Matters of Primary Importance

**The Cow:**
- Manage cows so they calve in body condition score five or greater—good body condition
- Ensure cows receive a well-balanced vitamin and mineral supplementation program

**The Calf:**
- Nursed cow shortly following birth
- Consumed adequate amount of high-quality colostrum
- Has not been treated for any illness
- Has been castrated and dehorned at early age

**Minimize Stress:**
- *Processing:* Gathering, sorting, chute work, etc.
- *Weaning:* Consider fence-line weaning.
- *Water source(s):* Fresh, clean and readily available
- *Ration:* Check with your nutritionist
- *Bunk space:* Adequate space, easily accessible and cleaned
- *Hay:* Fresh, palatable and off the ground
- *Environment:* Minimize dust, windbreaks, shades, etc.

**Suggestion:**
- Consult with your veterinarian for a customized vaccination plan
- Using the same brand of vaccine in both cows and calves may be most beneficial

**Cowherd immunization:**

*Non-pregnant replacement heifers and non-pregnant herd additions of unknown vaccination status:*
- Initial, viral component vaccination protocol: Two doses of MLV or killed IBR, BVDV types I&II, BRSV and PI3 vaccine pre-breeding
- Consult with your veterinarian for timing and a customized plan

**Cow with current vaccination status:**
- One dose of viral component MLV or Killed IBR, BVDV types I&II, BRSV and PI3 vaccine annually
- Consult with your veterinarian for timing and a customized plan