

the majority failed to do so, some even at the second service, hence this inquiry.

LIVESTOCK DIVISION:—

Permanganate of potash (Condys) and salt may be used. Make a strong solution by dissolving a dessertspoonful of Condys crystals in a pint bottle of clean water, which is kept as a stock solution. For a douche add just enough of the strong solution to a gallon of warm water to colour it a pale pink (probably a dessertspoonful) and a teaspoonful of salt.

It is by no means certain that the failure to douche cows last season was the cause of cows being more difficult to get in calf, as this might have been due to seasonal conditions, or to deterioration of bull, or perhaps to change of bull.

Where cows calve and clean normally, the practice of douching after calving is not desirable.

Blood Scours in Calves.

A.F.M. (MARTON):—

Would you please give me advice concerning the following:—

(1) For several seasons I have had great difficulty in rearing calves be-

cause of blood scours. They are quite all right until they start to eat grass, that is, about two weeks after birth, and then the trouble starts. I always tie a calf affected with blood scours up so that it cannot wander about and graze until the trouble has been overcome, but in many cases the hemorrhage is so severe that the calf dies.

Advisory Service on Veterinary Matters.

Farmers are invited to submit inquiries connected with the health of their stock, and the replies will be published under this heading.

I can find nothing wrong with the paddock, and a gorse hedge, the flowers of which I thought they might be sucking, was fenced off, but the trouble still persists.

(2) I have two heifers I cannot get in calf. They had the first calf in normal fashion, but since have failed to hold to the bull. Each time they come in season there is a rather abundant show of blood. I have kept them away from the bull during the winter

months, and intend to put them again with the bull shortly. Is there any prospect of getting them in calf?

LIVESTOCK DIVISION:—

(1) Calves with blood scour. This may be due to a parasitic infection (coccidiosis) or to a type of dysentery caused by irritation from food or bacterial infection.

Coccidiosis appears to be a likely cause, except that it would be unusual in calves quite so young. I should be very glad if you could arrange to send a small sample of the droppings actually containing blood clots, etc., in a small glass jar or tin, well packed, to the Superintendent, Animal Research Station, Wallaceville, asking him to examine for coccidia. If these are present it would be advisable for you to give up your present yard or paddock completely for a season to allow the disease to die out. In any case, this might be a wise step.

For treatment of affected calves you might try small (half-teaspoonful) doses of sulphate of iron, dissolved in 4oz. of water, with a dessertspoonful of vegetable turpentine, shaken up with about 6oz. of milk, as a drench. Give once a day for two or three days.

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