



International workshop

CATTLE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OF CEE

22 August 2008, Vilnius - Le Meridien Villon Convention Centre

in the context of the 59th EAAP Annual Meeting

Workshop jointly organized by:
EAAP Cattle Network Working Group
EAAP CEEC Contact Working Group
EAAP Cattle Commission





International workshop

THE WELL-BEING OF HEIFER INTERNATIONAL ANIMALS

Terry Wollen, DVM
Dilip Bhandari, BVSc & AH, MVM
Heifer International – Little Rock, Arkansas,
USA



CATTLE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OF CEE

22 August 2008, Vilnius



CATTLE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OF CEE

22 August 2008, Vilnius

ANIMAL NUTRITION RECOMMENDATIONS

INDICATORS

Provide nutrition that is appropriate to age, gestation stage, production and growth requirements

Feed

Animals maintain mid-range Body Condition Score

Store feed to retain quality and safeguard from contamination and rodents

Reproductive cycles, birthing intervals, weaning dates, lactation duration are within acceptable limits

Combine feed for livestock, poultry and fish with local forages to meet animal nutrition requirements

Animals grow to market weight within reasonable time periods

Keep fodder, energy and / or protein reserves for months when feed production is low

Appropriate balance of local and purchased feeds

Maintain sufficient pasture grasses and commercial feeds for year-round feeding

Certified Organic records are current

For producers following National Organic Standards, store certified Organic feed substances according to regulations and maintain proper records

Supply plenty of fresh water

Water

Sufficient safe water is available

Provide sufficient land for pasture animals

Pasture / grazing/
browse

Pasture area per animal is appropriate for growth and production



CATTLE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OF CEE

22 August 2008, Vilnius

ANIMAL REPRODUCTION RECOMMENDATIONS

Select animals for genetic improvement based on recipient community's economic conditions and ability to feed and provide care

Certify pregnancy of female livestock prior to purchase, if applicable

Involve community groups in selection process to guarantee that project participants have husbandry skills, available resources and a market for their products

Utilize local animal types and breeds, when possible, that are suitable for the local environment

Selection

INDICATORS

Selected animal is able to be reared within the means of the family

Pregnancy is verified



CATTLE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OF CEE

22 August 2008, Vilnius

ANIMAL REPRODUCTION RECOMMENDATIONS - pg 2

INDICATORS

Prepare a plan for the appropriate selection of male breeding stock for natural or artificial insemination

Breeding Program

Organize breeding plan for all reproductively active animals

Normal breeding intervals are maintained considering local conditions

Use appropriate equipment and a trained technician when employing artificial insemination

Repeat breeding is limited

Provide appropriate care for male animals during non-breeding season

Feed and care for pregnant animals in a proper manner; do not overuse pregnant animals for draft power during gestation

Gestation

Pregnancy losses are minimized

Maintain adequate nutrition levels according to stage of gestation

Offspring are born healthy

Establish dry, heated (when necessary) birthing areas that are protected from severe weather, as much as possible, and appropriate for respective livestock species

Birthing

Birthing area is appropriate

Interval between breeding is acceptable

Provide appropriate nutrition for lactation and rebreeding; track, record and monitor birthing cycles

Reproduction records are maintained



CATTLE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OF CEE

22 August 2008, Vilnius

ANIMAL HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS

INDICATORS

Use ethnoveterinary products, local healers and traditional remedies when appropriate and available

Purchase products through reliable sources to avoid counterfeits

Provide a cold chain, if required

Keep records of product name, manufacturer, supplier, lot number and expiration date

Store medicine in clean, safe, temperature controlled environment

Destroy expired products

Store hazardous products appropriately

Use all medicines, insecticides, pesticides and other products strictly according to the label unless under direct supervision of a veterinarian

Consider alternative therapies for deworming and use of antibiotics to reduce development of resistance

Utilize appropriate delivery devices and protective clothing when needed

Veterinary Medicines

Treatments have positive outcome

Inventory records are maintained

Regular checks for expired medicine are in place

Regular storage checks are in place

Treatment records are maintained

No milk / carcass is discarded from the processor



CATTLE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OF CEE

22 August 2008, Vilnius

ANIMAL HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS – page 2

Observe all milk withholding times and slaughter withdrawal times

Carry out vaccination / deworming plans

Monitor, manage and treat internal and external parasites

Establish health checks for rotational grazing of animals and mineral sufficiency

