

THE LATEST TENDENCIES IN BOVINE HEALTH MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT

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The traditional curative veterinary practice is long outdated and should be replaced by the preventive work with the fundamental objective of the prevention of diseases.

Current objectives of veterinary herd health are formulated as follows (Guidelines for Veterinary herd health, Frankfurt, 2011): "The veterinary herd health is part of health management of animal populations. She is the regular, systematic, systematic and consistent application of veterinary knowledge and skills according to current scientific knowledge with the aim of animal owners to assist in the establishment, improvement and maintenance of animal health and optimize animal performance. The veterinary herd health program includes a holistic and sustainable animal health and public health management, disease prevention, in addition to the well-being of animals (animal welfare) and the implementation of all known measures for food safety goal. Preventive, prophylactic and curative veterinary activities should be in one hand and between the veterinarian and cattle owner agreed in writing by contract. The main factors for the health, well-being and the biological performance of the animals are regularly analyzed and taken into account in animal health management. The requirements for consumer, animal and environmental protection are considered.

In recent years increasing quality and safety aspects have come to the fore. EU legislation has led to a series of changes in the national legal framework. Both the extent of the extended product liability on primary agricultural production (Directive 1999/34/EC) and the so-called "stable to table approach" (so-called Basic Regulation) in this context are of particular importance. The combination of "stable to table" approach and the "Extended Product Responsibility" requires quality assurance systems for farms. Other EU regulations, such as the so-called "EU hygiene package" and the "cross-compliance" provisions are added.

Simple forms of herd health management consider mainly the milk yield, milk composition (urea, protein, fat, fat-protein ratio, cell number), fertility and herd health. On-farm analyzes, i.e. rapid tests, are not new, but currently popular. Advanced are new methods that continuously measure metabolites in milk, such as ketone bodies, GGT or progesterone.

By computer programs can measured electronically complete information about feeding, housing, health and performance of cows on farms of all sizes, e.g. with Herde-W/ZMS (dsp agrosoft), the food ration, feed consumption, milk yield, milk composition, milk quality, body condition, reproductive performance, lactation analysis, metabolic analysis, clinical analyses, climate data, morbidity, veterinary treatments, epidemics examinations, culling rate, productive life and economic results. It allows the veterinarian to check, the process and effectiveness for both the herd and for individual animals. Subclinical changes are reported in the sense of an early warning system. Herd health program does not only works by PC, elementary are the clinical and laboratory monitoring with numerous scores.

During WBC in Lisbon NORDHUISEN et al. (2012) emphasized the sustainability in cattle production. The concept comprises four major components: economics; ecology; society; and ethics, which have to be mutually considered in a well-balanced manner. The sustainability concept must be considered at three coherent levels: the structural, technological and managerial levels. The managerial level regards quality control and quality assurance throughout the chain, regarding pest and disease management, nutrient, waste and water

management, animal welfare, animal health, animal nutrition, and animal genetics. Optimization of managerial domains can strongly contribute to the sustainability of the dairy farm. Better cattle health and welfare contributes to use of production factors, and to financial and socio-economic profit.