



NEWS LINE

For Release April 30, 2008

Recent snow requires producers to pay special attention to possible sickness in calves and weight loss in nursing cows

The moisture created as the result of recent snowfalls is welcome in many areas of the province but these conditions are creating greater challenges for cow/calf producers. Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC) chairman Doug Sawyer says now is the time that producers will really need to keep an eye on the herd. Calves will be getting sick and with the lingering show, there could be some sun burn bags on nursing cows. Good bedding will help prevent this problem.

Sawyer cautions wet and chilled calves can come down with a bout of illness, whether it's pneumonia or scours. Nursing cows can lose weight so producers will be careful to make sure there is plenty of feed available.

"If you see a problem in your area, or a producer struggling at all in regards to animal welfare, phone the ALERT Line," adds Sawyer. "We'll certainly get that producer help soon. The ALERT line number is 1-800-506-2273."

--PLEASE CALL 1-800-468-7021 TOLL-FREE FOR VOICE CLIPS --

AFAC scripts and clips are also available at www.afac.ab.ca

Clip No. 1:

The moisture created as the result of recent snowfalls is welcome in many areas of the province but these conditions are creating greater challenges for cow/calf producers. Doug Sawyer, chairman of Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC), says now is the time that producers will really be keeping an eye on their herds:

(11... "problem.")

Clip No. 2:

Sawyer refers to the specific problems that could face calves and nursing cows:

(14... "well-bedded.")

Clip No. 3:

Sawyer reminds everyone that, if need be, help is close by:

(14... "soon.")

For further information contact:
Susan Church AFAC Manager

(403) 932-8050