



NEWS LINE

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Cows require special attention this time of the year

As the calving season approaches cows need more energy. Reynold Bergen, Alberta Beef Producers animal health and welfare manager, urges producers to keep a number of important factors in mind.

“A lot of water is essential and a supply becomes more important once the cow is nursing its calf. As usual shelter and bedding are critical. Some kind of shelter is greatly going to benefit both the cow and calf in terms of preserving energy. Extremities are the first to freeze and baby calves are all extremities,” says Bergen.

He feels the main concern for some producers is the cold winter that has lasted quite a long time which has possibly resulted in feed supplies beginning to run out. He adds, “If a producer is getting into a situation like that, or if you’ve got concerns about somebody else, AFAC has in place the ALERT line: 1-800-506-2273. That’s a confidential toll-free number to discuss animal welfare concerns. AFAC sends out neighboring producers or a vet to investigate situations and work with producers to get things corrected.”

--PLEASE CALL 1-800-468-7021 TOLL-FREE FOR VOICE CLIPS –
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Clip No. 1:

It’s that time of the year when cows on winter pasture or swath grazing require special attention. Reynold Bergen is the animal health and welfare manager at Alberta Beef Producers:

(19... “order.”)

Clip No. 2:

Bergen emphasizes that cows need a lot of water which becomes even more important when nursing their calves - and there’s more to keep in mind:

(14... “extremities.”)

Clip No. 3:

Because of a cold winter which has continued for quite a long time, Bergen says there may be cases where people had enough feed on hand for a normal winter but now may be running out:

(25... “corrected.”)

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