

■ WINTER

From Page 7

ing elements in all water drinking fountains;

2. Repair any water fountains or water lines that may be leaking. Ice buildup is a hazard to livestock and humans;

3. Have adequate feed supplies moved in for easy access to the farm. It is recommended to have a two-week supply of purchased feedstuffs.

Shelter: As we examine the shelter and health side, what is necessary to keep the animals healthy and protected on the dairy?

1. Move calf hutches to areas that are easily accessible in the winter and provide wind protection for young livestock;

2. Have a two-week supply of veterinary supplies commonly used on the dairy such as intra-mammary mastitis treatments, antibiotics, electrolytes, calcium solutions, antiseptics, bandages, unused needles, and syringes;

3. Start utilizing calf coats on newborn calves till they are weaned;

4. Provide adequate bedding for all livestock making sure it is deep enough for them to nest in to help maintain body heat;

5. Examine body condition and hair coat of various groups of livestock, adjust rations appropriately for cold weather; 6. Evaluate shelter for livestock in open lots, making sure there is adequate wind protection and the ability to get bedding pack built up for them prior to poor weather.

Other items to consider

* Develop a plan with milk haulers and milk buyers for options if milk is unable to be picked up for an extended period of time.

* Partner with neighbors and develop a plan if it is necessary to do your own snow removal on public access roads.

■iGrow

Cocktail Tips for Holiday Entertaining

(StatePoint) There's no time like the holiday season for entertaining guests in the comfort of your home – and nothing beats cozying up by the fireplace with a delectable winter cocktail.

From warming treats to rich flavor concoctions, vodka can be a terrific ingredient for wintertime cocktails.

A holiday party calls for something special. If you're going to be serving cocktails, get prepared with creative, festive spirits and mixers. Plan ahead with some simple, fun recipes for a cozy cocktail party without all the hassle.

For instance, check out the more than 40 playful flavors that Pinnacle Vodka offers such as Pinnacle Pecan Pie and Pinnacle Whipped – as well as its premium Original variety – which are great for any holiday gathering.

Need some mixology inspiration? This recipe for Naughty List Hot Chocolate is sure to warm up the crowd:

- 1 part Pinnacle Whipped Vodka
- 2 parts Hot Chocolate
- Pour into a festive mug and garnish with whipped cream and cherries.

Whether you are ringing in a new year or you're just celebrating good friends and good times, this recipe for Midnight's Kiss is a great accompaniment to all your toasts:

- 1 part Pinnacle Original Vodka
- 2 parts Champagne

Pour vodka into a champagne flute and then top with champagne. Garnish with a rock candy stick.

More information, recipes and entertaining inspiration can be found at www.PinnacleVodka.com and www.TheCocktail-Project.com.

Amid the fun, remember, please drink responsibly!

■ GIFTS

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The Entertainer

Gift lists always include a friend or family member that loves to entertain guests.

Home chefs who like to throw dinner parties will surely appreciate a wireless Bluetooth cooking thermometer that syncs with a smartphone to alert them when their main dish is done, or a digital measuring cup, that enables cooks to precisely measure liquids and easily convert measurement units.

Wine aficionados can also go high tech this season. New gifts include sonic decanters, smart chillers, and even special devices that allow you to pour wine without uncorking it to preserve freshness.

This holiday season don't just go high-tech with your gifts, go highly-personalized too.



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