Isolate sick and recovering animals

Investigate and diagnose mortality

Record all medical and alternative treatments and mortality

Disease Prevention

Disease Treatment

INDICATORS

Written vaccination plan is in place

Workers have experiences with preventable diseases

Health and growth of animals is within normal expectations

Health checks are established

Animal / treatment records are maintained



CATTLE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OF CEE

22 August 2008, Vilnius

ANIMAL HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS – pg 3

Provide access to diagnostic testing laboratory, as needed

Pre-purchase health checks, blood tests (especially those required by the government) and fecal counts, when necessary

Quarantine new herd animals for appropriate period

Establish diagnostic procedures for illness

Dispose of diseased animals

Monitor zoonotic diseases

Disease Surveillance

INDICATORS

Purchased animals remain healthy

Animal health test records are up to date

Records of communication with local authorities are kept



CATTLE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OF CEE

22 August 2008, Vilnius

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY RECOMMENDATIONS

Identify animals in a humane and sanitary manner by ear tag, tattoo, brand, ear-notch or other means

Keep records on each animal from birth or purchase until the animal leaves the farm

Install functional and humane restraint equipment (e.g., nose rings)

Keep animal safe from injury

Train staff in animal management

Maintain tail docking, teeth clipping, castration, dehorning and other equipment in good working order

Keep shearing equipment clean and in good working order

Train technicians for each respective health and management procedure

Store by-products adequately for market and local use

Management

INDICATORS

Animals are clearly identified

Animal records are checked

Growth, production and health of animals is on target

Equipment is ready to use when needed

By-products sold for good market prices



CATTLE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OF CEE

22 August 2008, Vilnius

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY RECOMMENDATIONS – pg 2

Ensure zero grazing units are built correctly, stocked properly, cleaned regularly and collect manure for use in farming systems

Give animals daily exercise when in confinement

Utilize appropriate fencing for animal species and maintain in good working order

Utilize appropriate gates and keep in good working order

Provide dry shelter and housing with adequate lighting and airflow

Control predator risks

Provide ample lots, pastures and woodland that are hazard –free and not over-used

Maintain general cleanliness

Keep fish tanks clean and aerated

Facility

Fish

INDICATORS

Animals are clearly identified

Animal records are checked

Growth, production and health of animals is on target

Equipment is ready to use when needed

By-products sold for good market price

Fish tank is clean and aeration equipment operating normally
Growth rate of fish is within normal limits



CATTLE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OF CEE

22 August 2008, Vilnius

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY RECOMMENDATIONS – pg 3

Ensure milk facility and equipment is clean and meets local standards for production type

Make sure milkers and milk handlers practice good personal hygiene

Establish appropriate milking time for each animal

Conduct milk handling and cooling in a timely fashion' ensure appropriate equipment cleaning

Protect product quality and promote product safety through sound milk handling and preservation methods for raw and processed products

Keep registries up-to-date for purebred, indigenous, rare and heritage breed animals

Make breed records available such as: breeding dates, sire, birth, growth, weaning and body condition scores

Maintain health records including incidents, treatment, vaccination and disposition

Document cause of mortality and disposition

Keep up-to-date and useful records

Milk Hygiene

Records

INDICATORS

Milk meets market and hygienic standards

Udder problems are minimal

An equipment cleaning routine is in place

A procedure is in place to train correct handling and storage if raw milk is sold or consumed locally

Records are available

Records are produced in a timely fashion



CATTLE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OF CEE

22 August 2008, Vilnius

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT RECOMMENDATIONS

Diversify livestock and crop species to avoid harsh impact on environment

Remove manure regularly and store in an appropriate location

Utilize manure for composting, crop fertilizer, bio-gas and other applications

Store manure in an adequate manner to avoid pests

Ensure an adequate pasture livestock density to allow for proper animal nutrition with minimal supplements

Manage land and pastures to control soil erosion

Manage grasses, shrubs and trees for fodder usage

General

Manure Management

Pasture Management

INDICATORS

Environmental inspections are conducted regularly

Pens are clean and dry
Pens do not have excessive manure odor

Compost piles are contained with no runoff

Pests are controlled

Pasture grasses grow normally and restore quickly after grazing

Weeds do not overcome pasture

Land presents no erosion

Fodder trees are not stunted



CATTLE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OF CEE

22 August 2008, Vilnius

SLAUGHTER RECOMMENDATIONS

Utilize humane slaughter practices conducted by properly trained individuals

Keep slaughter equipment in good working order

Complete slaughter as quickly as possible to minimize animal anxiety

Slaughter only healthy animals for food; do not use any animal for human consumption that has died from unknown causes

INDICATORS

A documented training program is in place

Animals are approached calmly before slaughter

Slaughter completed quickly



CATTLE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES OF CEE

22 August 2008, Vilnius

Questions and Comments!

