The Return of RED!

Red is back and in a sand box in the pen, but we are not quite sure if she is completely happy. So, we thought we’d list the Top 10 Reasons why we are not sure she is happy in the pen.

10. She is not bellowing for her herdmates.
9. She is timing her water breaks to coincide with getting up for milking.
8. When she gets up there is a large hole equal to the size of her body where the sand has been pushed away from laying so long.
7. She needs a wakeup call prior to milking or when going outside.
6. Her feed tub doesn’t have to be cleaned.
5. She only gets up to eat not to milk.
4. She was seen laying in lateral recumbency.
3. She was heard snoring and cows breath through their nose.
2. She has been more animated than in her tie stall and some have said she may want tub service.
1. She has been seen taking her last square of hay at night back to the sand with her and this is quite remarkable because it means she has to hold the hay in her mouth for at least 20 seconds because she is trying to be careful not to lose any leaves.

And you thought you’d heard the last of Brutus. Well, it seems Brutus may be back.

Since Dave supposedly forgot to put her on the truck to Johnson Creek (twice), and she has been seen chasing Marie around out on pasture at a speed of at least 16 mph, we decided to breed her—not that there is anything wrong with that. We have, however, each signed a memorandum of understanding that if on ultrasound she has a heifer, we will maintain her in the dry lot. If, however, ultrasound shows she has a bull, we will…..Although, it’s not like we have never changed our mind concerning Brutus. Two years ago we had a similar decision on her hands, but with no memorandum of understanding. She had a bull, we kept her, and in a show of appreciation she produced 100lbs of milk a day for 400 days! So maybe….No, no, we have signed. There were witnesses after all (but they have short memories), and now it’s in print. Oh, the stresses of managing a dairy herd.

The Teaching Herd asks that you put your hooves together for the Class of 2007.

During the History, Health, and Physical Exam course’s thorax/abdomen laboratory all of the students showed a tremendous amount of respect to all cows. This was not only appreciated by the herd and the herd management team, but it speaks volumes about the character of the students in our first year class.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Anyone interested in working in the herd this summer should contact Dr. Goodger before April 15th (the slots are filling quickly).
Turner has been weaned, Gina is soon to follow, and Juliette and Lucky are close to going off of milk. Lucky, Turner, and Gina will each be dehorned this week by the LAIM students, but Juliette’s horn buds are not yet ready. There is a five day post-stress period following weaning, after which the calves may be moved out to Bookhout. Two days prior to moving them, however, we will have to administer intranasal IBR and PI3 vaccines.

Patricia is doing fine, and we suspect she will be easy to wean when she reaches 50 days old. Each cup of grain weighs 0.8 lbs., so 2 cups twice a day is 3.2 lbs over a 3 day period with no milk—the goal for weaning.

Kato continues to improve, and has been back at Charmany and on antibiotics for a week. She will need to be checked by the LAIM students before she goes off antibiotics this week to determine if they want to consider doing surgery on her umbilicus.

Panda appears to have dietary scours. She is in the 5-10 day risk period and received a score of 5 (temp >102°F, plus diarrhea) on the McGuirk scale today. So...her milk was reduced by 50%, and electrolytes were added this morning (which will be repeated at noon). Hopefully, she will improve (as Patricia did) by increasing the milk and reducing the electrolytes over a short period of time. NOTE: I think we should add ‘change in weigh from PM to PM’ (walk calf out to scale) and ‘frequency of diarrhea’ to the McGuirk scoring scale. In Panda’s case, she had 5 spots of diarrhea from the night before.

Cornelia had a temp over 102°F this morning, but with no scours. She is getting close to the 5-10 day risk period, so we put her ‘on watch’ with a current score of 2. Her right front leg is OK now, and the left is better (the knee supports her well, but the fetlock is still a little weak). If we don’t see any improvement by tomorrow, we will call in LAIM.

Cookie finally calved on day 285, after being induced with 25 mg Dexamethasone and 25 mg PGF2-Alpha. Typically this combination results in a calving within an average of 33 hours. Cookie, however, calved about 12 hours post induction, so we can assume that she calved naturally and it was not as a result of the induction—which is an important point because it would typically mean that she would not retain her placenta—which is indeed what happened (although the placenta is was ‘missing in action’ and never found). A voice in the barn pointed out that she was in a “calving pen” by herself all night and, well, I think you get the picture. (So I wouldn’t encourage any close contact from Cookie this week.)

Cookie has done well all week being negative on CMT and milk ketones, and giving 60 lbs. of milk per day when she went in the tank.

It should be noted that Cookie’s calving turned out to be quite a major event (in the sense she drew a considerable crowd). Among those in attendance were Dr. Momont, who cut his tennis game short; Betsy Welty (believe it or not, this was her first calving, and she has been on call all semester) who was in charge of the calving (which means she is responsible for the name “Cornelia”); Ann Zielinski (2006) and Amelia Fairchild (2007), both on the Herd Health rotation; Kerry Hagen, a pre-vet student worker (soon to be Class of 2008); Rebecca Morris (2006), a student worker; and Amanda Wilding, who was training for the milking crew and is a pre-vet student having just finished her first year as an undergraduate. So, Dr. Momont had enough help and held court in a fine theriogenology manner.
Daily Events

MONDAY


TUESDAY
AM: 4th year Theriogenology rotation (623-699) herd check: Harry Momont/Bill Bosu, 4th yr. students, & pre-vet soon to be a first year - Class of 2008 (Kerry Hagen).

