off-flavour-positive, 69% of off-flavours were classified as feed, 15% as rancid, 10% as oxidized and 6% as malty. As the incidence of feed off-flavours was way more important than the other sources of off-flavours, only this one was considered in the risk factor analysis. The authors identified a relationship between the poor air quality in the lactating cows' barn using baled silage as the main forage and feeding as roughage before milking or as a free choice with the incidence of off-flavours present in bulk tank milk. However, some practices were found to be protective against the transmission of off-flavours in milk such as udder hair clipping and changing the bedding material more than once a day. These results raised hypotheses concerning silage composition and silage-making processes.

Main Canadian Institution



24

Effect of urea supplementation on urea kinetics and splanchnic flux of amino acids in dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Animal and Feed Sciences. 2004. Vol. 13, suppl. No. 1, p. 319-322.

Ouellet, D.R.
Berthiaume, R.
Girard, C.
Dubreuil, P.
Babkine, M.
Lobley, G.E.

It has been suggested that a large absorption of ammonia would impose a penalty to the ruminant by increasing hepatic removal of AA to support increased synthesis of urea. The aim of this project was to determine, in lactating dairy cows, if increased hepatic ureagenesis would affect hepatic removal of AA. Hepatic ureagenesis accounted for all whole body urea production and both increased with urea supplementation. Neither liver removal of EAA or milk protein yield was affected by urea supplementation. Recycling of urea into the gut and its partition between anabolic and catabolic fates were also unaltered by treatment. Saliva contributed to 0.31 to 0.50 of urea gut entry rate. In cows producing 32 kg/d of milk and fed a diet supplying 157g CP/kg DM, increased hepatic ureagenesis did not result in decreased post-liver supply of EAA and subsequent milk protein yield.

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Heat- and lignosulfonate-treated canola meal as a source of ruminal undegradable protein for lactating dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. January 2005. Vol. 88, No. 1, p. 238-243.

Wright, C.F.
von Keyserlingk, M.A.G.
Swift, M.L.
Fisher, L.J.
Shelford, J.A.
Dinn, N.E.

The purpose of this experiment was to assess the processing efficiency with moist heat or moist heat combined with lignosulfonate (LSO3) as a means of increasing the ruminal undegradable fraction of canola meal used as a protein supplement for lactating dairy cows. Eighteen Holstein lactating cows were fed diets containing either untreated canola meal, heat-treated canola meal or heat- and LSO3-treated canola meal. Feeding heat- and LSO3-treated canola meal increased dry matter intake and apparent digestibilities of neutral and ADF. Milk production was also increased with heat- and LSO3-treated canola meal relative to untreated but not to heat-treated canola meal. Feeding heat- and LSO3-treated canola meal also decreased urinary excretion of nitrogen (as a % of N intake), digestibility of crude protein, concentrations of N ammonia in the rumen, blood urea nitrogen and milk urea nitrogen. They concluded that moist heat combined with LSO3 treatment of canola meal succeed in increasing the proportion of crude protein digested in the lower digestive tract, which means that processing canola meal with heat and LSO3 provided a more efficient use of proteins than non-processed or moist heat-treated canola meal.

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26

Effects of intramuscular injections of vitamin B₁₂ on lactation performance of dairy cows fed dietary supplements of folic acid and rumen-protected methionine

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. February 2005. Vol. 88, No. 2, p. 671-676.

Girard, C.L.
Matte, J.J.

The object of this study was to evaluate the effects of intramuscular injections of vitamin B₁₂ on lactational performance of primiparous dairy cows that are fed folic acid and rumen-protected methionine supplements. The study was carried out from week 4 to week 18 of lactation. Fourteen Holstein cows were fed rations with rumen-protected methionine and folic acid plus a weekly intramuscular injection of saline or of vitamin B₁₂. It was found that a supplement of vitamin B₁₂ increased energy-corrected milk, MY of solids, fat and lactose. It also increased the concentrations and amounts of vitamin B₁₂ secreted in milk, packed cell volume, blood haemoglobin and serum vitamin B₁₂, but decreased serum methylmalonic acid. These results support the hypothesis that the vitamin B₁₂ supplementation was not optimal and limited the cows' performance in early lactation.

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Feeding micronized and extruded flaxseed to dairy cows: Effects on blood parameters and milk fatty acid composition

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. February 2005. Vol. 88, No. 2, p. 748-756.

Gonthier, C.
Mustafa, A.F.
Ouellet, D.R.
Chouinard, P.Y.
Berthiaume, R.
Petit, H.V.

The object of this study was to evaluate the effects of feeding extruded and micronized flaxseed to late lactating dairy cows on milk composition and blood profile. Four lactating Holstein cows were each fed one of four rations: no flaxseed, raw flaxseed, micronized flaxseed and extruded flaxseed. Cows were fed these rations for a period of 28 days consisting in 21 days for adaptation and 7 days to record data. Results showed that feeding flaxseed reduced MY, energy-corrected milk, yields of milk protein and casein, plasma concentrations of medium-chain and saturated fatty acids, and concentrations of short-chain, medium-chain and saturated fatty acids in milk fat. The authors observed an increase in plasma cholesterol and non-esterified fatty acids (NEFA), an increase in the long-chain and monosaturated fatty acids concentrations and an increased average in conjugated linoleic acid concentrations (CLA) as a result of the supplementation of flaxseed. They concluded that the inclusion of flaxseed in the diet of dairy cows, either raw or heated, changed blood and milk FA composition. In the case of the two treatments, it was found that the extrusion treatment had negative effects on MY and composition compared to micronization treatment. Flaxseed supplementation increased average concentrations of C18:3 and CLA by 152% and 68%, respectively.

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28

Effects of dietary sunflower seeds on lactation performance and conjugated linoleic acid content of milk.

Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. March 2005. Vol. 85, No. 1, p. 75-83.

He, M.L.
Mir, P.S.
Beauchemin, K.A.
Ivan, M.
Mir, Z.

In this study, the authors evaluated the effects of sunflower seeds in the diet of lactating dairy cows on the concentration of CLA in milk and lactation performance. They investigated the effects on daily dry matter intake, milk production, milk content in protein and lactose, fatty acids composition in milk, and body weight. These parameters were recorded for a period of 12 weeks on 25 multiparous and primiparous cows. It was found that the inclusion of sunflower seeds at 7% of the dry matter content of the ration increased the concentration of CLA and yield in milk. However, adding sunflower seeds in the diet did not improve the yield and content of milk fat, protein and lactose and although it doubled the content and yield of conjugated inoleic acid over the entire 12-week period and that factor was measured. It did not affect, body weight, body condition score, dry matter intake, nor milk production.

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29

Effects of pe fibre on digestion and milk production by dairy cows fed diets based on corn silage

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. March 2005. Vol. 88, No. 3, p. 1090-1098.

Yang, W.Z.
Beauchemin, K.A.

This study aims to determine the effects of a variation in the peNDF content in diets based on corn silage, digestion and milk production of lactating dairy cows. The parameters evaluated were nutrient intakes, site and extent of digestion, milk production and microbial protein synthesis. Six lactating dairy cows were fed the same ration, the only variable being the corn silage particle length, related to the peNDF content. Three peNDF contents were evaluated (high, medium and low). It was found that an increase in peNDF content increased the total peNDF intake and improved digestibility of all nutrients (fibre particularly), save for starch. It also enhanced microbial protein synthesis in the rumen. Nevertheless, the variation in the particle length of corn silage did not have any effects on dry matter, NDF, starch and nitrogen intake, nor did it affect milk production and its composition.

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30

Prediction of protein supply to ruminants from concentrates: Comparison of the NRC-2001 model with the DVE/OEB system

Researchers

Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture. March 2005. Vol. 85, No. 4, p. 527-538.

Yu, P.

This study aims to compare the DVE/OEB system with the NRC-2001 model in the prediction of supply of protein to dairy cows from 46 selected concentrates: malting-type barley, feed-type barley, field tick beans, white albus lupins, whole soybeans and horse beans. The barleys have been processed coarse and fine. Parameters evaluated for the comparison were ruminally synthesized microbial protein and DVE/OEB. The authors found there were significant correlations between the predicted values of the two models. However, the average microbial protein supply based on available energy and truly absorbed protein in the small intestine were lower with the DVE/OEB than what was predicted by the NRC-2001 model, while the degraded protein balances (DPB) prediction was higher. These differences are due to factors used in the calculations for the two models.

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31

Subacute ruminal acidosis induces ruminal lipopolysaccharide endotoxin release and triggers an inflammatory response

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. April 2005. Vol. 88, No. 4, p. 1399-1403.

Gozho, G.N.
Plaizier, J.C.
Krause, D.O.
Kennedy, A.D.
Wittenberg, K

In this study, the authors demonstrated that SARA induced ruminal lipopolysaccharide endotoxin release and triggered an inflammatory response. To demonstrate the fact, they induced SARA in three Jersey steers. It was found that blood concentrations of haptoglobin and serum amyloid-A were increased as a result of the SARA induction as well as decreased dry matter intake. Feeding grain to steers also increased lipopolysaccharide concentration compared to feeding hay. These results showed that a systemic inflammatory response was activated by the induction of SARA.

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32

Effects of flaxseed on protein requirements and N excretion of dairy cows fed diets with two protein concentrations

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. May 2005. Vol. 88, No. 5, p. 1755-1764.

Petit, H.V.
Ivan, M.
Mir, P. S.

The object of this study was to assess the effects of including flaxseed in the diet of mid-lactating cows on protein requirement and N excretion in urine and faeces as well as on MY and composition, intake and digestibility. Mid-lactating cows were fed four different TMR containing either no flaxseed and 16% protein, whole flaxseed and 16% protein, no flaxseed and 18% protein or whole flaxseed and 18% protein. Cows that were fed higher protein diets and those that were not fed flaxseed had greater dry matter intake. MY was lower in the case of cows fed medium protein with flaxseed than it was for cows fed high protein without flaxseed. The addition of flaxseed in the diet decreased milk protein concentration and digestibility, while having no effect on milk fat concentration, which was decreased using the high protein diet. Digestibility was also reduced using the lower protein diet. In the case of N excretion, flaxseed increased its secretion in faeces and N was less retained in cows fed flaxseed. The addition of flaxseed in cows' diet also decreased concentrations of short and medium-chain fatty acids and increased long-chain fatty acids in milk.

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33

Effects of including chopped alfalfa hay in barley-based total mixed rations on production and rumen fermentation of lactating dairy cows

Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. June 2005. Vol. 85, No. 2, p. 251-253.

Einarson, M.S.
Plaizier, J.C.
Wittenberg, K.M.

The object of this study was to evaluate the effects of including chopped alfalfa hay in barley-based TMR on production and rumen fermentation of lactating dairy cows. The authors replaced the alfalfa silage in diets containing barley silage and barley-grain-based TMR by chopped alfalfa hay. The replacement of alfalfa silage by chopped alfalfa hay increased dry matter content in the diet, decreased physical effective fibre, increased dry matter intake, and reduced the yield of milk protein without having any effect on MY, milk fat, rumen pH and rumen ammonia.

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34

Effects of monensin on meal frequency during sub-acute ruminal acidosis in dairy cows

Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. June 2005. Vol. 85, No. 2, p. 247-249.

Lunn, D.E.
Mutsvangwa, T.
Odongo, N.E.
Duffield, T.F.
Bagg, R.
Dick, P.
Vessie, G.
McBride, B.W.

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The purpose of this study was to evaluate the effects of monensin on meal frequency during grain-induced SARA in Holstein dairy cows. Two experiments were conducted with two different forms of monensin; Rumensin controlled-release capsule (CRC) and Rumensin Premix. Meal frequency with both treatments was lower during SARA. The meal frequency during SARA and the recovery period was increased in the second experiment (Rumensin Premix). The authors concluded that monensin premix could increase meal frequency of lactating dairy cows affected by SARA.

35

Effects of pe fibre on intake, chewing activity and ruminal acidosis for dairy cows fed diets based on corn silage

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. June 2005. Vol. 88, No. 6, p. 2117-2129.

Beauchemin, K.A.
Yang, W.Z.

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The purpose of this study was to assess the effects of a variation in the content of peNDF in the ration for lactating dairy cows that contains only corn silage as a source of forage. The authors looked into the effects of this variation on different parameters, namely daily feed intake, meal patterns, chewing activity and rumen pH, related to ruminal acidosis. Six lactating dairy cows were fed an identical corn silage diet, but the peNDF content of the diets varied according to the length of the corn silage particles. Three different peNDF contents were used; high (original corn silage), medium (re-chopped once) and low (re-chopped twice). It was demonstrated that an increase in the corn silage particle length increased the daily intake in peNDF as well as the number of meals per day, but there was no effect on dry matter and NDF total intake. It also revealed a positive relationship between the peNDF, the number of chews per day and the chewing time. However, while the dietary particle size (peNDF) in the diet is a good indicator of the chewing activity of lactating dairy cows, it did not have any significant effect on rumen pH, which means that the increase in peNDF does not seem to decrease ruminal acidosis.



36

Effects of proteolytic feed enzyme on intake, digestion, ruminal fermentation and milk production

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. June 2005. Vol. 88, No. 6, p. 2140-2153.

Eun, J.S.
Beauchemin, K.A.

