

■ DOG FLU, From Page 2

The virus is spread through nose-to-nose contact, according to Daly. "They pretty much have to breathe the same air."

"It's a pretty flimsy virus once it leaves the animal's body," Daly noted. Even if an infected animal sneezes on a ramp at a dog park, for instance, another dog would have to lick the ramp within three to four minutes to contract the virus.

However, he pointed out that the new H3N2 strain seems more virulent than the H3N8 strain that affected dogs in 2004 and 2005. Though a vaccine was developed in 2009 for the older strain, experts are uncertain whether it will offer any protection. "These vaccines tend to be pretty strain specific," Daly added.

■iGrow

BROOKINGS, S.D. - Ranchers face two competing economic realities today, explained Warren Rusche, SDSU Extension Cow/Calf Field Specialist. "The market is signaling for more calves while at the same time grazing resources required to produce these additional calves are very expensive or unavailable."

He added that the current prospect of drier conditions and reduced grass growth, further compounds the problem.

Some feed solutions to stretch pasture forages which Rusche suggests include:

- Improved pasture management;
- Increased usage of annual forages for grazing;
- Feeding more harvested feeds to lessen the reliance on traditional pasture systems;
- Supplemental feeding while cattle graze; and
- Raising cow/calf pairs in a drylot or an enclosed structure which doesn't use pasture at all.

Lactating cows

Whether or not these systems will work for your operation, Rusche said depends upon whether or not they provide sustainable diets for maintaining lactating cows which are cost competitive with pasture.

"This is a key critical

factor in whether or not these systems make sense," he said. "Common diets rely heavily on low-cost crop residues combined with by-product feeds or other supplemental feeds."

Other possibilities, Rusche said limit-fed rations based on grain. He said that under current market conditions, these kinds of diets often cost less than the top end of pasture or range leases when considered on a cost per head per day.

What cattle producers have to say.

"Any time changes in standard management practices occur, there is a learning curve and occasionally unintended consequences," Rusche said.

For example, labor needs obviously increase when cattle are fed every day compared to grazing pasture. The costs of manure disposal and potentially higher equipment repair and depreciation expenses Rusche said all need to be considered as well. "On the other hand, semi-confinement may make technologies such as AI easier to manage," he said. "Manure represents an opportunity to reduce fertilizer expenses for crop acres."

Earlier this year, SDSU Extension sponsored a program on alternative cow/calf production systems that featured a producer panel as well as researchers experienced in these systems.

These are some of the observations that they reported.

Management

One of the statements made by Dr. Vern Anderson, retired animal scientist at NDSU-Carrington was that semi-confinement could be "cow heaven" or something much worse, depending on how well producers manage the physical environment of the cow. Proper drainage, pen maintenance, and bedding when necessary are important to avoid excessive mud and all the associated performance and health problems.

Nutrition

As mentioned earlier, heavy use of crop residues is a common characteristic of these systems. Producers need to make sure they follow sound nutritional principles, especially when feeding less common feedstuffs. The panelists felt that it was easier to meet the cattle's nutritional requirements and head off problems by bunk feeding a balanced diet. Some also indicated that they had observed lower than expected feed requirements because of either improved environment, less

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AUCTION

Saturday, May 9 -- 10 a.m.

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LOCATED: 405 12th Avenue, Tyndall, SD
2 blocks south and 1/2 block east of high school in Tyndall

Real Estate consists of a 1486 sq ft 1 story 3 bedroom home with large 2 stall garage/shop building. Situated on a nicely landscaped 150'x142' lot this clean well maintained home offers a large kitchen, large master bedroom, enclosed patio, a nice floor plan and a great location just 2 blocks from Bon Homme school.

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Real Estate may be viewed by appointment or attend Open House Thursday, April 30 from 5 to 7 p.m.

GUNS - SPORTING GOODS (sell at approximately 12 noon): Rem 7400 auto 30-06 & Redfield 3x9 scope; Browning A-S Belgium 12 ga 2 3/4"; Brazil dbbl .410; Stevens 67 pump 20 ga 3"; Spfld 12 ga ss; 410 ss; Stevens 87 A .22 auto; Marlin 80 .22 bolt repeater; Ruger Mark II standard .22 auto pistol; Many rods, reels, fishing equipment; Gun safe.

TOYS - ANTIQUES - COLLECTIBLES: Precisions including JD 70, F-20, M Farmall, Case SC; New Generation JD w/237 picker; Plastic Super M & 2MH picker; Many NIB 1/16 scale Ertl tractors including IHC, JD, Ford, Oliver, AC, Case, etc. Some implements, Toy Farmer, Foxfire Farms, 1/64 scale toys, Plus more; Polar Bear oak ice box; Oak serpentine dresser and mirror; Oak music cabinet; Oak commode; Oval oak parlor table; Misc old dressers and furniture; Cedar chest; Old wall clock; RW 2,4,8 and 20 gal crocks; Miscellaneous crock items; Dazey 40 churn; Dazey metal churn; A huge collection of lic plates back to 1915; KYNT radio clock; Buffalo skull; Hand corn sheller; Barn lanterns; Cream cans; Tubs; Washboards; Chicken crate; Sausage stuffer; Pocket knives; Trunks; Pop bottle collection; Terry Redlin "Good Morning America" print; Marbles; Roseville 309 8" vase; McCoy; Carnival; Misc collectable glass; Tea pots; Plus many more antiques, collectables and primitives yet to be uncovered.

LAWN - GARDEN - SHOP - MISCELLANEOUS: Dixon 16 1/2 hp 30" zero turn mower and bagger; MTD 8-26 snowblower; Craftsman 4 1/2 hp push mower; Front tine tiller; Honda mini tiller; Poulan chain saw; Electric chain saw; Electric power washer; Table saw; Power edger; Gas trimmer; Blower vac; Air compressor; Socket and wrench sets; Miscellaneous hand tools of every description; Forks; Shovels; Lawn and garden tools and supplies; Wheel barrow; Aluminum extension ladder; Dog kennel; Gas grill; Plus much more.

HOUSEHOLD: Amana refrigerator; Maytag auto washer and dryer; Whirlpool glass top elec range; Gas range; Older fridge; Leather sofa; Leather recliner; Easy chairs; Sleeper sofa; Twin beds w/king head board; Desk; 110 V window A/C; Small flat screen TV; Card table & chairs; Patio furniture; Lawnchairs; Vac; Miscellaneous stands and cabinets; Small electric appliances; Dishes; Cookware; Canning supplies; Silverware; Utensils; Pictures, Frames; Plus many more kitchen and household related items.

Here is a wide variety and large quantity of items with something for everyone. Don't miss this one!

Alfred & Marjorie Novotny, Owners

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