

Adams Advanced Nutrition, Inc.

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Success with Replacement Heifers

There are no prefabricated cows! Each cow grows and develops through a lengthy process. Genetics is only one aspect of the equation. Careful management and good nutrition will impact on a heifers' ability to attain to her genetic potential and become a quality, productive and profitable member of the herd. It is critical to this process of growth and development that everyone who works with calves and heifers is tuned in to the necessary requirements that can help prepare her for future success... and keep her that way as long as possible. This includes being alert to conditions that may negatively impact her health and well-being. Here are a few considerations when looking to maximize replacement heifers... your future herd.



- Maintain a balanced ration during this time of rapid growth and development. Ensure that feed is free of any manure contamination. Feeding refusals may not be best-practice for maintaining and growing replacement heifers, and presenting rations that may not offer the proper balance of nutrients they require.
- Keep heifers in clean, well-ventilated facilities or maintain them on adequate pasture.
- Do not permit any manure buildup in areas where heifers congregate. If maintained on lots, these areas should be scraped frequently.
- Do not overcrowd heifers. Give them room to grow!
- Group heifers with animals of a similar age and/or size. This further simplifies necessary management, which is important to your already busy schedule.
- Provide unlimited fresh, clean water. Risk of manure contamination should be minimized by location of watering devices, design and a schedule of frequent cleaning.
- Develop a comprehensive and easy-to-manage vaccination program for replacement heifers. Your local veterinarian can assist you with a proactive program.
- Check heifers for extra teats and remove as needed by 4 to 6 months of age.
- Practice hygiene and biosecurity throughout the entire farm. These are essential to reducing or eliminating the spread of many diseases.
- When adding heifers from outside the herd, or combining heifers of your own from other farms, quarantine them for observation and to reduce stress from transport and change.



Spring is here... time to plant!

Springtime means plowing and planting! Renaissance offers quality, research-tested hybrids, as well as grass and alfalfa seeds that have been carefully selected to maximize the

forage to be fed in rations. This is an excellent time to consider reseeded pastures and grass stands that have been worn by use, age or winter kill. I can recommend varieties that will compliment your entire forage program. Call today and see what we have available! It can make a difference.

Think Preservation! Get Quality!

It's not too soon to consider an inoculant or preservative that can effectively aid silage fermentation and stabilization. A good product can dramatically impact forage quality during storage and at feedout. However, keep in mind that not all preservatives or inoculants are "created equal." There are many products on the market that make numerous claims, which are unsubstantiated in some cases. The research that goes into such products,

along with on-farm management and end-results, is critical when making a decision on what to purchase. Quality forages are an investment in the rations to be fed to your livestock throughout next fall and winter. If you choose not to use a preservative or inoculant you potentially place your feeding program at risk of losing valuable quality and dry matter availability. Renaissance offers a unique lineup of quality, research-tested products that can meet your silage and haylage needs this year. Get all the facts and plan to use a Renaissance-recommended product! Call me today for details, technical and application information!

➔ BIOTAL Ⓞ

Buchneri 500™ ♦ Plus II™

➔ KEMIN Ⓞ

FreshCut® ♦ SilageSAVOR Plus®
TopSAVOR® ♦ KemLac®



Ready when heat & humidity strike?

Hot and humid weather comes quickly... when it comes! This means heat stress. It is vitally important to be prepared before temperatures climb in order to alleviate the potential impact of heat stress on livestock, such as reduced feed intakes and lower production, along with numerous health-related considerations.

Preparations for summer heat and humidity may include a review of the barn's ventilation system, checking that you have sufficient fans and they are clean and in working condition in order to manage necessary airflow, and to take a closer look at summer rations. Summer rations may need to provide your cows with supplemental energy as an aid in reducing the effects of heat stress. Call me today and let's review ideas on dealing with heat and humidity this year, and averting heat stress before it becomes a reality!

Interested in discussing topics in this newsletter, or want to do a better job feeding and managing your cows? Call me! My goal is to help you. That's Renaissance's commitment to you!

VOLUME 3 – Number 4 – April 2004

RENAISSANCE... the winning team!
The TEAM for results.

Start 'em Right!

GET MILK!

Get calves off to a good start towards a productive and profitable future in your herd. Our uniquely formulated, highly palatable line of calf starters is making a positive difference on herds where it is fed. **GET MILK!** calf starters (18%, 20% or 22% protein) will give calves what they need to grow and develop. When combined with a quality Renaissance milk replacer and good management, you'll notice a difference today... and tomorrow when they join the lactating herd! A productive, profitable cow begins at birth! Order **GET MILK!** today. It can make a difference your calves will experience and taste ~ and you'll appreciate!

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WHAT'S IT LIKE AROUND THE FARM?

Record keeping is not easy for most of us, since days are filled with chores and responsibilities both on and off the farm. In spring, time becomes even more of a premium! Yet, record keeping is an important part of doing business. This includes financial details of income and expenses, as well as information about every animal in your lactating herd: freshening dates, milk production, health issues, etc. Records also need to include calf and replacement heifer information such as permanently identifying animals at birth and following them through their life cycles as a productive and profitable part of your operation. Increased concerns with traceability and biosecurity may gradually move us toward greater emphasis in keeping records. Numerous resources are available to help you with record keeping. It's a good idea to periodically review your current approach to record keeping, and consider ways of helping to save time and be more efficient at this often arduous task. In addition to tracking information, records can also play a part in helping to set future goals for your farm. Records will give you an accurate look back on yesterday, while planning your directions for tomorrow.

A POINT TO PONDER...

The calendar says that spring is here, so we're counting on warm April showers, followed by bright sunny days and abundant flowers. It is a time of year when people come out from winter hibernation looking for opportunities like working in the garden and visiting neighbors who they've only casually seen through colder, darker months. Children venture forth and anxiously engage in running and playing, invigorated by the fresh, clean air. It is a time to appreciate the beauty that abounds around us! Enjoy spring... it's a refreshing time!



*Spring is here! Time for planting...
Rations for summer ~ with Renaissance*

CHECK IT OUT.