PM: **DHIA Monthly Test**

WEDNESDAY
AM: LAIM (a.k.a. Laura Lien) will be sending a 4th year student to tail bleed for Chuck Czuprynski’s laboratory and exam any sick cows.


THURSDAY

FRIDAY
AM: 7:30am: Management meeting for the teaching herd management team.

PM: Herd Health Management (623-675): Crew Chief: 2nd year’s (Pam Draheim) and (Dylan Frederickson). Calf Health Management: 2nd year (Stacy Garves).

SATURDAY

PM: Health Management-623-675: Crew Chief: 1st yr (Pam Draheim) and Calf Health Management: 2nd year (Abbey Butler).

SUNDAY
AM: Herd Health Management (623-675): Crew Chief: 2nd years (Pam Draheim & Dylan Frederickson).

PM: Calf Health Management: pre-vet soon to be a first year, Class of 2008 (Allison Wistrand).

Since the last Newsletter...
Cookie calved on 4/05/04.
She had a heifer “Cornelia”

Upcoming Events
Cows and heifers due in the next month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cow/Heifer</th>
<th>Due Date / Result</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tina</td>
<td>2/06 (Heifer - “Turner”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucy</td>
<td>2/16 (Heifer - “Lucky”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greta</td>
<td>2/12 (Heifer - “Gina”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane</td>
<td>2/17 (Bull)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violet</td>
<td>2/18 (Bull)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie</td>
<td>2/21 (Heifer - “Jewel”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poppy</td>
<td>2/27 (Heifer - “Patricia”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melody</td>
<td>3/01 (Bull)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>3/01 (Bull)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katrina</td>
<td>3/26 (Heifer - “Kato”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cookie</td>
<td>4/07 (Heifer - “Cornelia”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swash (Swoosh’s daughter)</td>
<td>4/03 (Heifer - “Panda”)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marie (Morgan’s daughter)</td>
<td>4/29</td>
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</tbody>
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Projects

See Kerry Hagen for the schedule of cows that need to be vaccinated (J-5 and Scourgard).
Sara Gilbertson is now doing the body condition scoring and could always use some help.
Allison Wistrand is taking a 699 directed study on Sick cow physical examinations
Kerry Hagen is taking a 699 directed study on implementing the OVSYNCH breeding protocol.
Betsy Welty and Stacy Garves are implementing the calf management system.
Jodi Woods is editing the newsletter

Production and Milk Quality Summary
(updated April 12, 2004)

- The herd continues to milk an average of 93 lbs/cow of Adjusted Corrected Milk (ACM).
  (ACM is a calculation that standardizes milk to 3.5% fat content, produced by a 3rd lactation cow at 150 DIM.)
- Approximately 48 cows are producing 4050 lbs/day (84 lbs/cow/day). This is approximately 88 lbs per stall—better than our breakeven production level of 68 lbs! (Good job!)
- The herd’s butterfat has averaged 3.47%. The protein has averaged 3.00%.
- Dry Matter intake is at 51 lbs per cow.
- Bulk tank SCC is at 162,000 with a SPC of 1000 for March.

Employment Opportunities

- If you are interested in gaining experience with dairy cows, we have the opportunity for you. You can join the milking crew at the Charmany Teaching Facility and work the AM or PM milking shifts. Weekday shifts are from 5:00 am to 7:00 am and from 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Weekend shifts are from 5:00 am to 12:00 pm and from 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Interested students should contact Dr. Bill Goodger at 770-1448.
- Further note on employment is that we can save 50% in student salary expenses (about $20,000 per year) if students apply for work study (about 90% of veterinary students are probably eligible). These added funds would not only allow more students to access to the herd, but would also provide support for clinics, projects, and clinical upgrades to our facility which would enhance the experience for all students. Below is information about work study from the CAMPUS work study office in financial aid.

** The Work-Study Program does not determine where you work. It is up to you to determine where you’d like to work and what type of work you’d be interested in. The Federal Work-Study Program (FWSP) employee’s will be glad to discuss with you what your interests are and what employment options are available to you but you will need to contact the employers directly to inquire about job availabilities.

Having accepted Work-Study will benefit you primarily in two ways: first, since employers only pay .50 cents of every dollar earned by a student, work-study students are highly sought after employees and second, any work-study monies earned are not counted and considered as earned income when you apply for next year’s financial aid. Normally a student’s earnings are considered as earned income and your next year’s financial aid award is reduced by that amount.

If you decide to work On-Campus, ANY job at the UW automatically qualifies as a work-study position. You should always let a UW-employer know that you have accepted a work-study award, because again, it makes you an even more desirable hire to them. Having said this, some UW employers require that you have work-study. These listing can be found under the “UWW” section.