

The Burdizzo method of castration is also used with a view to preventing infection and bleeding.

Where castration and tailing are carried out by using the knife, it is important to guard against infection by observing cleanliness during the operations. A common extra precaution is to apply an antiseptic lotion to the wounds before the lamb is released. If these precautions are not observed, together with the use of temporary clean grassy enclosures, infection of the wounds may follow.

Arthritis

The first symptom of infection following marking is the development of lameness in a number of lambs. When the lambs are caught and closely examined a certain amount of swelling of joints is noticeable, and the wounds are frequently covered with a scab, underneath which is found pus in varying amount. Occasionally the lamb dies following infection, when small abscesses are found in such internal organs as the liver and kidneys. As a rule, however, the lameness gradually disappears, the swelling in the joints subsides, and an apparent recovery takes place. The lamb receives a severe check, however, and on slaughter may be found with one or more enlarged joints.

In the case of infection with other organisms causing blood poisoning, the deaths occur suddenly. The site of operation quickly turns black and gassy, and such animals quickly undergo putrefaction following death.

Lockjaw or tetanus infection is caused by the entrance of the soil germ, known as the *tetanus bacillus*. This organism more frequently shows up during the healing stage of the wounds, when the infection lies locked up in the wound underneath the scab. Frequently there is very little pus, if any,

found in such cases. Affected lambs first develop a stiffness in movement, and later lie down and are unable to move or suck. During the late stages before death supervenes, the lambs are frequently twisted or distorted due to the tetanic spasms bringing on irregular contraction of certain groups of muscles.

Tetanus infection is more likely to be seen on farms where a certain amount of cropping is carried on. It is more rarely seen on purely grazing properties.

Paralysis in the Cow After Calving

PARALYSIS in the dairy cow after calving is quite commonly seen from time to time. Paralysis is regarded more as a symptom of disease, although quite frequently paralysis by itself is regarded as a disease or diseased condition. It is rare, however, to find paralysis not associated with some other disease or set of circumstances in which paralysis is a common or expected complication.

Thus, paralysis may be associated with an accident in which the spine or backbone is involved. Paralysis is

seen as a complication of the syndrome known as milk-fever, especially when the animal is in the comatose stage. It may be seen as a sequel to milk-fever, in which case the animal recovers consciousness and to all intents and purposes is normal in many respects, but is unable to get up and move about. It is frequently seen in animals in low condition due to sheer debility and weakness following upon a period of feed shortage and exposure to severe weather.

A partial paralysis or inco-ordination of movement is seen in many cases of poisoning, in cases of grass tetany or grass staggers, in paspalum staggers, or in numerous cases coming under the heading of malnutrition in young growing animals.

Treatment

Where paralysis develops in the dairy cow after calving without any complications, the following line of treatment may be carried out. Any complications must first be dealt with in order to expedite and assist recovery. The paralysed animal should be kept dry and warm. If possible, remove it to a dry, warm shed, even though a sledge or large door is required for the removal. Plenty of straw bedding should be provided to prevent bed sores and to enable the animal to be turned from side to side at regular intervals. A laxative diet should be given, and may include green feed or bran mashes. Forced feeding is not desirable unless the animal is very weak or emaciated, when various easily-digested but nourishing gruels may be given in this way.

It is a common practice to apply a blister or liniment to the loins and back. If a mustard paste is used it

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