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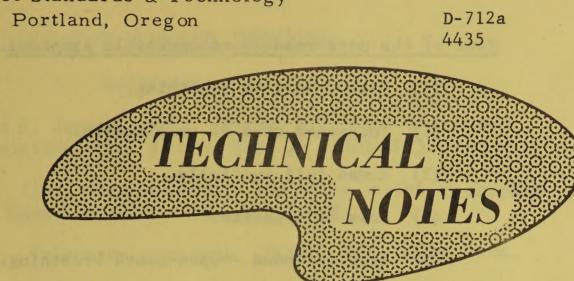
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DID YOU KNOW ???

Acute Bovine Pulmonary Emphysema (ABPE) is an acute, sometimes chronic, non-contagious lung disease (destruction of lung tissue) common to cattle throughout the western range area. The disease usually occurs during the summer and fall grazing season but it can develop anytime during the year. The most common situation has been when cattle were moved from dry native ranges onto irrigated pastures, usually during August, September, and October. During years when there is above-normal fall green-up of native ranges, and the movement of cattle from a heavily-used pasture to an ungrazed pasture is involved, some occurrence of ABPE may be expected.

Losses are a result of a change in diet and not as a result of any particular grazing system. Occurrence of this disease on BLMadministered lands has been rare. Livestock disorders are generally the concern of the rancher; however, BIM range managers should be aware of the disease since it is caused by a change in forage conditions. Under intensive range management, ABPE may occur when the animals are moved from dry forage to green succulent forage.

Characteristics of the disease

- (1)Occurs generally in late summer or early fall.
- (2) Common only to cattle.
- (3) Results from change in pasture and forage conditions.
- (4)Characteristically it occurs between the second and seventh day after a change in forage.
- (5) It is apparently non-infectious.

Some of the more readily recognizable symptoms

- (1) Heavy, shallow breathing.
- (2) Increased rate of respiration.
- (3) Rumen full initially.
- (4) Loss of appetite.
- (5) Head extended open-mouth breathing.
- (6) Increase salivation.
- (7) Occasional bleeding of the nose.
- (8) Persistent coughing.
- (9) Characteristic loud grunt.
- (10) At later stages there is a bluish color of skin due to lack of oxygen in the blood.
- (11) Gaunt appearance at later stages.
- (12) Quick death from exertion. (Cattle which have shown symptoms of the disease should not be moved because any exercise exaggerates the disease and usually results in death to the animal.)

There are generally two ways by which ABPE occurrence can be reduced: (1) Leave stock on the same grazed pasture until such time as the feed has started to cure or until after the first frost in the fall, and (2) Allow cattle to gradually move onto new feed over a period of several days by using the new feed one hour the first day, two hours the next, etc. This requires additional movement of stock by the operator.

Additional information can be obtained in the attached list of references and from Dr. Leroy R. Maki or Dr. James O. Tucker at the Division of Veterinary Science, University of Wyoming, University Station, P. O. Box 3354, Laramie, Wyoming, 82070.

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