

Howdy!

This is our first use of the new program at the clinic where we will contact our clients about various relevant topics. If the information you receive is helpful and you think it may benefit others, feel free to forward it to them.

The first topic has a lot of relevancy for today- the HEAT. The following are our tips for keeping your cattle cool and improving their performance.

- 1.) If you are not planning to show your cattle within the next couple of months, clip them. Their hair will start growing back good in September/October.
- 2.) The amount and temperature of water the cattle are provided is key.
 - Cattle normally drink about 5-8 gallons/day, but when temperatures rise this amount may double or triple.
 - Your cattle will stay cooler if the water they drink stays in the 70's. It is important to have a watering system that provides water at this temperature.
- 3.) If your cattle are in a shaded barn, make sure it has a good draft coming through it. Shade trees are also very beneficial.
- 4.) Rinsing the calves with a water hose will help them stay cool. Spray misters and fans are also a great way to ensure the cattle are constantly getting a cool breeze. If only fans are used, they may be circulating hot air, which would do more harm than good.
- 5.) Adequate fly control will keep the calves comfortable and reduce their amount of stress. Controlling flies will aid in keeping the calves cool.

Have a cool summer and let me know if I can help you with anything.

Dr. Jesse Richardson, DVM

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