The object of this research was to assess the effects of the addition of exogenous proteolytic enzyme (EPE) on intake, digestibility, ruminal fermentation and lactational performance of lactating dairy cows. Eight lactating Holstein cows were fed four different diets based on barley silage and alfalfa hay. The treatments consisted of diets with high forage only, high forage with EPE, low forage only and low forage with EPE. The digestibility of dry matter, organic matter, N, ADF and NDF increased with the addition of EPE in the diet. It also decreased the efficiency of utilization of N for milk production. As for cows fed the low forage diet, the addition of EPE increased the percentage of fat and lactose in milk, while it decreased the percentage of protein and it decreased the pH in the rumen as well. In the case of high-forage diets, milk lactose percentage increased. Overall, the addition of EPE contributes to improve nutrient digestibility but this positive effect is counteracted by the fact that the addition of EPE decreased feed intake by increasing ruminal acidosis.

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37

Effects of Tween 80 and fibrolytic enzymes on ruminal fermentation and digestibility of feeds in Holstein cows

Researchers

Asian-Australasian Journal of Animal Sciences. June 2005, Vol. 18, No. 6 p. 816-824.

Baah, J.
Shelford, J.A.
Hristov, A.N.
McAllister, T.A.
Cheng, K.J.

The object of this study was to determine the effects on total tract digestion, in situ disappearance (ISD) and ruminal fermentation characteristics of orchard grass hay and barley grain of the non-ionic surfactant Tween 80 and of a mixture of fibrolytic enzymes. Four non-lactating Holstein cows were fed four different TMR containing rolled barley grain and orchard grass hay treated with water, Tween 80, hydrolytic enzymes and Tween 80 plus hydrolytic enzymes. The rate of ISD of orchard grass was faster when the cows were fed the enzyme alone or the enzyme plus Tween 80. As regards the barley grain, the addition of these supplements enhanced a slower rate of digestion than the one not treated. Greater concentrations of propionate and iso-valerate in the rumen and lower ratio acetate:propionate was observed when rations were treated with enzyme and Tween 80. The addition of enzyme in the diet also increased microbial protein synthesis whereas the flow of non-ammonia nitrogen to the duodenum increased with the addition of enzyme plus Tween 80. The authors concluded that the addition of fibrolytic enzymes alone or with Tween 80 could increase ISD of orchard grass hay just as it could increase concentrations of propionate, valerate, and iso-valerate in the rumen.

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38

Lactation response of cows to different levels of ruminally inert conjugated linoleic acid under commercial conditions

Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. June 2005. Vol. 85, No. 2, p. 231-242.

Gervais, R.
Spratt, R.
Leonard, M.
Chouinard, R.Y.

The object of this study was to determine whether feeding calcium salts of CLA under commercial conditions would affect milk production, milk composition and blood metabolic profile. To perform this study, 240 dairy cows from eight farms were given four treatments varying in their CLA content (0, 8, 16 and 32 g d(-1)). Milk fat yield and milk fat concentration were decreased when cows were fed CLA, while MY, milk protein and blood metabolic parameters were not affected by the inclusion of CLA in the diet. It was concluded that calcium salts of CLA can be used to manage milk fat content on commercial dairy farms.

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39

Potential protein degradation balance and total milk protein supply to dairy cows from heat-treated faba beans

Researchers

Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture. June 2005. Vol. 85, No. 8, p. 1268-1274.

Yu, P.

The object of this study was to evaluate the effects of pressure toasting on potential protein nutritional value of faba beans with the NRC-2001 dairy model by determining undegraded (RUP) and degraded rumen protein (RDP), undegraded (RUST) and degraded rumen starch (RDST), truly absorbed undegraded protein (ARUP), microbial protein (MCPRDP) synthesized in the rumen from available protein in the rumen, truly absorbed rumen synthesized microbial protein (AMCP), truly absorbed rumen endogenous protein (AECF), total MP in the small intestine the protein degradation balance (PDB). RUP, RUST, ARUP and MP were increased by the treatments, while RDP, RDST, MCPRDP and PBD were decreased. It also increased the net absorbable total MP in the small intestine, while it decreased PDB. The results obtained indicated that potential microbial synthesis would not be impaired due to sufficient nitrogen in the rumen and that there were large potential losses of nitrogen in the rumen. The authors concluded that treatments improved the predicted potential protein degradation balance and total MP supply from faba beans.

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40

Strong relationships between mediators of the acute phase response and fatty liver in dairy cows

Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. June 2005. Vol. 85, No. 2, p. 165-175.

Ametaj, B.N.
Bradford, B.J.
Bobe, G.
Nafikov, R.A.
Lu, Y.
Young, J.W.
Beitz, D.C.

This study aims to look at the relationship between activation of acute phase response and fatty liver in transition dairy cows. The authors induced fatty liver to dairy cows. The ones that developed a fatty liver reached a higher peak of total lipids in the liver than the control cows (at Day 12 after calving). Concentrations of total lipids in the liver at that time were positively correlated with the tumour necrosis factor-alpha, serum amyloid A and the NEFA in addition to being negatively correlated to plasma calcitonin gene-related peptide (CGRP) before calving. Concentrations of total lipids were also positively correlated with plasma serum amyloid A, haptoglobin and NEFA and negatively correlated with plasma prostaglandin E2, CGRP, total cholesterol and glucose. The authors also observed a negative relationship between concentrations of total lipids and concentrations of plasma glucose, lactate and total bilirubin after 12 days following calving. It was concluded that, in the case of cows with a fatty liver, the acute phase response occurs and there is a clear correlation between fatty liver and the mediators of immune response.

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41

A compartmental capillary, convolution integration model to investigate nutrient transport and metabolism in vivo from paired indicator/nutrient dilution curves

Researchers

Journal of Applied Physiology. September 2005. Vol. 99, No. 3, p. 788-798.

Qiao, F.
Trout, D.R.
Quinton, V.M.
Cant, J.P.

The object of this study was to assess nutrient transport and metabolism in vivo across the mammary gland of four cows from paired indicator/nutrient dilution curves of a compartmental capillary, convolution integration model. The authors injected para-aminohippuric acid (PAH) with glucose into the external iliac artery. The extracellular volume and kinetics of nutrient uptake was measured with different models of solute dispersion and disappearance. The Crone-Renkin models do not describe entire dilution curves and the Goresky models require two indicators to parametrize extracellular behaviour. The authors then proposed the compartmental capillary, convolution integration model. It was concluded that after a rapid injection into the external iliac artery, more than 99% of the variation in the time course of venous PAH concentration was explained by partitioning the organ into a heterogeneous nonexchanging vessel subsystem and a well-mixed compartmental capillary subsystem.

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42

Kinetics of glucose transport and sequestration in lactating bovine mammary glands measured in vivo with a paired indicator/nutrient dilution technique

Researchers

Journal of Applied Physiology. September 2005. Vol. 99, No. 3, p. 799-806.

Qiao, F.
Trout, D.R.
Xiao, C.
Cant, J.P.

The purpose of this study was to quantify the kinetics of the glucose utilization by the mammary gland. The authors made bolus injections into the external iliac artery of bovine mammary glands and analyzed glucose and the extracellular indicator dilution curves obtained. Four submodels of glucose transport and metabolism in capillary supply zones were applied on the dilution curves of glucose and evaluated. The first model failed, suggesting that efflux of glucose from the intracellular space should be accounted for. The second model evaluated was over-defined and the third model was superior in its goodness-of-fit to curves as well as in the parameters' identifiability. Parameters of Michaelis-Menten of sequestration were not identifiable. It was also found that glucose sequestration followed first-order kinetics and the authors concluded to potential exchanges between an intracellular occlusion compartment and the extracellular glucose.

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43

Effects of monensin and stage of lactation on variation of blood metabolites within 24 hours in dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. October 2005. Vol. 88, No. 10, p. 3595-602.

Plaizier, J.C.
Fairfield, A.M.
Azevedo, P.A.
Nikkhah, A.
Duffield, T.F.
Crow, G.H.
Bagg, R.
Dick, P.
McBride, B.W.

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the effects of prepartum administration of a monensin CRC and a lactation stage on the variations of blood metabolites within a period of 24 hours at three different stages of lactation; one week before calving, one week after calving and six weeks after calving. Sixteen dairy cows were fed TMR all they wanted, twice a day. It was found that serum concentrations of glucose, beta-hydroxybutyrate (BHBA), NEFA and urea varied significantly throughout the 24 hours period. Glucose, NEFA and urea were not affected by the administration of monensin but it reduced BHBA one week after calving. Concentrations of glucose were lower at week 1, while concentrations of BHBA and NEFA were higher. Urea concentration was higher six weeks after calving. The authors also observed that daily variations of BHBA and NEFA were not affected by monensin or by the stage of lactation. Daily variation of urea was affected only by the lactation stage.

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44

Comparison of methods used to determine biomass on naturalized swards

Researchers

Journal of Agronomy and Crop Science. 2005. Vol. 191, No. 2, p. 152-160.

Martin, R.C.
Astatkie, T.
Cooper, J.M.
Fredeen, A.H.

The object of this study, carried out in 2000, was to compare visual estimate, sward height and rising plate metre (RPM) methods for determining forage biomass in mixed-species, naturalized, rotationally grazed dairy and beef pastures. Results obtained with the visual estimate method were not consistent, while the metre stick method was more effective in the dairy pasture. The RPM method was more effective in the beef pasture. It was also found that the accuracy of biomass estimation was greatly affected by the species composition and structural characteristics of the stand. It was concluded that there was no single method effective in all circumstances and that standard quadrat harvesting was still the most reliable method of estimating forage biomass in mixed species, naturalized pastures.

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45

Effects of bovine somatotropin on beta-casein mRNA levels in mammary tissue of lactating cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. American Dairy Science Association. Savoy, USA: 2005. Vol. 88, No. 8, p. 2806-2812.

Yang, J.
Zhao, B.
Baracos, V. E.
Kennelly, J. J.

Bovine somatotropin (bST) affects nutrient partition and maintenance of mammary cell functions, which increase milk production in lactating dairy cows. The purpose of this study was to verify the hypothesis that there is a positive relationship between bST treatment and of beta-casein mRNA in mammary tissues of lactating cows. The authors found that beta-casein mRNA was higher in mammary tissues of cows treated with bST and that this was caused by the stimulation from prolactin and bST. The increase in beta-casein mRNA also depended on milking intervals. It was concluded that bST could play a role in up-regulating or sparing beta-casein mRNA levels in mammary tissues, just as does for prolactin.

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Effects of corn silage particle length and forage: Concentrate ratio on milk fatty acid composition in dairy cows fed supplemental flaxseed

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 8, p. 2813-2819.

Soita, H.W.
Fehr, M.
Christensen, D.A.
Mutsvangwa, T.

The authors' hypothesis is that a decrease in forage particle length and forage concentrate ratio would lead to an increase in unsaturated fatty acids (FA) flow to the small intestine and a subsequent transfer of these unsaturated fatty acids into milk. They carried out an experiment to determine the effects of the chop length for corn silage and forage, to concentrate ratio (F: C) on performance and milk FA profiles in dairy cows supplemented with flaxseed. Eight Holstein cows were fed twice a day TMR with two different dietary factors; F:C ratios of 55:45 and 45:55 and two different corn silage particle lengths. Feeding short cut corn silage resulted in a depressed milk protein yield and, at high F:C ratio, depressed milk fat proportion of C16:0. Short cut corn silage with high F: C ratio also increased the proportion of C18:1 cis-9 and C:18:2 cis-9, trans-11 in milk fat. Significant interactions between particle size and F:C ratio were also observed for milk fat proportions of C16:0, C18:1 cis-9 and C18:2 cis-9, trans-11 (a CLA isomer). It was concluded that milk fatty acids profiles in dairy cows fed supplemental flaxseed as a source of polyunsaturated fatty acids were influenced by the corn silage particle length and the F: C ratio.

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Effects of dietary supplements of folic acid and rumen-protected methionine on lactational performance and folate metabolism of dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 2, p. 660-670.

Girard, C.L.
Lapierre, H.
Matte, J.J.
Lobley, G.E.

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the interactions between dietary supplements of folic acid and rumen-protected methionine on lactational performance and on indicators of folate metabolism during one lactation. Fifty-four multiparous Holstein cows were fed a diet calculated to supply methionine as 1.75% metabolizable protein, equivalent to 70% of methionine requirement, half of them received also a rumen-protected methionine supplement. Within each diet, the cows received no folic acid or two different doses of the vitamin. Rumen-protected methionine increased milk total solid concentration but not yield. Supplementary folic acid increased crude protein and casein concentrations in milk of cows fed no supplementary methionine and the effect increased as lactation progressed; it also decreased milk lactose concentration. Folic acid supplements had the opposite effects on milk crude protein, casein and lactose concentrations in cows fed rumen-protected methionine. Milk and milk component yields and dry matter intake were unchanged. The highest concentrations of serum folates and cysteine, the lowest serum concentrations of vitamin B₁₂ and methionine and the slowest serum clearance of folates were observed during the first two months of lactation. These findings strongly suggest that the vitamin B₁₂ supply was inadequate and interfered with folate use. It could explain the limited lactational response to supplementary folic acid observed in the present experiment.

