# **Herd Health**

DL Step, DVM, Diplomate ACVIM Elisabeth J. Giedt, DVM, MBA Oklahoma State University Veterinary Medical Hospital Stillwater, OK



# Goals

- Discuss cow/calf herd health programs
  - Consider disease and parasite control, BQA, animal well being
- Use guidelines as outline for creating your own herd health program
- · Focus on Prevention





# Why? = The Bottom Line! \$\$\$\$\$

Maximizing net return to business unit



# Herd Health Programs NOT One Size Fits All

- Programs MUST be customized
  - Housing
  - Confinement
  - Semi Confinement
  - Pasture
  - Biosecurity programs in place
  - Climate/weather conditions
  - Facilities, manpower

<sup>\*</sup>Work closely with your veterinarian

# Beef Cow/Calf Herd Simplified Goals

- Convert forage to Ibs of beef deliver a live calf AND raise it
- Protect the calf to weaning or next phase of production



# Production Cycle plan

- Organize herd health –various methods
  - Production cycle example in this PowerPoint
  - Time of year
- General guidelines and recommendations
  - Customize these to fit needs and objectives of herd
- Accurate Records
  - Measure goals
  - Measure financial return

# Pre Calving

- Evaluate facilities & environment
- Equipment
- clean, sterile
- proper function
- Review protocol SOP
- · Update record system
- Manage BCS cows

- Quality frozen colostrum or colostrum replacement
- Scours vaccine







#### **Calf Born**

- Individually identify (if possible)
- · Score birth
- Assure adequate colostrum
- Record birth

- Dip navels
- Castrate
- Dehorn (complete)
- Tetanus
- · Weigh calves







# Branding time 2 to 4 months

- Individually identify
   (if not already performed)

   Brand and/or ear tag
- Castrate
- Dehorn (complete)
- Clostridial (Blackleg)
   7- or 8-way
   (location dependent)
- · Parasite control program

(location & season dependent)

- Brucellosis (Bangs)
   heifers (marketing decision)
   (4 to 12 months of age)
- · Viral respiratory diseases
- · Leptospirosis
- Pinkeye
- Tetanus



# Weaning 5 to 9 months

- Clostridial: 7 / 8 way (location dependent)
- 4 / 5 way viral respiratory diseases

(IBR, BVDV, PI<sub>3</sub>, BRSV)

- · Leptospirosis
- Parasite control program (location & season dependent)
- Weigh and BCS calves
- BCS and preg check cowsevaluate culling criteria

- Brucellosis (Bangs)
   heifers (marketing decision)
   (4 to 12 months)
- OQBN Programs check requirements
- · Pinkeye



### Replacement heifers 13 - 16 months

- Monitor growth
- 4/5 way viral respiratory diseases (IBR, BVDV, PI<sub>3</sub>V, BRSV)
- · Leptospirosis
- Clostridial: 7 / 8 way (location dependent)
- · Parasite control program

(location & season dependent)

- Individual ID
- Vibriosis (Campylobacteria)



# Process adult cow herd

- 4/5 way Viral respiratory diseases (IBR, BVDV)
- Parasite control program (location & season dependent)
- Leptospirosis
- Evaluate individual animals: udder, eyes, disposition, feet, joints, legs, soundness preg check and culling BCS
- Pl<sub>3</sub>V, BRSV
- Anaplasmosis control
- Vibriosis





### **Bulls**

- Breeding Soundness Exam
- Monitor BCS
- Viral respiratory diseases (IBR, BVDV)
- Leptospirosis
- Vibriosis
- Parasite control program (location & season dependent)

• PI<sub>3</sub>V, BRSV



http://umaine.edu/publications/1031e/

# 60 days pre-calving all females

- Adequate management should not need any vaccinations
- · Scours vaccinations



# Herd Health Program

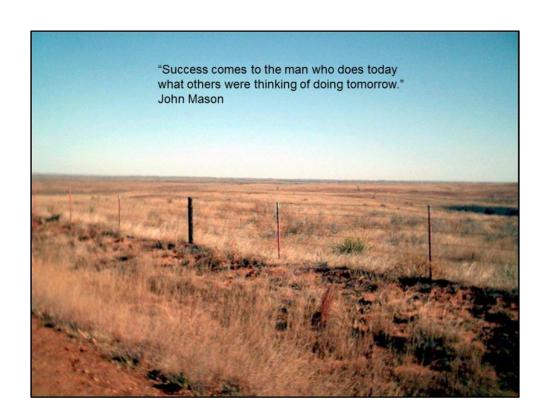
- Review annually
- Disease prevention cheaper than cost of treatment
- Consider nutrition and BCS at all stages
- · Keep records of all products used
- Observe label directions....consideration for use of MLV vaccines on pregnant animals

## Resources

- · Your veterinarian
- Cooperative Extension Fact Sheets
- · Breed Associations
- OSU Fact Sheet VTMD-9100
   Use, Handling and Care of Vaccines

http://pods.dasnr.okstate.edu/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-2037/VTMS-9100web2015.pdf





# Questions?

