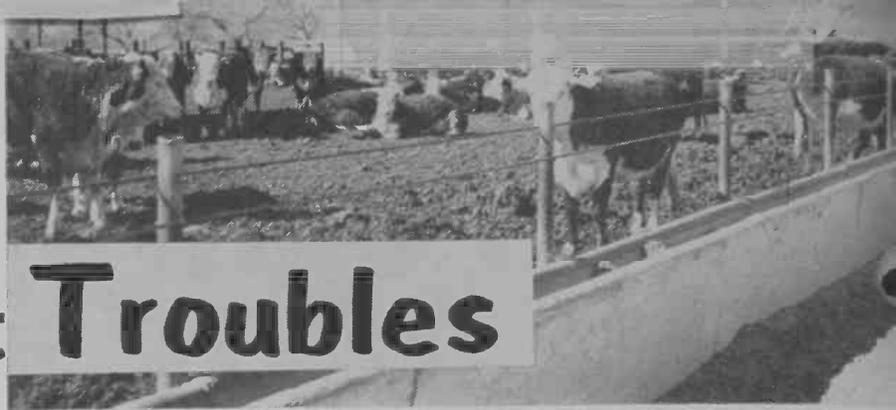


Check your Cattle for

Pasture & Feedlot Troubles



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The summer rains and heat present certain parasitic and disease problems that should be watched by stockmen who have cattle in feedlots or on pasture.

One of our worst summer offenders is the screwworm fly. The primary screwworm fly lays live larvae (screwworms), which burrow into fresh wounds and destroy much tissue. The secondary fly usually lays its eggs in infected wounds.

Much trouble can be prevented if only a minimum of operations such as castration, branding, and dehorning is done during this season. If some of these operations have to be done, cattle should be kept up so that immediate preventive and control medication can be given.

The newer smears using lindane as a residual have proved very successful. Accidental or operative wounds should be treated immediately and watched until healed, to be safe. Frequently wounds with scabs can be reinjured to cause bleeding and they are again attacked by the screwworm fly.

The common house fly and horn fly cause considerable irritation to cattle, and interfere with their feeding. A good fly-control program should be carried out during this season to reduce the numbers of these flies. Cattle, as well as equipment, should be sprayed periodically.

Eliminate Fly Breeding Areas

One of the best control methods is to eliminate, as much as possible, the breeding areas. Manure, litter, and stagnant water holes should be treated or eliminated. If this is not done, fly control measures on cattle and equipment cannot keep up with the new population hatched daily from these sources.

Internal parasites, such as common stomach worms, usually build up during the summer months. Worm eggs passed by infected cattle require moisture and warmth to hatch into the infective larvae. Summer rains and lush growth of foliage allow this part of their life cycle to occur easier, and more susceptible cattle come in contact with the larvae.

Fecal samples should be examined periodically. If cattle are found to be infected with worms, they should be treated

immediately. You can use a treatment of 5 to 10 grams of phenothiazine in a supplement without the necessity of gathering cattle for individual treatments. This should be continued until cattle have the proper dosage and should not be fed beyond the maximum dose of 60 grams per grown cattle. Following the high level treatment, cattle should be treated with low level phenothiazine of 1½ to 2 grams daily in supplement or

salt to prevent another build-up of worms.

Bloat is a more serious trouble in the summertime because of the rapidly growing legumes in pasture and succulent weeds on the range. Although the definite causes of bloat are not known, it can be controlled in most cases by proper management. Pasture grazing should be balanced with the addition of coarse dry hay or a balanced supplement.

Avoid Sudden Changes

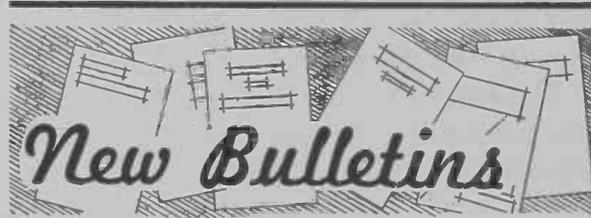
Sudden changes in feeding schedules should be avoided so that cattle can adjust themselves to the new feed by building up the proper rumen bacteria to digest the food. Numerous medicants have been suggested, but these are useful only in individual treatments. Some encouraging results have been obtained by using penicillin in the feed when cattle are on legume pastures.

Poisonous plants are more prevalent after the summer rains. The only control of many of these is to remove cattle from areas that have histories of losses from poisonous plants. Many weeds, such as "careless weed" and "petota" build up high nitrates and become dangerous.

Stockmen having areas where these weeds grow should have on hand sufficient treatments of sodium thiosulfate, methylene blue, or other common preparations which are used in the control of nitrate poisoning. These drugs can be secured from your veterinarian and should be kept on hand because they have to be administered quickly to prevent death in animals affected.

Respiratory conditions, such as pneumonia, occur frequently because of the high summer temperatures. Cattle should be watched carefully and treated with the proper antibiotic after a careful diagnosis is made. The organisms found in pneumonia cases during the summer are frequently different from the usual shipping fever group. The proper diagnosis is necessary as the usual treatments used are not too effective against these organisms.

A good general recommendation to follow during the summer months is to hold to a minimum the working of cattle on pasture or in the feedlot. Overexertion during the heat of the summer may be the forerunner to many troubles.



Agricultural Extension Service

Controls for Vegetable Insects for Commercial Producers, Circular 239.

Madam Chairman, a Parliamentary Handbook, Circular 240.

Your 4-H Lamb, Circular 241.

Flowers for Northern Arizona, Circular 242.

Flowers for Southern Arizona, Circular 243.

Let's Make a Dress (4-H), Circular 244.

Soil Management, Circular 211 (revised).

Agricultural Experiment Station

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