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The summary was provided by Dr. Christiane L. Girard.



48

Effects of inoculation of high dry matter alfalfa silage on ensiling characteristics, ruminal nutrient degradability and dairy cow performance

Researchers

Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture. 2005. Vol . 85, No. 5, p. 743-750.

Rizk, C.
Mustafa, A.F.
Phillip, L.E.

The purpose of this study was to determine the effects of a homolactic acid inoculant on ensiling characteristics and nutritive value of high dry matter alfalfa. The authors determined the ensiling characteristics by ensiling inoculated and untreated alfalfa haylage and used two lactating cows to determine ruminal degradabilities of nutrients. Inoculated alfalfa silage showed a lower pH, higher concentration of lactic acid and lower concentration of water-soluble carbohydrates than untreated alfalfa silage. Proteolysis was increased by the inoculation, while ruminal degradability of dry matter, crude protein, NDF, dry matter intake and MY were similar with both treatments. The authors concluded that the inoculant used for the purpose of this study improved the ensiling characteristics of alfalfa silage without having significant effects on dairy cow performance.

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49

Effects of stage of lactation on protein metabolism in dairy cows

Researchers

Journal of Animal and Feed Sciences. 2005. Vol. 14, No. 1, p. 53-62.

Lapierre, H.
Girard, C.L.
Matte, J.J.
Lobley, G.E.

This study aims to assess the interaction between folic acid and a supplementation of methionine in the diet on protein metabolism at six and 25 weeks during lactation. Forty-two lactating dairy cows were fed two levels of methionine and three levels of folic acid. There was no effect of treatments on protein metabolism that was, however, affected by the stage of lactation. Despite the fact that milk production and protein yield were higher in early lactation (6 weeks) than in late lactation (25 weeks), whole body protein synthesis was not affected by the stage of lactation. However, the partition of this synthesis was altered, with a greater proportion of protein synthesis directed towards milk output in early lactation. This study confirms the high turnover rate of protein in dairy cows with a total amount of protein synthesized averaging 4.14 and 4.08 kg/d, but 1.43 and 1.22 kg excreted as milk protein at six or 25 weeks of lactation.

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Effects of the forage-to-concentrate ratio on B-vitamin concentrations in different ruminal fractions of dairy cows

Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. 2005. Vol. 85, p. 389-399.

Santschi, D.E.
Chiquette, J.
Berthiaume, R.
Martineau, R.
Matte, J.J.
Mustafa, A.F.
Girard, C.L.

Ruminal fluid was collected from dairy cows using three methods: 1) a stomach tube directly through the ruminal cannula; 2) a syringe screwed to a stainless tube covered by a fine metal mesh; or 3) a rubber tube connected to a vacuum pump. Fluid samples were either acidified to disrupt bacterial membranes or centrifuged to remove the bacterial fraction. B-vitamin concentrations were higher in the acidified than in the centrifuged fluid, while the collection method had only a limited effect. Results of this study strongly suggest that B-vitamin concentration in ruminal fluid is not a good indicator of their synthesis and that the bacterial fractions should probably be considered.

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This summary was provided by Dr. Christiane L. Girard.



Effects of the methods of collection and sample preparation on the concentrations of B-vitamin in ruminal fluid of dairy COWS

Researchers

Canadian Journal of Animal Science. 2005. Vol. 85, p. 417-420.

Santschi, D.E.
Chiquette, J.
Berthiaume, R.
Matte, J.J.
Mustafa, A.F.
Girard, C.L.

Two studies were undertaken to verify the effect of the forage-to-concentrate ratio of the diet on B-vitamin concentrations in ruminal contents. In Study 1, eight primiparous and eight multiparous cows were used in a cross-over design and concentrations of biotin, folates and vitamin B₁₂ were determined in ruminal fluid and plasma of cows fed a high-forage (HF; 58:42 forage-to-concentrate ratio; DM basis) or a low-forage (LF; 37:63 forage-to-concentrate ratio; DM basis) diets. In Study 2, 6 ruminally cannulated lactating cows were used in a cross-over design to evaluate the effects of forage-to-concentrate ratio (HF = 60:40; LF = 40:60; DM basis) on concentrations of seven B-vitamins in the particle-free fluid and in both liquid- and solid-associated bacteria. Results showed that B-vitamins were present mainly in the bacterial fractions of the ruminal content, while only limited amounts were found in the surrounding fluid. A change in the forage-to-concentrate ratio had a greater effect on vitamin concentration in the bacteria associated to the solid fraction than in those present in the liquid portion of the rumen. The most noticeable effects of a low forage diet were an increase in riboflavin but a decrease in true vitamin B₁₂ concentrations in solid-associated bacteria as well as a decrease in biotin concentration in particle-free fluid. In conclusion, it appears that ruminal B-vitamin concentration is altered by changes in the forage-to-concentrate ratio, which suggests that the supply of vitamins to dairy cows is influenced by diet composition.

Main Canadian Institution

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Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 6, p. 2043-2054.

Santschi, D.E.
Berthiaume, R.
Matte, J.J.
Mustafa, A.F.
Girard, C.L.

The object of this study was to assess the disappearance of supplementary B-vitamins before and from the small intestine. Two studies were carried out using four lactating Holstein cows. In study 1, vitamins were added to the feed whereas in study 2, vitamins were infused postruminally. Dietary supplemented B-vitamins are extensively destroyed before reaching the small intestine. Most of this disappearance occurred in the rumen, except for niacin and folic acid. A considerable proportion of folic acid seemed to be absorbed in the proximal duodenum, whereas it appears that niacin is converted to other forms or absorbed before the small intestine. Except for riboflavin and niacin, absolute amounts disappearing from the small intestine were greater during the treatment than the control periods, suggesting that B-vitamin supply in dairy cows is increased by supplementation, although losses in the rumen are extensive.

Main Canadian Institution



DSRDC, Lennoxville (QC)

This summary was provided by Dr. Christiane L. Girard.



Researchers

British Society of Animal Science. 2005. Vol. 80, No. 1, p. 11-22.

Lapierre, H.
Berthiaume, R.
Raggio, G.
Thivierge, M.C.
Doepel, L.
Pacheco, D.
Dubreuil, P.
Lobley, G.E.

In order to review the metabolism of N compounds from absorption to milk, 14 studies were examined that measured the net flux of nitrogenous compounds across the gut and the liver in dairy cows. The apparent N digested averaged 0.65 of intake of which 0.34 was excreted in urine and 0.31 secreted as milk. The N absorbed into the portal vein is mostly absorbed in the form of free AA and ammonia. All of the absorbed ammonia is removed and detoxified by the liver. Detoxification of ammonia by the liver and catabolism of AA result in production of urea as an end-product. Approximately only half of this urea will be excreted in urine, as an important salvage mechanism exists in ruminants and an important part of the urea produced by the liver is recycled from the blood circulation into the lumen of the gut as a source of N for microbial protein synthesis. The efficiency of transfer of absorbed AA into milk protein decreases with increasing supply of protein. This loss of efficiency is linked directly with increased hepatic removal for some AA (histidine, methionine, phenylalanine) and, probably, increased catabolism by peripheral tissues, including the mammary gland, for other amino acids like the branched-chain amino acids and lysine. Therefore, we must stop using fixed factors of conversion (CNV) of digestible AA to milk in our predictive schemes and acknowledge that metabolism of AA between delivery from the duodenum and CNV to milk protein will vary with nutrient supply.

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DSRDC, Lennoxville (QC)

This article was provided by Dr. Hélène Lapierre.

Genetics





1

Analysis of the relationship between type traits and functional survival in Canadian Holsteins using a Weibull proportional hazards model

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2004. Vol. 87, No. 11, p. 3938-3946.

Sewalem, A.
Kistemaker, G.J.
Miglior, F.
Van Doormaal, B.J.

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the impact of type traits on the functional survival of Canadian Holstein cows using a Weibull proportional hazards model. Survival was defined as the number of days from first calving to culling, death, or censoring of Canadian Holstein cows. Data from more than 1 million cows were used in this study. The data recorded consisted of phenotypic scores for eight composite traits and 23 linear traits. The statistical model included the effects of stage of lactation, production season, annual change in herd size, type of milk recording supervision, age at first calving, effects of milk, fat and protein yields, each type trait, and the sire. Among the composite traits' final score, mammary system and the feet and legs had a strong relationship with functional survival. Higher risks of culling were observed for cows that had low scores for these traits. Udder attachment, udder texture, udder depth, rear udder attachment height and rear udder attachment width were the linear traits that had a strong relationship with functional survival.

This summary was provided by Dr. Asheber Sewalem.

Main Canadian Institution

 Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada / Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada
DSRDC, Guelph (ON)

2

Development of an optimal index to improve lactation yield and persistency with the least selection intensity

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2004. Vol. 87, No. 9, p. 3047-3052.

Togashi, K.
Lin, C.Y.

The improvement of both lactation milk yield (MY) and persistency is essential. Many restrictions on selection criteria designed to improve both MY and persistency of lactation at the same time are required to modify the lactation curve. That means manipulation of the lactation curve to improve persistency requires a higher selection intensity than the unrestricted selection based on 305 days of estimated breeding value (EBV). This research showed that it is possible to derive different indexes to achieve this selection constraint using different degrees of selection intensity. It was found preferable to choose the index that requires the least selection intensity from the class of indexes that meets the same restriction. The reason for that is that it is easier to achieve the selection goal with a lower selection index. Nevertheless, in order to achieve the genetic gains wanted using the lowest selection intensity, an optimal index based on random regression (RR) coefficients was developed. Examples are presented to demonstrate the procedures developed in comparison with conventional selection based on a 305 days of EBV.

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3

Genetic relationships between persistency and reproductive performance in first-lactation Canadian Holsteins

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2004. Vol. 87, No. 9, p. 3029-3037.

Muir, B.L.
Fatehi, J.
Schaeffer, L.R.

In this research, the genetic relationships between the lactation persistency and the reproductive performance in first lactation as well as the relationships with days in milk at the peak milk yield (MY) and the estimated 305 days MY were studied. To conduct this study, data were collected on first-parity reproduction, persistency and production from 33-312 first lactation Canadian Holsteins. It was found that heritability for persistency, days in milk at peak MY, and estimated 305-days MY were 0.18, 0.009 and 0.45 respectively, while heritability for reproduction were quite low. The age at first insemination showed the higher heritability. Heifers' reproductive traits were less genetically correlated, while cows' reproductive traits were moderately correlated. At insemination, heifers younger than average and/or conceived successfully at first insemination generally had a more persistent first lactation. The persistency of the heifers for the first lactation was also increased with difficulty at calving, successful conception at first insemination and longer interval between first and second calving. It was also found that the estimated genetic correlations of the reproductive performance (estimated 305-days MY) were different in magnitude but similar in sign compared to those for persistency.

Main Canadian Institution



4

Genetics of locomotion

Researchers

Livestock Production Science. 2004. Vol. 90, No. 2-3, p. 247-253.

Van Dorp, T.E.
Boettcher, P.
Schaeffer, L.R.

The purpose of this research was to evaluate the heritability of the locomotion score as well as the genetic and phenotypic correlations of the locomotion score with milk production (150 days in milk), the body condition score and selected conformation traits. To achieve this, data were collected from 3,298 cows in 1997. It was found that the locomotion heritability was low just like the phenotypic correlation of the locomotion score with the milk production and conformation traits. Moderate negative correlations were found between the body condition score and milk production. A genetically better locomotion was observed for cows having both a high body condition score and a high milk production. Moderate, but favourable, genetic correlations were found between the udder traits and the locomotion. The feet and legs, foot angle and rear leg set were highly genetically correlated to locomotion score. Cows with a higher feet and legs score, steeper foot angle and straighter legs had a genetically better locomotion. A more favourable locomotion was also observed for cows with higher rear udder attachments, longer front udder attachments and an increased udder quality.

Main Canadian Institution





5

Genetic susceptibility to *Neospora caninum* infection in Holstein cattle in Ontario

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2004. Vol. 87, No. 11, p. 3967-3975.

Pan, Y.
Jansen, G.B.
Duffield, T.F.
Hietala, S.
Kelton, D.
Lin, C.Y.
Peregrine, A.S.

The endemic foetal loss and the occasional abortion epidemics in cattle around the world are often caused by *Neospora caninum* (NC). The purpose of this study was to examine the sera for antibodies to NC coming from nearly 10,000 cows from 125 herds of Ontario. It was found that the overall prevalence of the NC antibodies was 11.2%, while the prevalence for each herd varied between 0% and 70.4%. A rate of detected vertical transmission of 40.7% was observed. The authors arranged five genetic models with fixed effects of bleeding year-month, age of the animals and herd against the data. These five models were the sire model, the animal model, the sire-dam model, a sire-maternal grandsire model and a maternal effects model. It was found that an estimated heritability of susceptibility to NC ranged from 0.084 to 0.124. A closer fit was observed between the sire-maternal grandsire model and the maternal effects model. It was concluded that greater importance should be given to management practices than to the genetic selection so as to reduce the incidence of the NC infection.

Main Canadian Institution



6

Identification of a mutation associated with factor XI deficiency Holstein cattle

Researchers

Animal genetics. 2004. Vol. 35, No. 6, p. 454-456.

