

VETERINARY MEDICINE EXTENSION

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION & WSU COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

CATTLE – BEEF & DAIRY

Ringworm

Caused by fungi and generally causes almost no injury to animals. Efforts to prevent its spread are made because it is highly infectious to pen/herd mates.

This disease is transmittable to humans.

- Caused by a fungus
- Infected skin shows scabby circular areas
- Most species can be transmitted to humans
- Treat with skin disinfectants or fungicides



Abscess

Can be found anywhere on the body and can be caused by many things such as trauma, a puncture through the skin, infected glands/lymph node, or a previous vaccination site. It is advised to wear gloves when dealing with fluid/exudate that may come from these draining tracts.

- Can be caused by the introduction of bacteria
- Can “open” up and drain
- Unsightly and animal needs treatment

Mastitis

Inflammation of the mammary gland. Although may be caused by chemical or physical agents, causes are almost entirely infectious, and mostly bacterial.

- Usually caused by bacteria
- Causes heat, swelling, and pain of the udder and abnormal milk (different consistency or bloody) as well as decreasing milk production
- Causative agent (Bacteria - *Streptococcus*) can be spread from cow to cow by flies. Therefore managing fly overload can greatly reduce the spread of this infection
- Also prevent by practicing clean milking techniques, isolating infected animals, and provide dry clean bedding/pasture
- Consult your veterinarian for a proper treatment plan



Pink Eye

Also known as *Infectious Bovine Keratoconjunctivitis*. Redness and inflammation of the lining of the eyelid and eyeball is seen.

- Can be caused by trauma (tall, dry, prickly/sharp grasses) or a bacteria which can be spread by flies
- Can see excessive weeping of the eye(s) and squinting due to the pain and bright sunlight
- If the condition worsens the cornea can become cloudy or white with an ulcer or eroded circular spot at the center of the eye
- Spread by direct contact, flies, and contaminated equipment
- Control with good bio-security practices such as insect control and disinfection of shared equipment



Footrot

An infectious disease that is characterized by lameness and inflammation of the soft tissues between the hooves. Injury to the skin from trauma (puncture wounds) can introduce bacteria into and under the skin allowing for an infection to start.

- Can be a sudden onset of mild to severe lameness on one or more limbs
- Feet can be red, swollen and painful with a foul smell
- Can be spread from animal to animal through soil contamination
- Providing soft, clean, and dry bedding can help prevent injury to the hoof
- Consult your veterinarian for proper treatment

Hairy Heel/Foot Warts

Interestingly NOT caused by a Virus. Caused by an anaerobic (lives without oxygen) bacteria that gains access into the skin/tissue of feet only (usually hind feet) which causes severe lameness and shows little to no swelling of the foot.

- Lesions can be flat, dime-sized, round to oval with some hair-like tissue projections
- Very painful and prone to bleeding
- The environment where cattle are raised may predispose them to contract this
- Separate affected cattle as transmission rate is not known
- UC Davis Task Force is still investigating the cause
- Contact your veterinarian for up-to-date information on how to treat this



livestock.novartis.com



www.nadis.org.uk

Warts

Also known as Bovine Papillomatosis, warts are caused by a papilloma virus. Cattle under two years of age are most susceptible. Can be easily transmitted by direct contact, contaminated equipment and insects.

- Usually confined on neck and shoulder region
- More of an appearance/anesthetic problem than physical problem unless they interfere with normal functioning body parts
- Can become large enough to be rubbed off and bleed which can lead to secondary bacterial infections

Lameness

Can be characterized as any animal that is disabled in a way movement, especially walking is difficult to impossible. This may be caused by:

- Footrot
- Hairy Heel/Foot Warts
- Hoof Defects
 - Can be caused by an abrupt change in feed or the downstream effects of rumen acidosis
 - Trauma or injury
 - Walking on concrete

The following *clinical signs* may be indication to PREVENT an animal from being shown:



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Diarrhea

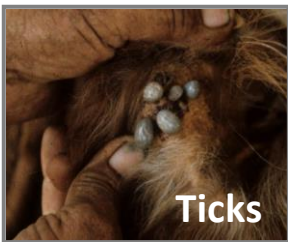


Nasal Discharge



Eye Discharge

Signs of Parasites (very thin body condition, pale gums or pale inside the eyelids):



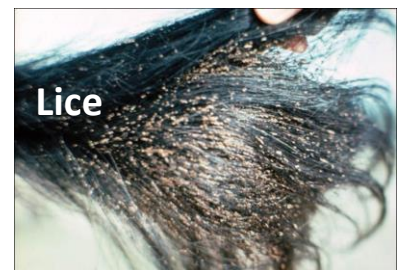
insects.tamu.edu

Ticks



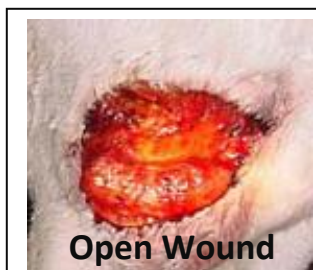
www2.dpi.qld.gov.au

Internal Parasites



http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu

Lice



Open Wound

Washington State University Veterinary Medicine Extension
P.O. Box 646610, Pullman WA 99161-6610
www.vetextension.wsu.edu • VetExtension@vetmed.wsu.edu