Marron, B.M.
Robinson, J.L.
Gentry, P.A.
Beever, J.E.

An autosomal recessive deficiency with the blood coagulation factor XI (FXI) has been described in Holstein cattle. However, accurate identification of the disease carriers (heterozygotes) is not an easy task as current testing methods are not suitable for it. A polymerase chain reaction (PCR)-based strategy was achieved in this research to clone and sequence the bovine FXI gene (F11) from animals of different genotypes in order to identify the molecular basis of this deficiency. The sequences derived from homozygous normal and deficient animals were compared. The comparison showed that the FXI deficiency in Holsteins is related with the insertion of a 76 bp segment within exon 12. This introduces a stop codon resulting in a mature FXI protein that lacks the functional protease domain encoded by exons 13, 14 and 15. These results allowed the development of a DNA-based diagnostic test for accurate genotyping. This method revealed that the frequency of the mutated allele was 1.2% in a contemporary population of the USA Holstein sires.

Main Canadian Institution





7

Estimates of genetic parameters for Canadian Holstein female reproduction traits

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 6, p. 2199-2208.

Jamrozik, J.
Fatehi, J.
Kistemaker, G.J.
Schaeffer, L.R.

This study aimed to analyze, through a linear multiple-trait model, the genetic parameters for Canadian Holstein female reproduction traits. The traits analyzed included age at first insemination, number of services, first-service non-return rate to 56 days, days from service to conception, calving ease, stillbirth, gestation length and calf size. These traits covered a wide spectrum of aspects related to the reproductive performance of dairy cows. Data from more than 50,000 cows from Ontario and Quebec were collected for this study. It was found that heritability for fertility traits were quite low, ranging from 3% to 13%. The variation sources for the non-return rate and traits related to calving performance that were found to be important were: the service sire, the sire of calf and the artificial insemination technician. The genetic correlations for fertility traits in heifers and older cows were also very low. These results indicated that different traits measured different aspects of a dairy cow's reproductive performance and that these traits could be used jointly in a fertility index. This would allow for better selecting the fertility aspect of dairy cattle.

Main Canadian Institution





8

Genetic analysis of herd life in Canadian dairy cattle on a lactation basis using a Weibull proportional hazards model

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 1, p. 368-375.

Sewalem, A.
Kistemaker, G.J.
Ducrocq, V.
Van Doormaal, B.J.

This research aimed to identify the most important factors that influence the functional survival and to assess the genetic parameters of the functional survival for Canadian dairy cattle, using a Weibull proportional hazards model. Data were obtained from lactation records extracted for the May 2002 genetic evaluation of Holstein, Jersey and Ayrshire breeds that calved between July 1, 1985 and April 5, 2002. The statistical model included the effects of stage of lactation, season of production, the annual change in herd size, type of milk recording supervision, age at first calving, effects of milk, fat and protein yields calculated within herd-year-parity deviations and the random effects of herd-year-season of calving and sire. All effects fitted in the model were found to have an effect on the functional survival, with MY being the most important factor influencing survival. The functional survival hazard increased as milk production decreased and as fat content increased. The risk of culling was also increased for heifers that were older at calving and in unsupervised herds. The expanding herds were also at a lower risk of culling than the stable herds. The heritability values were found to be 0.14 for Holstein cows, 0.09 for Jersey cows, and 0.10 for Ayrshire cows. The authors concluded that the estimated genetic trend obtained using the survival kit was overestimated.

Main Canadian Institution



DSRDC, Guelph (ON)

This summary was provided by Dr. Asheber Sewalem.



9

Genetic evaluation strategies for multiple traits and countries

Researchers

Livestock Production Science. 2005. Vol. 92, No. 3, p. 195-205.

Sullivan, P.G.
 Wilton, J.W.
 Shaeffer, L.R.
 Jansen, G.J.
 Robinson, J.A.B.
 Allen, O.B.

The purpose of this research was to study genetic evaluations strategies. To that end, simulated data for three lactation traits in two importing and two exporting countries running a typical progeny test program were used. The three strategies considered for the purpose of this study were conversion (CNV), multiple-trait across-country evaluation (MACE) and global animal model (GAM). It was observed that the base populations were either unselected, that all the mates were above average and the exporting countries had higher genetic means than importing countries. The prediction errors for the top bulls with the unselected base populations, were higher using CNV, while they were lower with all bulls, using GAM. The MACE strategy showed lower prediction errors than the GAM strategy for the top bulls whereas both showed slightly lower prediction errors with all bulls. The prediction errors were also lower using the strategy evaluating the multiple traits per country as compared to the strategy evaluating one single trait per country. However, evaluations were biased. All strategies using either selected or unselected base populations favoured bulls from importing countries on the foreign scales of evaluation. It was also found that the true merits of the top bulls selected using MACE or GAM were similar and higher than using CNV.

Main Canadian Institution



10

Joint international evaluation of milking shorthorn dairy cattle for production traits

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 9, p. 3326-3336.

Barrett, R.
 Miglior, F.
 Jansen, G.
 Jamrozik, J.
 Schaeffer, L.R.

This study aimed to analyze the pedigree information and test-day records for the first three parities of milking Shorthorn dairy cattle from five countries. Information from about 69,000 cows was collected and variance components for both single and multiple countries were estimated. Fixed and random effects were evaluated. Fixed effects included herd test-day class and regressions on days in milk within age at calving-parity-season of calving, while random effects included animal genetic, permanent environmental and residual effects. It was found that the average daily heritability from single country analyses ranged from 0.33 to 0.47 for milk and from 0.37 to 0.45 in the case of protein yield across lactations and countries. Genetic correlations between countries were quite low but correlations among country EBV for milk were higher. It was concluded that international comparison of milking Shorthorns could be facilitated by the future evaluation with increased genetic ties among countries.

Main Canadian Institution





11

Maximization of lactation milk production without decreasing persistency

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science: 2005. Vol. 88, p. 2975-2980.

Lin, C.Y.
Togashi, K.

Six selection strategies for improving lactation milk without decreasing persistency were compared: 1) index IR1, subject to the restriction of equal genetic gains at DIM 60 and 280, 2) IR2, subject to the restriction of zero gain at DIM 60, 3) desired gains index Id, designed to increase lactation milk without altering the lactation curve, 4) index lu, comprising lactation EBV and persistency without standardization, 5) index lw, consisting of lactation EBV and persistency with standardization, and 6) conventional selection on lactation EBV (EBVL). Of the six selection strategies compared, IR2 yielded the greatest persistency, but achieved the smallest response in lactation EBV, suggesting that it is impractical to increase persistency by inhibiting the peak yield. Index lu showed the same response in lactation milk as conventional selection on EBVL, but resulted in decreased persistency. Although both IR1 and Id achieved constant persistency, the former produced a greater lactation response than the latter. Thus, IR1 is a viable strategy for improving EBVL, while holding persistency constant. None of the six selection strategies excelled in both lactation milk and persistency. Index lw appears to be a reasonable choice for improving both traits, although responses would depend on the relative importance of the two traits. The procedure developed provides a useful means of modifying the lactation curve by restricting differential genetic gains among different days of the lactation.

Main Canadian Institution

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DSRDC, Guelph (ON)

This summary was provided by Dr. Ching Y. Lin.



12

Potential and limitations of bovine-specific arrays for the analysis of mRNA levels in early development: Preliminary analysis using a bovine embryonic array

Researchers

Reproduction and Fertility Development. 2005. Vol. 17, No. 2, p. 47-57.

Sirard, M.A.
Dufort, I.
Vallée, M.
Massicotte, L.
Gravel, C.
Reghenas, H.
Watson, A.J.
King, W.A.
Robert, C.

The measurement of differential mRNA concentrations in oocytes and pre-implanted embryos has led to the availability of new insights into the early development of large mammals. It is now feasible to amplify starting material and making measurements in single embryo units. It is therefore possible to evaluate the variations in the gene expression patterns during the pre-implantation period or the impact of the culture on mRNA concentrations. Nevertheless, there are limitations associated with these methods, such as sample preparation or the use of appropriate controls. Even proper analysis is crucial to achieve the full benefit of using these tools. This article aims to describe the potential and the limitations of the mRNA analysis in early embryos, especially for microarray analysis. The authors have generated a bovine cDNA array, which contained expressed sequence tags (EST). These were collected from various pre-implantation development stages. From the immature oocyte to the blastocyst stage, they have then initiated the characterization of the global mRNA patterns for several key development stages. When the oocyte and blastocyst samples were compared to a reference mRNA sample made from a pool of EST from pooled somatic tissues, quite different expression profiles were found, involving hundreds of genes. It was concluded that this technique was useful in discovering candidate genes that may be fairly important during the early embryonic life. However, this array still is in its preliminary stage. The EST bank will have to be processed to contain only unigenes but the technique can already be used.

Main Canadian Institution





13

Relationship between type traits and longevity in Canadian Jerseys and Ayrshires using a Weibull proportional hazards model

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 4, p. 1552-1560.

Sewalem, A.
Kistemaker, G.J.
Van Doormaal, B.J.

The object of this study was to examine the impact of type traits on the functional survival of Canadian Jersey and Ayrshire cows using a Weibull proportional hazards model. Survival was defined as the number of days from the first calving to culling, death or censoring. The authors collected data from nearly 50,000 Jersey cows and 77,000 Ayrshires. The data recorded consisted in phenotypic scores for 8 composite traits and 19 linear descriptive traits. For Jersey cows, among the composite type traits with the greatest contribution to the likelihood function was final score followed by mammary system. In the case of Ayrshire cows, the most important trait was feet and legs followed by the final score. It was also found that cows classified as Poor for final score had five times more probability of being culled than Good Plus cows. Furthermore, cows classified as Poor for feet and legs had also five times more probability of being culled than cows classified as Excellent. Finally, Excellent cows had nine times more chances to survive than cows classified as Poor.

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This summary was provided by Dr. Asheber Sewalem.



14

RNA interferences as a tool to study gene function in bovine oocytes

Researchers

Molecular Reproduction and Development. 2005. Vol. 70, No. 2, p. 111-121.

Paradis, F.
Vigneault, C.
Robert, C.
Sirard, M.A.

The purpose of this study was to examine the gene function in bovine oocytes using an RNAi approach. Two experiments were performed. In the first, three different treatments were tested to improve the oocytes survival following microinjection. The treatments consisted in a 20-minutes exposure to cytochalasin B, a 6-hours maturation in cycloheximide and a combination of both. The survival rate of microinjected oocytes was increased with the cycloheximide/cytochalasin B treatment. The second experiment aimed to assess the effect of both cyclin B1 and green fluorescent protein (GFP) dsRNA on cyclin B1 mRNA and protein expression. A decrease in cyclin B1 mRNA and protein followed the injection of B1 dsRNA. No interferences were observed between the injection of GFP dsRNA and cyclin B1 mRNA, protein, or with the ability of the oocytes to mature properly. Ten percent of the oocytes were activated by the lack of cyclin B1 in the oocyte. Germinal vesicle breakdown was prevented by the use of an additional 10-hours maturation in the presence of 6-dimethylaminopurine. This additional maturation time also allowed a longer exposure to dsRNA. It increased the percentage in activated oocytes to 33%, which was likely caused by an increased length of time for dsRNA processing and for a degradation of the cyclin B1 mRNA to occur. It was concluded that the RNAi technique was useful to study the gene function in the bovine oocyte.

Main Canadian Institution



15

Selection indices in Holstein cattle of various countries

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. 2005. Vol. 88, No. 3, p. 1255-1263.

Miglior, F.
Muir, B.L.
Van Doormaal, B.J.

A brief description of the national selection index and of the top bulls listings since August 2003 was provided by various countries based on geographical representation, Interbull membership and the size of the progeny testing programs. The authors compared the relative emphasis on production, durability, health, and reproduction, along with the number of common bulls among the top listings between countries. The main difference found between the selection indices was the relative emphasis on production. The better balanced emphasis across production, durability, health and reproduction was found to be in the Danish S-index. Similarities between the top bull listings among various countries were observed to decrease. That is due to the broadening of breeding goals achieved through the recent changes brought to the selection indices.

Main Canadian Institution



DSRDC, Guelph (ON)



16

Simultaneous procedure for deriving selection indexes with multiple restrictions

Researchers

Journal of Animal Science. 2005. Vol. 83, No. 3, p. 531-536.

Lin, C.Y.

This study aims to present the theory and methods of a simultaneous procedure used for constructing indexes with single or multiple restrictions, since formulas given in the literature were designed for the imposition of a single restriction only. Examples are given here to verify the theoretical development and to demonstrate the proper functioning of the procedure. The construction of various restrictive indexes into a simple computational scheme is involved in the simultaneous procedure. This scheme can be useful to handle multiple traits, to modify the growth curve of meat animals or the lactation curve of dairy animals. When the index is a restricted one, the variance of an index ($b'Pb$) is not equal to the covariance between an index and its net merit ($b'Ga$). However, this research showed that the growth curve of meat animals or the lactation curve are generally equal in both restricted and unrestricted cases, only when the b elements represent the original solutions from the index equations. When the b elements are expressed as proportions, they are not equal.

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Health



the 1990s, the number of people with a mental health problem has increased in the UK (Mental Health Act 1983, 1990).

There is a growing awareness of the need to improve the lives of people with mental health problems. The UK Government has set out a strategy for mental health care in the 21st century (Department of Health 1999). The strategy is based on the following principles:

- (1) People with mental health problems should be treated as individuals.
- (2) People with mental health problems should be given the opportunity to participate in decisions about their care.
- (3) People with mental health problems should be given the opportunity to live in their own homes.

The strategy also states that people with mental health problems should be given the opportunity to live in their own homes.

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1

Effects of water source, dilution, storage and bacterial and faecal loads on the efficacy of electrolyzed oxidizing water for the control of *Escherichia coli*

Researchers

Journal of Food Protection. July 2004. Vol. 67, No. 7, p. 1377-1383.

Stevenson, S.M.L.
Cook, S.R.
Bach, S.J.
McAllister, T.A.

The object of this study was to assess the potential of using electrolyzed oxidizing (EO) water for controlling *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 in water for livestock. To that end, the effects of water source, electrolyte concentration, dilution, storage conditions, and bacterial or faecal load on the oxidative reduction potential (ORP) and bactericidal activity of EO water were investigated. It was found that anode and combined EO water decreased the pH and increased the ORP of deionized water, while cathode-EO water had adverse effects. The ORP values of all water types were also reduced by the addition of faeces into EO water products and a relationship was found between ORP and bactericidal activity of EO water. The authors concluded that EO water may be an effective tool to control *E. coli* O157:H7 in livestock water with a low content of organic matter.

Main Canadian Institution



LRC, Lethbridge (AB)



2

Molecular typing and distribution of *Staphylococcus aureus* isolates in eastern Canadian dairy heifers

Researchers

Journal of Clinical Microbiology, August 2004, Vol. 42, No. 8, p. 3449-3455.

Sabour, P.M.
Gill, J.J.
Lepp, D.
Pacan, J.C.
Ahmed, R.
Dingwell, R.
Leslie, K.

The aim of this study was to typify and assess the genetic relationships between 288 *Staphylococcus aureus* isolates with the use of macrorestriction analysis of Smal-digested chromosomal DNA using pulsed field gel electrophoresis (PFGE). These isolates were collected from 58 eastern Canadian dairy herds and a subset of them was further evaluated for sensitivity against 10 antimicrobial compounds. Twenty-nine distinct PFGE types were identified and grouped according to estimates of genetic relationships. Six groups of isolates were formed and designated A through F. Groups A, D and F regrouped 93% of the isolates. Only a single type of PFGE was found in more than half of the herds. Antimicrobial resistance evaluation showed that 24.5% of the 212 isolates evaluated were resistant to one or more antimicrobials with resistance to penicillin being the most common encountered, followed by resistance to sulfadimethoxine. The major portion of the isolates responded to phages from groups 1 and 3, while the others could not be typified and few of them belonged to a variety of phages types. Groups A and F of isolates contained most of the PFGE lineage groups corresponding to groups 3 and 1 respectively, while most isolates assigned to group D could not be typified. It was found that the discriminatory power of PFGE typifying was greater than phage typifying to define the relatedness of the *S. aureus* isolates.

Main Canadian Institution

The logo for the University of Guelph, featuring the words "UNIVERSITY" and "of GUELPH" in a stylized font.



3

Immune responses to a DNA/protein vaccination strategy against *Staphylococcus aureus*-induced mastitis in dairy cows

Researchers

Vaccine. November 2004. Vol. 23, No. 1, p. 114-126.

Shkreta, L.
Talbot, B.G.
Diarra, M.S.
Lacasse, P.

The fibronectin binding protein (FnBP) and clumping factor A (ClfA) of *Staphylococcus aureus* are the targets of a DNA and protein vaccination strategy against *S. aureus* mastitis in dairy cows. In a controlled study, the authors vaccinated 100 first-calf heifers with a DNA vaccine containing the fibronectin-binding protein (FnBP) and clumping factor A (ClfA) as well as the fibronectin-binding protein (FnBP) gene. The authors were selected as controls. These heifers were individually challenged with this vaccine and were also challenged with recombinant DNA and ClfA proteins. In the other heifers, there were not individually challenged after calving. Three dairy farms, each vaccinated and non-vaccinated cows, were challenged with *S. aureus*. During the 2 to 2 hours period, post-challenge, individual cows showed a higher heart rate in the cardiac rhythm and body temperature. Two days post-challenge, bacteria were detected in the arteries. The vaccinated cows showed that the control arteries. The authors concluded that DNA-protein vaccination against FnBP and ClfA *S. aureus* caused a higher bacterial load and higher inflammatory responses that protected partially the mammary gland from staphylococcal mastitis and reduced the post-challenge conditions in vaccinated cows.

Main Canadian Institution



4

Impacts of early lactation somatic cell count in heifers on somatic cell counts over the first lactation

Researchers

Journal of Dairy Science. November 2004. Vol. 87, No. 11, p. 3672-3682.

de Vlieghe, S.
Barkema, H.W.
Stryhn, H.
Opsomer, G.
de Kruif, A.

The purpose of this study was to assess the impact of somatic cell count in early lactation (SCC_{el}) on test-day somatic cell count (SCC) in the first lactation of Belgian dairy heifers. The extent of that increase depends on the moment when these measures were taken. The negative effect of an elevated SCC_{el} on test-day SCC was still present if SCC was below 50,000 cells per mL at the second test-day, although to a lesser extent. It was concluded that elevated SCC in early lactation had negative effects on test-day SCC during all of the first lactation.

Main Canadian Institution





Research article
 Title: Aerial surveillance of *Mycobacterium avium* s.s. in cattle in eastern Canada and Maine

Authors

Journal: *Journal of Dairy Science*, 2004, 87(10)

McAuliffe
 et al.
 McInerney
 et al.
 Haddad
 et al.

systematic random sampling of slaughterhouse cattle in eastern Canada and Maine was used to determine the prevalence of infection with *Mycobacterium avium* s.s. Aerial surveillance of *M. avium* s.s. prevalence in cattle was estimated at 6.7% through histological and bacteriological methods. Seroprevalence of antibodies to *M. avium* s.s. in these cattle was 1.2% and it was found that histological testing was far less sensitive for detecting infected cattle than the bacteriological method. Finally, a higher proportion of cattle tested *M. avium* s.s. positive was seropositive in

Main Canadian Institution



6

Research article
 Title: Herd prevalence of *Mycobacterium avium* s.s. in dairy herds in Ontario

Authors

Journal: *Journal of Dairy Science*, 2004, 87(6)

Alis
 et al.
 Haddad
 et al.
 Haddad

This research on herd certification as a herd with 100 DTC dairy herds free of clinical signs of Johne's Disease for at least three years. Seroprevalence of antibodies to *M. avium* s.s. in the study herds was higher than that of *M. avium* s.s. diagnosis in the herd. The herds that were diagnosed *M. avium* s.s. infected and the number of infected herds decreased as the number of testing increased. Seroprevalence and predicted percentages of infected DTC herds were calculated and it was found that the prevalence of antibodies to *M. avium* s.s. in the herd was significantly different. However, when the within-herd infection prevalence in infected and test-negative herds after each round of serial testing was changed and a diagnostic sensitivity of 0.70 selected herds were seropositive and predicted prevalence of each herd was calculated that herd certification program success rate would be affected. A herd has a high sensitivity and specificity

Main Canadian Institution





Intestinal *Pichia pastoris* as a r... sca... hicl... r... th i t sti al li r r c i a t r t i s i r i a t s

Archives

Journal of Microbiology 2004, 144:66

Abstract
McIlister
Ligor

The objective of this study was to investigate the efficiency of cell lysis in the presence of lactate as a method of delivering active reagents and lysis agents in acids to the small intestine of infants in order to assess the cell lysis integrity of *Pichia pastoris* and evaluate the potential of this approach for protecting reagent reagents from microbial lysis in the presence of acid as a method of cell lysis. In vitro digestion showed that the activity of *P. pastoris* cells remained intact after an incubation period of 6 hours to 12 hours in clarified reagent and is lysis of bacterial lysis while a challenge of *P. pastoris* cells in the presence of lactate remained intact after the same incubation and this was evaluated in a continuous culture system. The results of the challenge showed that the challenge of *P. pastoris* in culture had lysed within 2 hours of incubation and this is an essential property for the release of lactate reagent from the small intestine. These results imply that *P. pastoris* could be efficient as a vehicle for oral delivery of active reagents in infants.

Main Canadian Institution



Research

Lactate reagent critical diarrhoeal

Archives

Journal of Microbiology 2004, 144

Abstract
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The objective of this study was to determine the concentration of D-lactate in the diarrhoeal stool of infants in this research. The hypothesis was that gastrointestinal fermentation is the source of diarrhoeal excretion of D-lactate. In vitro studies showed that the objective of this study was to determine the concentration of D-lactate in the presence of lactate in the presence of lactate. Concentrations of lactate in the presence of lactate were collected from healthy and diarrhoeal stool. Serological and gas analyses were carried out for diarrhoeal stool. D- and -lactate were analysed using high-performance liquid chromatography. It was found that diarrhoeal stool were higher in general and had higher serological and higher -lactate in the presence of lactate than healthy stool. Diarrhoeal stool also showed higher D-lactate concentrations in the presence of lactate and the results showed that these results suggest the presence of lactate in the presence of lactate.

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Western College of Veterinary Medicine



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***Lactobacillus rhamnosus* strain is a potential probiotic**

Archives of Microbiology and Immunology 2004, 164: 242

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In a veterinary trial claiming to treat diarrhoea in calves, the authors studied the effect of this study as to assess the capability of *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* strain to maintain acidity in the gastrointestinal tract. Calves were administered an oral rehydration solution. Results showing the efficacy of the strain in maintaining acidity were also evaluated. D-lactate concentration was investigated during the study. Calves treated with high-dose oral D-lactate were administered orally with feeding in three consecutive days. Calves were collected and incubated for 2 hours. The results showed that glucose concentration did not vary during the 2-hour incubation. D-lactate was not reduced because it is still available in the rumen. It was concluded that series intestinal transit in the young calves with reduced D-lactate and that it can be administered in an oral

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Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Milacium against *Ostertagia ostertagi* lactation in cattle

Archives of Parasitology 2004, 120: 40

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The authors studied the relationship between the lactation density ratio (DR) and an indirect *Ostertagia ostertagi* infection and the development of a rectal actinolytic DR. The authors evaluated the relationship between DR and glucose in the days in the age and lactation period. CC while there was a negative relationship between DR and the lactation here were constant and DR also for the period between 0 and 200 days in the lactation. DR also were not increased for 200 days in the lactation until the end of lactation. An increase in the lactation was also not associated with a decrease in DR. These results suggest that DR also are not influenced by the lactation and that DR also follow the same pattern as the lactation in the through lactation. The authors suggest that DR also are the same as high-lactation calves with the lactation.

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Associations of somatic cell counts in lactating dairy cattle with clinical mastitis

Archives of Dairy Cattle Research 2006, Volume 2, Number 6

Highly associated with clinical mastitis

In this research, we tested the relationship between somatic cell count in early lactating dairy cattle and clinical mastitis. We tested the hypothesis that clinical mastitis is associated with data collected at 0 days in milk than earlier in lactation and only clinical mastitis events that were considered instead of all clinical mastitis events. Clinical mastitis has also increased along with the increase in test-day somatic cell count as also observed that a higher test-day mastitis protected against clinical mastitis and diminished the effect of somatic cell count. The negative effect of elevated somatic cell count on the risk of clinical mastitis is still present in cattle as well as 10,000 cells/ml at the second test-day although it is a lesser extent.

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2

Effect of anthelmintic treatment at calving on herd prevalence of clinical mastitis

Archives of Dairy Cattle Research March 2006, Volume 1, Number 2

Highly associated with clinical mastitis

In this research, we evaluated the effects of anthelmintic treatment at calving on herd prevalence of clinical mastitis. We tested the hypothesis that clinical mastitis prevalence in access to pasture and remained high throughout the year while prevalence in clinical mastitis had limited treatment as all pasture received. All the cows were treated with dewormers and their nutritional requirements in the clinical mastitis and prevalence in clinical mastitis were given an effective treatment and calving time and no significant effect between the treatments were found. All egg counts were determined to be low in general. Monthly clinical mastitis prevalence was tested with an indirect method using a crude *Ostertagia ostertagi* antigen with results recorded as DR values. In interaction between treatment and DR values, we observed that the authors concluded that their study failed to show a beneficial effect of the effective treatment in these herds.

Main Canadian Institution





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Main Canadian Institution





24

Comparison of *Mycobacterium avium* sputum assays

Archives

Journal of Dairy Science 2006, 89:46-466

McArdle

In order to determine the prevalence of tuberculosis in a herd, a study was conducted to compare the sensitivity of direct fluorescent antibody (DFA) and indirect fluorescent antibody (IFA) assays for the detection of *Mycobacterium avium* sputum. The results showed that the DFA assay had a higher sensitivity than the IFA assay. The DFA assay was found to be more sensitive than the IFA assay in detecting *M. avium* sputum. The DFA assay was found to be more sensitive than the IFA assay in detecting *M. avium* sputum. The DFA assay was found to be more sensitive than the IFA assay in detecting *M. avium* sputum.

McLennan

at the University of Alberta

Main Canadian Institution



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Comparison of *Mycobacterium avium* sputum assays

Archives

Journal of Dairy Science 2006, 89:10-20

McArdle

The objective of this study was to evaluate the sensitivity of three serological assays for the detection of *Mycobacterium avium* sputum: direct fluorescent antibody (DFA), indirect fluorescent antibody (IFA), and a commercial kit (Ct reagent). The results showed that the DFA assay had a higher sensitivity than the IFA assay and the Ct reagent assay. The DFA assay was found to be more sensitive than the IFA assay and the Ct reagent assay in detecting *M. avium* sputum. The DFA assay was found to be more sensitive than the IFA assay and the Ct reagent assay in detecting *M. avium* sputum. The DFA assay was found to be more sensitive than the IFA assay and the Ct reagent assay in detecting *M. avium* sputum.

at the University of Alberta

McLennan

Main Canadian Institution





26

Associative clinical mastitis

Archives

Journal of Dairy Science 2006, 89:666

Haas
Barbara
Chen
H
Rana

This study aimed to determine the association between CM and the regional distribution patterns of SCC in a herd of 2 dairy herds. In 2000, 16 test days and 6 cases of CM were recorded. The larger regional CM cases were associated with contagious pathogens. The distribution of SCC patterns was related to the incidence rate of CM. The authors concluded that the mean incidences of SCC patterns in a herd could be used to determine whether or not to introduce pathogen-specific mastitis control programs in that herd.

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Articular chondrocyte ultrastructure

Archives

Journal of Dairy Science 2006, 89:222

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This study aimed to compare chondrocyte and lactose techniques for the assessment of C in clinically normal staminal dairy cows. C samples were collected from Holstein cows at 20 test days in milk and tested later at 20 test days in milk using the techniques defined. The mean percentage of cells that were neutrophils was significantly different in the first visit than in the second. We determined that the percentage of cells that were neutrophils decreased with time after calving. In addition, within the first visit, the percentage of cells that were neutrophils was negatively related to the lactose concentration. The lactose concentration in the milk recorded in successful attempts was nevertheless attempted. We determined that the chondrocyte technique is a consistent and reliable technique to obtain endometrial samples for cytologic examination of staminal dairy cows.

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t r i a t i *Mycoplasma bovis* s s c e t i i l i t y s a g a i n s t
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This study aimed to determine the sensitivity of *Mycoplasma bovis* against six anti-infective drugs: tetracycline, erythromycin, clindamycin, florfenicol, trimethoprim-sulfamonomethoxazole, and enrofloxacin. The anti-infective agents tested were a 100% sensitive against *M. bovis* in vitro. The results showed that the sensitivity of the anti-infective agents tested were a 100% sensitive against *M. bovis* in vitro. The results showed that the sensitivity of the anti-infective agents tested were a 100% sensitive against *M. bovis* in vitro.

Main Canadian Institution

Université
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Crystosporidium parvum a g e n t s a t a l a i r c a l s

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The effect of this study was to evaluate the effect of halogin ne lactate in the prevention of *Crystosporidium parvum* and group 2 neonatal dairy calves. Thirty-one Holstein calves were purchased at birth and assigned an oral treatment with halogin ne lactate in a 1:1 carrier solution. It was found that the odds of *C. parvum* shedding among calves in the halogin ne lactate-treated group were 0.1 or less than in the placebo group. Cyst shedding occurred until the second age in the halogin ne-treated group while in the placebo group the calves in the placebo group began shedding cysts in their first age. In the placebo-treated calves group 2 the sales were significantly *C. parvum* while only 22% of the halogin ne-treated calves were significantly as also observed that the largest number of positive tests for *C. parvum* occurred during the third age. It was found that a 10-day delay in the incidence of diarrhoea as a result of delaying the incidence of diarrhoea.

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Effect of herd size on the prevalence of mastitis in dairy herds

Archives

Journal of Dairy Science 2008, 91:122

Historical
Literature
Review
Research
Mastitis

In this study, we evaluated the effects of herd size on the prevalence of mastitis in dairy herds. Milk yield and udder health were evaluated in 6 commercial and 9 non-commercial herds. Udder health was assessed using a clinical mastitis score and a mastitis index. The results showed that the prevalence of mastitis was higher in commercial herds compared to non-commercial herds. The study also found that the prevalence of mastitis was higher in herds with a higher milk yield. The authors concluded that herd size is an important factor in the prevalence of mastitis in dairy herds.

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Effect of stress on virulence of *Mannheimia haemolytica* in dairy cattle

Archives

Journal of Dairy Science 2006, Vol. 89, No. 4, pp. 2442-2450

Highlights
 Main
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 Main
 Abstract

Virulence and virulence changes in *Mannheimia haemolytica* are all factors that can be linked to the severity of disease in dairy cattle. Infection with *M. haemolytica* is usually the result of a virulence-arterial synergy. This occurs when a primary virulence factor alters host defenses and then augments the severity of a secondary bacterial infection and can happen as a result of different mechanisms. Host responses hampering during these virulence infections may be analyzed by the disease challenge model developed by the virulence-arterial synergy primary virulence factors. *M. haemolytica* infection with *Mannheimia haemolytica* that results in disease in dairy cattle has been studied. This disease model used in this research to demonstrate that the virulence-arterial synergy resulting in fatal disease is significantly altered by stress. It was found that host infection enhanced the expression of toll-like receptors (TLRs) and increased virulence responses which increase the severity of a *M. haemolytica* infection. This showed that TLRs play a decisive role in bacterial infection detection as well as in inducing virulence responses. Cell signalling pathways are activated by unclear translation of the glucocorticoid receptor. It is not well understood how this virulence-arterial synergy can be enhanced by stress-induced corticosteroids.

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Diagnostic serological tests for the identification of *Yersinia enterocolitica*

Source	Library Catalogue	Year	Volume	Page
Mari M	These tests as t detect cattle r cell sis sensiti vity and t di erentiate it r else- siti e ser l gical reacti ns R s eci icity t as nd that n single ser l gical test and antigen c inati n had a 00 sensiti vity and s eci icity si ltane sly n reci itati n tests ith nati e ha ten lysaccharide c nteri n electr h resis ith cyt s lic r teins and a cha tr ic ith r cella - ere 00 s eci ic H e er their sensiti vity as l er than ith the R se engal test c le ent i ati n and indirect ith r cella - s and nati e ha ten r - -deri ed lysaccharides he c etiti e ith r cella - and M C -s eci ic n cl nal anti dy as less s eci ic and sensiti e than the ther tests ensiti vity s eci icity rati s ith r cella s is 2 -	200	12	4
Mari M	<i>Escherichia hermannii</i> - s 26 rec inant r tein and r cella cyt s lic racti ns ere n t ade ate t as c ncl ded that n ne these c inati ns lly res l ed the diagn sis ine r cell sis in the resence R netheless s e these are ite si le and r ide ractical alternati es t the r cellin s in test c rrently sed r di erential diagn sis			

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Journal of Dairy Science

Volume 89, Number 3, March 2006, Pages 2024-2031

Research
Article
Aggregated
Content

The objective of this study was to assess the impact of a controlled-release calcium (Ca) supplement on the prevalence of clinical diseases in and to study the relationship between the disease and haematological variables in Ontario dairy herds. One thousand cows were given randomised controlled trials (RCT) of three different Ca supplements. It was determined that haematological concentrations were higher in the Ca-treated groups than in the control group. Univariate analysis of any diseases associated with haematological concentrations showed that the prevalence of diseases seen to be associated with haematological concentrations in the data interpretation. The authors then stratified the analysis by the presence or absence of the disease. Here we see that the relationship between actives other than clinical disease that contributed to increased concentrations of haematological variables. However, haematological variables served as a good indicator in laboratory disease in clinically unhealthy cows. In the RCT treatment was associated with increased haematological concentrations. In the RCT-treated healthy cows suggest a possible relationship between clinical disease.

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Metallic residues in lactating dairy cattle

Archives

Volume 2001

Abstract

This study aimed to identify metallic residues in clinical practice that identified cows at increased risk of being placed in a class of D.C.s. In 20 herds, 10 cows were selected randomly from each herd to be analyzed. The results were recorded and samples collected and analyzed for non-esterified fatty acids, cholesterol, lactate, hydroxytyrate, H₂glucose, urea, calcium, and hormones. Milk samples were collected from each herd to determine the H₂concentration in the samples and there were 10 cases and the median time for diagnosing the disorder was 14 days in the field. The calcium levels in the samples were associated with the risk of developing D.C.s. Having a calcium concentration equal to or higher than 0.6 times the reliable level of developing D.C.s. at calving. Retained placenta, metritis, and increased serum concentrations of H₂ and urea were related to an increased risk of developing D.C.s. with H₂ serum concentrations at calving as being a more sensitive and specific test than calcium concentration. Cows having a high H₂ concentration equal to or greater than 200 micromoles/liter were 1.5 times more likely to develop D.C.s. It was concluded that metallic residues in dairy cows should be considered in the selection of calving and H₂ in the first few calving.

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Molecular analysis of pathogenesis of infectious diseases

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The lack of availability of tools to analyze host and pathogen responses is a limiting factor in the molecular analysis of disease pathogenesis. Here, we describe methods such as microarrays and microRNA, which are non-invasive and allow the study of interactions as they occur in a real-time characterizing individual gene expression in individual cells and tissues. This review addresses mainly the microarrays technologies as a means to investigate the functional pathogenesis in infectious disease in cattle. Numerous issues that are essential to consider when designing in vitro and in vivo models for systems analysis of host responses to a specific pathogen and comparative functional genomic strategies are discussed here. These strategies are also applicable to the investigation of cell-signaling pathways and analysis of innate immune responses to re-infections. Data sets could be enriched by these microarrays analyses of host and pathogen responses in infections. These comparative analyses as regards quality data sets the complete functional annotation of the genome and an indication of the relevant elements that accelerate the validation of data generated when a molecular characterization of disease pathogenesis in cattle are also discussed.

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Prevalence of *Cryptosporidium parvum* infections in dairy cattle with diarrhoea associated with faecal coliforms

Archives

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The prevalence of *Cryptosporidium parvum* infections associated with faecal coliforms in 100 dairy calves from a western Ontario farm and its association with diarrhoea in neonatal dairy calves was also assessed. The infection was detected in 106 calves and within-farm prevalence ranged from 0 to 100%. It was also found that the shedding and intensity of shedding were significantly related to diarrhoea. It was concluded that this is a common parasite in Ontario dairy calves and as an important cause of dairy calf scour.

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Review of *Neospora caninum* infections in cattle

Archives

Journal of Parasitology 2006, 146, 2024

Abstract

This review summarizes the current understanding of *Neospora caninum* in dairy and beef cattle in Canada. In this review, the life cycle of the agent, its transmission mechanisms, clinical signs, tests to diagnose the infection, its impact on the infection risk factors, its occurrence and control methods are covered in the review. It also contains data on the prevalence of the infection in Canadian dairy and beef cattle and comparisons with the prevalence in other countries. This review provides the information necessary to design effective strategies for the control of this associated disease.

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Associations with *Neospora caninum* infections in Hartley sheep

Archives

Journal of Parasitology 2006, 142, 4

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This epidemiological research aims to identify risk factors for *Neospora caninum* (NC)-related abortions in Hartley sheep in dairy herds. Cross-sectional herds were identified and sera were analyzed for antibodies to NC using a genetic marker. Concerning housing animals, species, sex, and management related to infection, security practices, wild sheep, seropositive seroprevalent cross-sectional herd disease history and nutrition were collected among dairy herds. It was found that the NC herd seroprevalence in the herds was related to the frequency that dogs were seropositive in herds, the number of herds, the number and the seroprevalent rate of sheep, the estrus, a ter pregnancy, and the number of sites related to NC abortions in a herd. However, the frequency of stray cats and wild canids were not associated and the housing, height, and length of access were negatively related to NC abortions in a herd.

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Journal of Dairy Science: Septic Arthritis in Calves

Archives

Journal of Dairy Science

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Research
Articles
Abstracts
Clinical
Reports

This study aimed to determine the prevalence of septic arthritis in calves which received the treatment effect of cytologic and bacteriologic variables synovial fluid over this study the right tarsus seen healthy Holstein calves were inoculated with *Orf* virus ring-nets via the *Escherichia coli* O157 strain. Clinical signs of septic arthritis were observed during days 2 and in all calves on Day 2 the bacterial culture results all calves were *E. coli*-positive and remained positive until Day 4 and in calves remained positive until Day 4. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) results were also positive for all calves and remained positive for 7 days during the study. All calves were all positive again on Day 2. On days 2 to 4 synovial fluid neutrophil counts and white blood cell counts increased while synovial total protein concentrations increased during all the experimental period compared to Day 0. Clinical signs in lactating cows persisted for 20 days. However, bacterial culture results were negative on Day 4. It was concluded that this model successfully induced acute septic arthritis and if treated at the beginning of the disease it was possible for calves to recover within one week.

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Main Canadian Institution



Herd Management





Associations between herd health and productivity

Archives

Journal of Dairy Science 2001

442

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The objective of this research was to evaluate the associations between herd health and productivity and the management practices that affect herd health and productivity. The objectives of this research were to determine the relationships between herd health and productivity in dairy farms. Data concerning nutrition, health, herd health, and productivity were collected from 2000 to 2001. The objectives of this research were to determine the relationships between herd health and productivity in dairy farms. Data concerning nutrition, health, herd health, and productivity were collected from 2000 to 2001.

The objectives of this research were to determine the relationships between herd health and productivity in dairy farms. Data concerning nutrition, health, herd health, and productivity were collected from 2000 to 2001. The objectives of this research were to determine the relationships between herd health and productivity in dairy farms. Data concerning nutrition, health, herd health, and productivity were collected from 2000 to 2001.

The objectives of this research were to determine the relationships between herd health and productivity in dairy farms. Data concerning nutrition, health, herd health, and productivity were collected from 2000 to 2001. The objectives of this research were to determine the relationships between herd health and productivity in dairy farms. Data concerning nutrition, health, herd health, and productivity were collected from 2000 to 2001.

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Re r d cti n





Effect of in vitro fertilization on the development of the embryo

Archives of Reproductive Biology, 2004, 6: 462-466

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in vitro fertilization and nuclear transfer in embryos are
two different techniques. Although the in vitro development is
similar in both techniques, stillbirth rate is significantly
reduced in embryos. In this research, as the culture are
serum and in serum in the development of ring
cytes at fertilization and embryonic development and embryos
embryos were conducted. The first consisted in treating cytes
and embryonic development and culture with synthetic
lipid emulsions. The emulsions with either serum fatty acid
free or ractin in order to evaluate the in vitro
fertilized embryo development. The embryo development
a second embryo as observed in high cytes were at red
with either and with the serum. The results recnstrcted
embryos were cultured with the and the serum. The
showed a higher number of blastocysts on Day 6 in the in vitro
fertilized groups. Hatching efficiencies were also higher in groups
with serum on days and same on Day higher in rctin
M cytes an increased blastocyst development and hatching
rates were found in the presence of serum. The
treatment groups thus concluded that in the case of the serum
and the similar embryo development which is not the case in
in vitro embryos.

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2

Interactions between testosterone and cortisol are involved in the recognition and establishment of pregnancy in ruminants. Interferon- γ and estradiol are the pregnancy recognition signal whereas endometrial prostaglandin P_2 and P_2 are the luteal and estrus related factors. The relationship between estradiol and endometrial prostaglandin synthesis and signalling at the time of maternal recognition of pregnancy (MR) is still largely unknown. In this research, the effects of estradiol on the synthesis of P_2 and P_2 and cyclooxygenase-1 and -2 synthases and γ -dehydrogenase transporters in the endometrium of dairy cows were evaluated. A meta-analysis of the results that estradiol increases either directly or indirectly P_2 synthesis as well as P_2 -associated signaling in endometrial epithelial and cortisol during the MR. Results also suggest that estradiol is involved in endometrial receptivity, epithelial cell maintenance, which indicates progesterone actions at MR. It is concluded that the inhibition of estradiol and the increase in prostaglandin synthesis are essential for the establishment of pregnancy in dairy cattle.

Research

Journal 2004, Vol 4

2002

Research
Abstract
Interferon
Hormones
Macromolecules
Reproductive Medicine

Many interactions between testosterone and cortisol are involved in the recognition and establishment of pregnancy in ruminants. Interferon- γ and estradiol are the pregnancy recognition signal whereas endometrial prostaglandin P_2 and P_2 are the luteal and estrus related factors. The relationship between estradiol and endometrial prostaglandin synthesis and signalling at the time of maternal recognition of pregnancy (MR) is still largely unknown. In this research, the effects of estradiol on the synthesis of P_2 and P_2 and cyclooxygenase-1 and -2 synthases and γ -dehydrogenase transporters in the endometrium of dairy cows were evaluated. A meta-analysis of the results that estradiol increases either directly or indirectly P_2 synthesis as well as P_2 -associated signaling in endometrial epithelial and cortisol during the MR. Results also suggest that estradiol is involved in endometrial receptivity, epithelial cell maintenance, which indicates progesterone actions at MR. It is concluded that the inhibition of estradiol and the increase in prostaglandin synthesis are essential for the establishment of pregnancy in dairy cattle.

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hile the ac ltati e dia a se is s ally ass ciated ith lactati n
hich ca ses an i rtant eta lic stress t the a alian he
en ir n ental hy heasal arian and terine echanis s are
the reg lat rs alth gh these ay ary a ng s ecies and
et een ligate and ac ltati e c nditi n the nset
aintenance and esca e r dia a se t the O r hase
the a alian e ry cell cycle a it sis arrest cc rs hich
ay e ca sed y the e rressi n a s eci ic cell cycle inhi it r he
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e rressi n rth l g s genes he r lierati n reg lati n in
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In this study the effects of giving r staglandin 2al ha c nc rrent ith r 2 h rs e re the re al an intra aginal r gester ne-releasing c ntr lled internal dr g released C DR de ice ere deter ined he e ects these treat ents ere e al ated n l tel lyis the synchr ny estr s and lati n ighteen st ertal H lstein hei ers ere treated ith C DR and g nad tr in-releasing h r ne nRH and assigned t ne three gr s arying in the ti e that as gi en i e inter als r C DR re al t the nset the standing estr s and lati n ere n t di erent a ng the three gr s here ere l nger inter als r C DR re al t estr s and lati n in hei ers that ere in etestr s at the ti e C DR inserti n than th se at estr s r di estr s t inter als r standing estr s t lati n ere n t di erent teal regressi n synchr ny estr s and lati n c s that recei ed at the ti e C DR re al ere n t a ected y the treat ent

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Association with treatment of cystic ovarian follicles in dairy cows using GnRH and rGnRH 24 hours after treatment with rGnRH

Archives of Animal Reproduction 2004, 4

Research
highlight
by
Matt
Hatch

This research aimed to determine ovarian and endocrine responses associated with the treatment of cystic ovarian follicles in dairy cows using GnRH in releasing GnRH and rGnRH 24 hours after treatment with rGnRH. The results showed that treatment with rGnRH 24 hours after treatment with GnRH resulted in a higher pregnancy rate compared to treatment with GnRH alone. The results also showed that treatment with rGnRH 24 hours after treatment with GnRH resulted in a higher pregnancy rate compared to treatment with GnRH alone. The results also showed that treatment with rGnRH 24 hours after treatment with GnRH resulted in a higher pregnancy rate compared to treatment with GnRH alone.

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 Agricultural and Rural Development



Research in Dairy Cattle
 Research in Dairy Cattle
 Research in Dairy Cattle

Research

Research in Dairy Cattle 2004 1 0 26 2

Research
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In this study, we assessed the effects of pregnancy and estradiol on the expression of prolactin-related genes in the mammary gland of dairy cows. We found that treatment with estradiol increased the steady-state concentration of prolactin mRNA in the mammary gland, while treatment with prolactin decreased the steady-state concentration of prolactin mRNA. These results suggest that estradiol and prolactin may play a role in the regulation of prolactin gene expression in the mammary gland. The results also suggest that prolactin may be involved in the regulation of prolactin gene expression in the mammary gland.

Main Canadian Institution
 Nova Scotia Agricultural College



I n t e r n a t i o n a l C o n f e r e n c e

Archives

Abstracts of the 2001 International Conference

Arithara
Aarish Aa
Alra
HGM
Aahra

The results of this study as determined in intratest predict the fertility of the field. Achieve this the authors investigated the effect of intracerebral injection of androsterone acetate as well as the correlation between this effect and field fertility. High as measured in a 60-day non-retention rate they selected and its androsterone acetate was assessed. Clearance and last cystic regression rates were also assessed and the number of sperm and the number of oocytes that reacted to sperm at hours was increased compared to that measured at 0 hours. Regression rates were different among sperm releasing oocytes. Regati correlations were found between androsterone acetate at 0 hours and sperm regression rates and clearance rate. Histochemical correlations were observed between androsterone acetate at hours sperm regression rates and clearance rate. The authors concluded that a correlation in intratests which includes the percentage spontaneously androsterone acetate at the initial regression rate fertility can be seen in predicting field fertility. Nevertheless the correlation assays has yet to be determined.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



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t a re r d cti e e a inati n hich incl des rectal al ati n
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treated ith R CH had regnancy rates and th se
treated ith CH had regnancy rates 2 hen data
r th gr s ere c ined R as greater in c s that
started the CH r t c l in stage 2 H e er c s treated
ith R CH sh ed a greater r rti n lati n a ter
nRH l te lysis a ter 2 al ha and lati n a ter nRH 2
t as als nd that l te lysis as indicated y the M test ith a
g d en gh acc racy t ti e initiating the CH treat ent
his initiati n ti e is et een days and the cycle he a th rs
c ncl ded that sing the CH r t c l and initiating it in the
eri d et een days and the cycle enhanced a greater
regnancy rate and i r ed the e icacy each in ecti n

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2

Transcriptional Regulation in the Immune System

Abstract

Journal of Cellular Biochemistry 2000; 78: 1-10

Abstract
Main
Text

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the distribution of transcription factors encoding H receptor (Hr), H receptor (Hr), c-myc in C/EBP β , cyclin-dependent kinase-2 (CDK-2) and interleukin-2 (IL-2) receptors 2 and CDK-2 and interleukin-1 β in CD4⁺ T cells. CDK-2 and CDK-2 and CDK-2 in CD4⁺ T cells. The research also aimed to assess the influence of glucocorticoids and cytokines on cell proliferation as regards the abundance of transcription factors encoding these genes. CDK-2 were treated in culture with serum and glucocorticoids. In untreated cells at the effects of R α transcription factors and that Hr, Hr and R α were detected in intact CDK-2 while CDK-2 and CDK-2 R α were identified in CDK-2 and in CDK-2 cells. Here, as a decrease in the expression of all R α receptors, Hr detected the presence of serum in transcription factors, which suggests that this may alter the relative abundance of CDK-2 R α .

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the cyclin ears a ite l ng ly tail hich ec es e en
l nger e re eta hase H e er hen the aries and the
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lyadenylati n r cess the cyclin ears a sh rt ly tail he
cyt las ic lyadenylati n r a ly cc rs d ring the ary
trans rt in ar saline hen cytes are still in their llic lar
en ir n ent t as sh n that there as a lin et een
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nRH is essential t a alian re r d cti n hat h r ne s ch as its
anal g es is ten sed r the treat ent h r ne-de endant
diseases and in assisted re r d cti e techn l gy here are di erent r s
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r s and str ct ral ariants ha e yet t e rec gni ed he ain
s rce and target sites nRH are the hy thala s and it itary t
e tra-hy thala ic nRH and nRH rece t rs ha e een nd in any
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a ndant in arian end etrial and r state carcin as he resence
nRH- in s e re r d cti e tiss es s ggests that it ay lay distinct
r les in these tiss es nRH- is ainly e ressed in e tra it itary
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C-signalling ath ays n these tiss es nRH is c nsidered t act in an
a t crine r aracrine anner and t reg late arian ster id genesis
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r s it indicates the resence distincti e c gnate rece t r ty es in
erte rates and this can c ntri te t the de el ent ne anal g es
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ri ed gC and gD ith gC eing re e ecti e than gD hat inding
rther sh ed the in l e ent gC and gD in the ir s-s er
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Research in Dairy Cattle Health and Reproductive Performance

Research

Highlights 2006

444

Research
 in Dairy Cattle
 Health and
 Reproductive
 Performance

Research in Dairy Cattle Health and Reproductive Performance
 This study was conducted to evaluate the efficiency of
 estradiol cypionate (E2) in a dairy cow population
 with a history of retained placenta (RP). The study
 included 100 cows that were divided into two groups:
 a control group (n=50) and a treatment group (n=50).
 The control group received a standard treatment of
 oxytocin, while the treatment group received a
 combination of oxytocin and E2. The results showed
 that the treatment group had a significantly higher
 percentage of cows that delivered their calves
 without RP compared to the control group. These
 findings suggest that the use of E2 in conjunction
 with oxytocin may be a more effective method for
 preventing RP in dairy cows. Further research is
 needed to determine the optimal dosage and timing
 of E2 administration for this purpose.

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Agriculture and Rural Development

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- acterial latins n teat ends dairy c s h sed in ree stalls and edded ith either sand r sa d st
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- ect r er l ring in r nt the eed n n the ti e dgets dairy cattle
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- 2 hysi l gical eha i ral changes in H lstein cal es d ring and a ter deh rning r castrati n
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2004

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2004

- ffects feeding icr ni ed and e tr ded la seed n r inal er entati n and n trient tili ati n y dairy c s
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the transiti n eri d
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ffects feeding r a asal in si n can la il in H lstein c s 2 ene e ressi n and las a c ncentrati ns
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er r ance dairy c s ed r asted s n l er seeds
Re lacing ch ed al al a hay ith al al a silage in arley grain and al al a- ased t tal i ed rati ns r lactating dairy c s
rich der a en y es r te i r acter s ccin genes adhesi n t and degradati n c le s strates t n t re
cell l se
- 0 se synchr tr n rier trans r in rared icr s ectr sc y t identi y che ical di erences in arley end s er tiss e in
relati n t r en degradati n characteristics
- ffects al al a article si e and s eci ic gra ity n che ing acti ity digesti ility and er r ance H lstein dairy c s
- 2 effects feeding h le n r cessed s n l er seeds and la seed n il r d cti n il c siti n and r staglandin
secreti n in dairy c s
Che ical c siti n and in sit r inal n trient degrada ility n r al and r n idri rage earl illet gr n in
s th estern e ec
- ffects dietary en gree seed n dairy c er r ance and il characteristics
- ffects echanical r ccessing n the n triti e al e arley silage r lactating dairy c s
- 6 M del redicti n n trient s ly t r inants r r cessed ield tic eans
triti nal ractices n Manit a dairy ar s
C aris n redicti ns digesti le s ly and eas re ents net r tal l es essential a in acids in lactating
dairy c s
ect le el eta li a le r tein n s lanchnic l a in acids in lactating dairy c s
- 20 effects arley silage ch length n r d cti ity and r en c nditi ns lactating dairy c s ed t tal i ed rati ns
- 2 effects feeding either resh al al a r al a silage n il atty acid c ntent in H lstein dairy c s
- 22 eeding icr ni ed and e tr ded la seed t dairy c s ects n digesti n and r inal i hydr genati n l ng-chain
atty acids
- 2 Ris act rs r il -la rs in dairy herds r rince d ard sland Canada
- 2 ect reas le entati n n rea inetics and s lanchnic l a in acids in dairy c s
- 2 Heat- and lign s l nate-treated can la eal as a s rce r inal ndegrada le r tein r lactating dairy c s
- 26 effects intra sc lar in ecti ns ita in ₂ n lactati n er r ance dairy c s ed dietary s le ents lic acid and
r en- r tected ethi nine

200

- 2 eeding icr ni ed and e tr ded la seed t dairy c s ects n l d ara eters and il atty acid c siti n
- 2 effects dietary s n l er seeds n lactati n er r ance and c n gated lin leic acid c ntent il
- 2 effects e i re n digesti n and il r d cti n y dairy c s ed diets ased n c rn silage
- 0 redicti n r tein s ly t r inants r c ncentrates C aris n the RC-200 del ith the D syste
ac te r inal acid sis ind ces r inal li lysaccharide end t in release and triggers an in la at ry res nse
- 2 effects la seed n r tein re ire ents and e creti n dairy c s ed diets ith t r tein c ncentrati ns
ffects incl ding ch ed al al a hay in arley- ased t tal i ed rati ns n r d cti n and r en er entati n lactating
dairy c s
ffects nensin n eal re ency d ring s -ac te r inal acid sis in dairy c s
ffects e i re n inta e che ing acti ity and r inal acid sis r dairy c s ed diets ased n c rn silage
- 6 effects r te lytic eed en y e n inta e digesti n r inal er entati n and il r d cti n



- ects een 0 and irlytic eny es nr inal er entati n and digesti ility eeds in H lstein c s
actati n res nse c st di erent le els r inally inert c n gated lin leic acid nder c ercial c nditi ns
tentia l r tein degradati n alance and t tal il r tein s ly t dairy c s r heat-treated a a eans
0 tr ng relati nshi s et een ediat rs the ac te hase res nse and atty li er in dairy c s
c art ental ca illary c n l ti n integrati n del t in estigate n trient trans rt and eta lis in i r aired
indicat r n trient dil ti n c r es
2 inetics gl c se trans rt and se estrati n in lactating ine a ary glands eas red in i ith a aired
indicat r n trient dil ti n techni e
ects nensin and stage lactati n n ariati n l d eta lites ithin 2 h rs in dairy c s
C aris n eth ds sed t deter ine i ass n nat rali ed s ards
ects ine s at tr in n eta-casein R le els in a ary tiss e lactating c s
6 ects c rn silage article length and rage C ncentrate rati n il atty acid c siti n in dairy c s ed s le ental
la seed
ects dietary s le ents lic acid and r en- r tected ethi nine n lactati nal er r ance and late eta lis
dairy c s
ects in c lati n high dry atter al al a silage n ensiling characteristics r inal n trient degrada ility and dairy c
er r ance
ects stage lactati n n r tein eta lis in dairy c s
0 ects the rage-t -c ncentrate rati n - ita in c ncentrati ns in di erent r inal racti ns dairy c s
ects the eth ds c llecti n and sa le re arati n n the c ncentrati ns - ita in in r inal l id dairy c s
2 ate s le entary - ita ins in the gastr intestinal tract dairy c s
he r te a s r ed nitr gen int il r tein



2004

- nalysis the relati nshi et een ty e traits and ncti nal s r i al in Canadian H lsteins sing a ei ll r rti nal ha ards
del
2 De el ent an ti al inde t i r e lactati n yield and ersistency ith the least selecti n intensity
enetic relati nshi s et een ersistency and re r d cti e er r ance in irst-lactati n Canadian H lsteins
enetics l c ti n
enetic s sce ti ility t *Neospora caninum* in ecti n in H lstein cattle in ntari
6 denti icati n a tati n ass ciated ith act r de iciency H lstein cattle

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- stiates genetic ara eters r Canadian H lstein e ale re r d cti n traits
enetic analysis herd li e in Canadian dairy cattle n a lactati n asis sing a ei ll r rti nal ha ards del
enetic e al ati n strategies r lti le traits and c ntries
0 int internati nal e al ati n il ing sh rth rn dairy cattle r r d cti n traits
Ma i i ati n lactati n il r d cti n ith t decreasing ersistency
2 tentia l and li itati ns ine-s eci c arrays r the analysis R le els in early de el ent reli inary analysis sing
a ine e ry nic array
Relati nshi et een ty e traits and l nge ity in Canadian erseys and yrshires sing a ei ll r rti nal ha ards del
R Inter erences as a t l t st dy gene ncti n in ine cytes
electi n indices in H lstein cattle ari s c ntries
6 i ltane s r ced re r deri ng selecti n inde es ith lti le restricti ns



2004

- ects ater s rce dil ti n st rage and acterial and aeal l ads n the e icacy electr ly ed idi ng ater r the c ntr l *Escherichia coli*
- 2 M lec lar ty ng and distri ti n *Staphylococcus aureus* is lates in eastern Canadian dairy hei ers
ne res nses t a D r tein accinati n strategy against *Staphylococcus aureus*-ind ced astitis in dairy c s
acts early lactati n s atic cell c nt in hei ers n s atic cell c nts er the irst lactati n
re alence arat erc l sis in c lled dairy c s in t lantic Canada and Maine
- 6 Certi icati n herds as ree *Mycobacterium paratuberculosis* in ecti n act al led aeal res lts ers s certi icati n del redicti ns
De el ent *Pichia pastoris* as a r en esca e ehicle r the intestinal deli ery rec inant r teins in r inants
D-lactate r d cti n and e creti n in diarrh eic cal es
nd etrical cyt l gy and ltras n gra hy r the detecti n s clinical end etritis in st art dairy c s
- 0 al ati n a treat ent r t c l r intra a ary in ecti ns in early st art dairy c s ased n a siti e Cali rnia
astitis test res lt
ressi n r iles and 66shc d ring idati e stress-ind ced senescence in etal ine i r lasts
- 2 n itr gr th inhi iti n a r astitis ath gens y *Staphylococcus chromogenes* riginating r teat a ices
dairy hei ers
ac e ect 0 60 H electric ield e s re n regnant dairy hei er h r nes
Lactobacillus rhamnosus strain is a tential r i tic r cal es
Mil anti dies against *Ostertagia ostertagi* Relati nshi s ith il g and r d cti n ara eters in lactating dairy cattle
- 6 eri art ser ita in retin l and eta-car tene in dairy cattle and their ass ciati ns ith disease
eleni stat s dairy herds in rince d ard sland
dder health in dairy cattle in ected ith *Neospora caninum*

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- r teases in l ed in a ary tiss e da age d ring end t in-ind ced astitis in dairy c s
- 20 ss ciati n et een s atic cell c nt in early lactati n and c lling dairy hei ers sing C railyt del s
- 2 ect rin ectin treat ent at cal ing n il r d cti n in dairy herds ith li ited td re s re
- 22 acts early lactati n s atic cell c nt in hei ers n il yield er the irst lactati n
- 2 ects ser siti ity r ine le e ia ine iral diarrh ea ir s *Mycobacterium avium* s s arat erc l sis
and *Neospora caninum* n c lling dairy cattle in r Canadian r inces
- 2 C aris n t en y e-lin ed i n s r ent assays r diagn sis *Mycobacterium avium* s s arat erc l sis
- 2 al ati n three s r *Mycobacterium avium* s s arat erc l sis sing tiss e and aeal c lt re as
c aris n standards
- 26 ss ciati ns et een s atic cell c nt attens and the incidence clinical astitis
- 2 C aris n the cyt r sh and terine la age techni est e al ate end etrical cyt l gy in clinically n r al st art
dairy c s
- 2 Deter inati n *Mycoplasma bovis* s sce ti ilities against si anti icr ial agents sing the test eth d
- 2 ect hal gin ne lactate n the cc rrence *Cryptosporidium parvum* and gr th ne natal dairy cal es
- 0 ect arat erc l sis n c lling il r d cti n and il ality in dairy herds
ect stress n iral- acterial synergy in ine res irat ry disease n el echanis s t reg late in la ati n
- 2 ect tri alent accine against *Staphylococcus aureus* astitis ly h cyte s lati ns anti dy r d cti n and ne tr hil
hag cyt sis
ects nensin n eal re ency d ring s -ac te r inal acid sis in dairy c s
icacy an i d h re teat disin ectant against *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Streptococcus agalactiae* in e eri ental challenge
icacy sa nin-ad anted inacti ated res irat ry syncytial ir s accine in cal es
- 6 icacy se eral ser l gical tests and antigens r diagn sis ine r cell sis in the resence alse- siti e ser l gical
res lts d e t *Yersinia enterocolitica*
al ati n ine c tane s delayed-ty e hy ersensiti ity t ari s test antigens and a it gen sing se eral ad ants
al ati n en y e-lin ed i n s r ent assays er r ed n il and ser sa les r detecti n arat erc l sis in
lactating dairy c s

Health



- the impact of controlled-release calcium supplements on the concentration of calcium in dairy cattle
0. Soluble calcium lactate-containing feed that inhibits the expression of interleukin-1
- Meta-analysis of studies conducted in dairy cattle
2. Microarray analysis of gene expression during re-orientation of sterile intestinal flora in calves
- Molecular analyses of disease pathogenesis in calves using microarrays
- relevance of *Cryptosporidium parvum* infection in southwestern Ontario and its association with diarrhoea in neonatal dairy calves
- reduced interleukin-1 production decreases interleukin-1 expression while increasing protein synthesis and transcriptional activity of interferon- γ in non-clear cells in short-term culture
6. Relationship between glucose transport and metabolic inhibition in primary epithelial cells
- relevance of *Neospora caninum* in dairy and beef cattle in Canadian provinces
- Risk factors associated with *Neospora caninum* abortion in Ontario Holstein dairy herds
- relevance of antibodies against interleukin-1 in the fecal diarrhoea of *Mycobacterium avium* subspecies paratuberculosis and *Neospora caninum* in dairy cattle in Saskatchewan
0. Hormonal regulation of the growth and islet α -inhibition of dairy cows in different stages of lactation
- ynical lipid changes in induced experimental arthritis in calves
2. Hormonal and ascular endothelial growth factors are cyclically expressed in an in vivo alternating manner in the arterial wall of the aorta
- he severity of indirect stertagia (stertagia) is related to the direct response to anthelmintic treatment in coccidiosis and septicemic dairy herds
- several quantitative strategies are available to determine the mechanism of acid-base abnormalities in sick calves with respiratory diarrhoea

Herb



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association between herd level of lactation and management with a return to feed intake in Ontario dairy herds



2004

- Different cattle breeds are identified in intravaginal fertility and non-clear transfer of sperm in early pregnancy
2. Effect of inter-ovulatory estradiol synthesis, transport and signalling at the time of maternal recognition of pregnancy in cattle: evidence of progesterone and its regulation of progesterone receptor expression in the endometrium and its effect on the proliferation of epithelial cells and their association with estradiol
6. Progesterone release and its effect on the development of the endometrium in the dairy cow: effects of progesterone on the estrous cycle and endocrine responses associated with the treatment of cystic ovaries in dairy cows with gonadotropin-releasing hormone and progesterone with or without estradiol during pregnancy and its effect on the maintenance of pregnancy in non-lactating dairy cows and estradiol gene expression related to pregnancy

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- Development of intravaginal tests to predict fertility in dairy cows
0. Effect of a single administration of progesterone on the reproductive performance of dairy cows with clinical endometritis
2. Effect of progesterone on the estrous cycle and the pregnancy rate after the timed artificial insemination protocol (AI) in dairy cows
6. Progesterone and progesterone receptor expression in the endometrium of dairy cows: effects of progesterone on the expression of progesterone receptor and progesterone receptor coactivator 1 in the endometrium of dairy cows
6. Progesterone and progesterone receptor expression in the endometrium of dairy cows: effects of progesterone on the expression of progesterone receptor and progesterone receptor coactivator 1 in the endometrium of dairy cows



Dairy Farmers
of Canada



Les Producteurs laitiers
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Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada