

The Lincoln Letter

Publisher-North American Lincoln Red Association

Spring/Summer 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have had favorable calving conditions this spring in Ontario which has resulted in one of our healthiest group of calves on our farm for a few years. As our family also works off the farm, we are grateful for the calving ease and excellent mothering abilities of our Lincoln Reds. We find the ideal calving season is in April and May which is similar timing to early lush pasture growth which provides increased milk production and fertility due to their rising plain of nutrition. Breeding season is around the corner and mating decisions will need to be made to maintain the diversity in our herds. Keep in mind that the Association has a limited number of services from Shaver Abner available for sale at \$30.00 per service. As well, many breeders also have young breeding bulls available for purchase or lease.

Have a great summer!

Scott
McClinchey



BUY LINCOLN RED-RECEIVE A FREE MEMBERSHIP!

The North American Lincoln Red Association is happy to announce a complimentary membership will be given to all first time Lincoln Red buyers. The membership will be included with the registration papers to be transferred to the new owner. This will give new Lincoln Red breeders an opportunity to register calves and learn about the value of tracing bloodlines. Members also have the opportunity to list cattle for sale on our website. Membership is another way to help promote and preserve this great breed.

Visit our website at www.lincolnred.org

The Lincoln Letter

Publisher-North American Lincoln Red Association

Spring/Summer 2012

Mineral=Insurance

Dr. Bob Nusbaum, Potosi, WI

“Insurance” is a guarantee against loss or harm. As I prepare my taxes each spring I am painfully reminded of all the insurance that I pay for health, dental, life, vehicles, machinery, buildings, livestock, crops, cameras, computers, etc, etc. For most of us, most of the time, we never need to use it, so we think of it as a necessary evil. We don’t really like it; probably don’t really need it, but what if we didn’t have it? It is the “risk vs. reward” scenario. How much risk are we comfortable with and how much insurance can we afford?

Mineral supplementation of our livestock is actually a lot like an insurance policy. Usually expensive in relation to its financial return, but it makes most producers sleep better at night. So the question is, like insurance, “how much do I need and what does it cost”? Figuring this out is a huge challenge because there are so many production variables.

First of all, animal mineral requirements will vary depending on the breed, age, sex, stage of production, amount of activity and level of bodily stored minerals among many others. Additionally, forage type, stage of plant maturity, soil type (mineral concentration and pH), fertilization methods, mineral absorbability, rainfall and sunlight are a few of the abundant environmental variables that will influence an animal’s needs for mineral supplementation. However, for this discussion, I would like to focus specifically on the beef cow, so that brings up the question, with all of these variables, can a diet comprised only of grazing and hay satisfy the mineral requirements of the cow? Most nutritionists would say “No!” but I actually think it should be more like “not quite”. I think one of the best tools we can utilize to reduce dependence on mineral supplementation is to have a top-notch forage program. A good grass pasture or hayfield containing 30-40% legume supplies enough of the major minerals to nearly eliminate the need for all but a simple and inexpensive mineral supplementation program.

An ideal mineral mix would be simple, affordable and could be used year around. Most mineral mixes are a compromise somewhere between “ideal” and “easy” and are designed for the average herd (age, weight, body condition score, etc.). But most herds are above or below the average so the vast majority either under consume or over consume necessary mineral supplements. Either case can get expensive. How do we cover our bases, satisfy possible deficiencies and prevent hidden performance losses without unwarranted cost?

Research over several grazing seasons at the University of Missouri’s Southwest Research Center failed to show significant economic returns for complex mineral supplements. Trials ranged from basic white salt to “everything but the kitchen sink” types of mineral mixes with no significant change in animal performance. Southern Missouri in the summer is a

tough environment for cow/calf operations and a comparison of a variety of mineral supplements should have revealed significant differences but did not. All of them had similar results.

This documented revelation allows us to follow the old axiom of “keep it simple” and a one-to-one mixture of trace mineralized salt and dicalcium phosphate is about as simple as it gets (another is 1/3 each of these and 1/3 limestone). These ingredients are easy to get, mix and feed. It satisfies a cow’s craving for salt and, for the most part, will overcome nearly any macro or micro mineral deficiency if coupled with good forage quality. Best of all, it currently costs less than \$11 per 50# which amounts to about \$1.60 per cow per month at a high consumption rate of 4 ounces per day. Consider this similar to a minimal, “high deductible” insurance policy. If you are in an area of confirmed deficiencies (selenium, sulfur) or have issues with grass tetany (magnesium), you may need to enhance your trace mineral portion after consulting with a nutritionist.

If you decide to utilize this “homemade” mineral mix, another question comes to mind and that is “what about the vitamins”? Most commercial mixes have A, D and E added. Almost any deficiency in these vitamins can be eliminated with quality forage or hay. Vitamin A is the biggest concern, but the cow can store Vitamin A for 2-4 months in the liver so even this is not much of a problem.

I think some thumb rules are good to consider for a mineral supplementation program. Don’t use blocks, as cattle can’t consume enough. When the herd begins to move, many may not have had time to consume enough. Use loose mineral and salt for better intake. Keep it covered, dry and always available. Make sure that calves have access to it. Keep track of consumption over several days to estimate an average intake per head per day. Most mineral mixes target between 2 and 4 ounces per head per day intake, but sometimes consumption is erratic depending on the forage quality and weather. Once again, the best minerals come from high quality forage and hay. If you take care of that, mineral supplementation becomes much less of an issue.

The array of mineral mixes out there is mind-boggling. It’s like buying a car. Every accessory increases the price and you have to decide its ultimate value to you. Our biggest fear, I think, is that we may be losing performance and, therefore, leaving money on the table if we don’t use a commercial mineral mix. Therefore, we tend to buy more “insurance” with complex mixes and additives. For the most part, a lot of research suggests we can get by with a lot less expense for mineral supplementation. My suggestion would be to start with the simplest approach first. Monitor herd performance carefully and thoroughly. Be able to recognize mineral deficiencies and adjust your mineral supplementation only after you confirm a more sophisticated strategy is necessary. If you do, I think you’ll still be able to sleep at night!

Visit our website at www.lincolnred.org

The Lincoln Letter

Publisher-North American Lincoln Red Association

Spring/Summer 2012

Summer Herd Health

Heather Swan, DVM MPH

The grass is green, calves are on the ground, all is well and it's time to sit back and watch your profits grow literally, right? If only it were all that simple! Now it's time to decide what to do with the calves and the rest of the herd. If the calves are not born on pasture then they will be turned out soon and as a producer, history must be revisited; what happened last year good or bad and can I prevent the bad? Did I have infectious problems with blackleg, tetanus, pinkeye infections, scours, pneumonia or parasite infestations? I will discuss infectious types of issues here, but if there were other management issues (i.e. lack of feed, water, fences and facilities) keep in mind those need to be addressed as well. Let's start with the calves.

Preventing disease in calves is your best plan; fixing problems now will save a lot of headaches later. Clostridia diseases like blackleg and tetanus should be vaccinated for early, even at birth, especially if there is a history of disease on the farm or pastures. Clostridia vaccines are one of the most cost-effective vaccines available and treatment of visibly infected animals is usually not successful due to the quick progression of disease. Also if band castration is in the future for the bulls it's best to use a clostridia vaccine with tetanus early and then booster it at the time of banding.

Pinkeye infections can be frustrating to deal with in calves and adult cattle, but starting with good fly control and eliminating tall scratchy brush is a start in the right direction. Also vaccinating with a pinkeye vaccine will help however there are many more species of pinkeye not included in most commercial vaccines. These other species could infect your cows and calves, so in severe cases talk to your local veterinarian about having an autogenous vaccine produced and manufactured for your herd. Autogenous vaccine production involves swabbing the eye of an infected animal, sending it to an approved lab and having a vaccine produced from that sample; this will take about 6 months and therefore will have to be manufactured for the following calving season. Additionally, most laboratories require a minimum number of doses to be manufactured, but if approved the vaccine can be shared amongst several local producers.

There are several different vaccines given at birth that may prevent scours, but the best prevention is having clean facilities and not overcrowding animals. If there is a scour outbreak, newly born and unaffected animals should be separated from those that are sick to

prevent further spread of disease and scouring calves need to be watched closely for signs of dehydration. Veterinarians can make educated guesses about the agent causing scours, but sending a fecal sample and/or necropsy tissue to a veterinary diagnostic laboratory is the only way to be truly certain of the cause(s).

Pneumonia is caused by several viruses typically coupled with bacteria that infect the respiratory system. Newer intranasal vaccines are available that can safely be administered at day one of life; these vaccines have proven to be effective at decreasing disease caused by certain viruses. I have seen these vaccines work well in herds with respiratory problems, but would only suggest them if there have been previous problems or detrimental changes in management or facilities are anticipated in an effort to keep production costs low.

The cows also need some attention. Before being put on pasture with their calves it is a good practice to deworm them to keep the parasite load on the pastures to a minimum. Deworming can be done with external pour-ons or oral pelleted formulations. The pour-on solutions typically also treat cows for lice and other ectoparasites, but I would be more concerned with the internal parasites now and then have some sort of powder or liquid solution in the pasture for the cattle to use throughout the fly and tick season. Also decisions about what cows to breed back and use of artificial insemination or bulls for cow matings need to be made. Additionally, one month before breeding is a good time to vaccinate the cows for diseases that cause abortions; producers may vaccinate their cows for leptospirosis, infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR) and bovine viral diarrhea (BVD) instead of waiting to vaccinate at pregnancy exam where the vaccine may not be able to provide protection against abortion.

Let us not forget one of the most important animals on the farm, the bulls. They also need deworming and annual vaccinations, but breeding soundness exams (BSE), performed by a veterinarian, are also a valuable practice. Over the past ten months or so the bulls most likely have been in "storage" and just like an old car that has gone unused for a length of time the bulls also need a tune up. Breeding soundness exams involve an experienced veterinarian checking bulls for lameness concerns, reproductive organ normalcy and semen quantity and quality; a general physical exam can also be performed if warranted. Libido, or the bull's desire to breed a cow in heat, is the one parameter that is not checked. Many reproductive health issues can affect the

Visit our website at www.lincolnred.org

The Lincoln Letter

Publisher-North American Lincoln Red Association

Spring/Summer 2012

ability of the bull to impregnate a cow and these can consist of trauma to the scrotum and/or penis, infection of the reproductive glands and spinal or limb trauma, etc. Please remember to visually check your bulls often during breeding season as problems can occur over this period of time and check with your veterinarian if there are concerns. There is no worse feeling for the producer and veterinarian then pregnancy checking cows at the completion of breeding season and finding a high number of open cows, so do what you can now to prevent problems later.

There is never a lack of tasks to do on the farm, but do some planning now so later you can enjoy cashing a check for high quality calves versus treating unhealthy cattle multiple times.

Dr. Swan is an associate veterinarian with Chosen Valley Veterinary Clinic in Chatfield, Minnesota. She enjoys fishing, kayaking and spending time on her family's beef farm.

WELCOME

We would like to welcome new members Tom Fillmore and Jean Babineau. New members bring fresh ideas and we look forward to seeing your Lincoln Reds!

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE THAT SHOULD BE RECEIVING OUR NEWSLETTER?

or

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE YOUR LINCOLN LETTER ELECTRONICALLY?

Please send contact info to Sarah Pedelty at sarahpedelty@yahoo.com or call Sarah at 507-867-9041

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Taking Cattle Breeding to Another Level

Time and space constraints encourage Dennis and Mary Hoffrogge to look at their cattle with a critical eye. In an effort to only keep and breed the best the Hoffrogges have utilized for the first time pelvic measurements. Structural traits in cattle tend to be highly heritable and pelvic area is no exception. Pelvic size is one factor in determining calving difficulty.

The group of 11 heifers that were measured consisted of Lincoln Reds, Native Shorthorns, and black Angus. All of the heifers were in the same pen and were fed a high forage diet with little grain.

One of the Lincoln Reds had the largest pelvic measurement and was calculated at being able to deliver a 92 pound calf at 2 years of age. The Angus followed and was calculated at being able to deliver an 86 pound calf. Three heifers that were out of the same sire were calculated at having an 80, 80, and a 62 pound calf. The bottom heifer was calculated at having a 52 pound calf. Obviously, the Hoffrogges have used this information to eliminate some heifers from their breeding program.

Once again, it is nice that science is supporting our belief that the Lincolns are an excellent choice for a maternal breed. Scientists at Colorado State University recommend that you develop a cowherd that excels in maternal calving ease. Calving ease will continue to be an important consideration as the industry produces fast-growing muscular progeny.

Bottom line, nobody likes to pull calves and that is why the Hoffrogges are using pelvic measurements to guide their breeding program.

(*Note: For more information please take a look at the article "Pelvic Measurements for Reducing Calving Difficulty" by Dr Gene H Deutscher, Extension Beef Specialist, University of Nebraska.

http://www.iowabeefcenter.org/Beef%20Cattle%20Handbook/Pelvic_Measurments.pdf)



Visit our website at www.lincolnred.org

The Lincoln Letter

Publisher-North American Lincoln Red Association

Spring/Summer 2012

Lincoln Red Cattle Society Spring Show & Sale Saturday 24th March 2012 held at Newark Livestock Market



**12 Bulls – Averaged £5880
(£3483 in 2011)**

**67 Females Averaged – £1352
(£908 in 2011)**

**Records tumble - top price of 18
000Gns paid for Beverley Noble**

The Lincoln Red Cattle Society's Spring Show and Sale at Newark Livestock Market on Saturday 24th March 2012 saw R I Clough and Son's Senior Champion Bull and Breed Champion, Beverley Noble, break both the Society's Breed Record and the Newark Livestock Record selling for 18 000gns. Beverley Noble sired by Beverley Adventurer out of Beverley Gift G55 was bought by Mr Andrew Mylius's St. Fort Herd in Fife, Scotland. Mr Mylius commented: "it's not often you see a Bull walk into the ring and know you may not see an animal of such quality again! I had to have him in my St. Fort Herd!"



**Beverly Noble 2012 Spring Show & Sale
Supreme Champion**

Judge, Mr Robin Dennett, struck a cord with buyers as HM & JM Needler's Junior Champion Bull and Reserve Breed Champion, Walmer Nordic, sold for 10 000gns. Walmer Nordic sired by Beverley Henchman out of Walmer Lobelia H54 sold to R I Clough and Son's Beverley Herd, Spilsby, Lincolnshire.

Mr and Mrs K Beginn's Reserve Junior Champion Bull Tapus Nova Scotia; sired by Hemingby Boxer out of Walmer Heroine E42 sold for 8 000gns to Michael Read's Hemingby Herd, Horncastle, Lincolnshire and R E Needham & Son's Market Stainton Norman; sired by Hemingby Bevan out of Market Stainton Judy 14th J22 sold for 7 000gns to HM & JM Needler's Walmer Herd, Ranby, Lincolnshire.

12 bulls sold on the day, with an overall record breaking average of 5 600gns (£5880).

Female trade was brisk with an overall average for 67 females of 1 288gns (£1352) being; 16 "Showgirls" 1409gns (£1480); 6 in calf Cows/Cow with calf at foot 1700gns (£1785); 5 in calf Heifers 1650gns (£1733); 40 Maidens 1133gns (£1189). Overall Sale average being (79 animals) 1943gns (£2040).

Top priced female and Reserve Champion Heifer in the Show, Michael Read's May 2009 born heifer, and in calf to Donington Kavannah, Hemingby Bridget M622 sired by St. Fort Essex out of Hemingby Bridget J400 sold for 2 400gns to T Davies, Berkeley, Gloucestershire. The Champion Heifer in the Show, HM & JM Needler's February 2010 born maiden heifer; Walmer Princess N18 sired by Beverley Jaunty out of Walmer Princess J43 sold for 1 600gns to G L Gent & Son's Stokedoyle Herd, Oundle, Peterborough.

Mr P Broughton's in calf Donington Gloria G18 (bred by Mr J G Parkinson) ; sired by Limestone Dunstan out of Donington Gloria C8, sold for 2 000gns to F & E Hullah and Son's Tancred Herd, York, South Yorkshire, followed closely by Mr P Broughton's in calf Farnsfield Doris G140 (bred by J & A Farming Ltd) sired by Farnsfield Chuck out of Farnsfield Doris 34th V6 sold for 1 900gns to RM Shaw & RM Miller's Padworth Park Herd, Reading, Berkshire.

Lincoln Red Cattle Society President Geoff Bolton extended thanks on behalf of the Lincoln Red Cattle Society Members to Mr Robin Dennett for being our Judge for the day, to Paul Gentry our ever-efficient Auctioneer and the Newark Livestock Market Team and to all those who supported our Record Breaking Sale.

Visit our website at www.lincolnred.org

The Lincoln Letter

Publisher-North American Lincoln Red Association

Spring/Summer 2012

SUCCESS FOR LINCOLN REDS AT SMITHFIELD

It was win, win, win for the Lincoln Red beef entered into the Beef Ribs Competition at the Smithfield Festival held at the East of England showground on 2nd & 3rd December. In all, 9 sets of ribs were entered into the competition with Lincoln Red and Lincoln Red X taking the top 3 places.

Supreme Champion, ribs from a Lincoln Red heifer owned by RE Needham and Son from



Gayton-le-Wold in Lincolnshire. The heifer, born 02.03.2010, weighed 317.1kgs.


Reserve Champion, ribs from a Lincoln Red X heifer owned by

Michael Read from Hemingby in Lincolnshire. The heifer, born 22.03.2010, weighed



375.3kgs. First place for ribs from a steer, a Lincoln Red owned by Dave Stanley from Dyke in Lincolnshire. The steer, born 14.05.2009, weighed 338kgs. With lots of interest generated around the carcass section of show, it was soon apparent that the marbling in the Lincoln Red beef was attracting a lot of attention and very good comments. The lack of the gristle line, so often seen on continental breed ribs, was certainly another factor in the choice of rib by those viewing.

Lincoln Red



The Pines Dauntless 1M x

Trait	EPD	Asc	Trait	EPD	Asc
CE	4.2	26	MCE	0.6	.24
BN	-0.2	27	SC		
WW	6	27	CWT		
YW	11	26	REA		
MILK	1	24	FAT		
MW	4	25	MAFB		

Reg #	XLRA70023	Tc	Sc
Birth	4/7/02	Tc	Ft
BW	84	Mature WL	
WW	624	Mature HL	
YW (adj)		Mature Sc	
		Mature Ft	

AMWICK YIELD, SX SHAVEN PANDRANA, xLR
SHAVEN CEDAR X, LR THE PINES ADRIAN GJ, xLR
SHAVEN COCKERINGTON 27TH, LR CLAYDENE KATHY 18T, xLR

Looking for pure genetics...try Lincoln Reds!

Superior hybrid vigor • Low to moderate birth weights • Docile temperament • High milk quality • Efficient feed conversion • Rapid weight gain • Excellent carcass quality

Semen: \$30/straw
Straws collected and shipped from Hawkeye Breeders. 507-967-9041 • sarahpedelty@yahoo.com
www.lincolnred.org

Larry & Sarah Pedelty
9724 Co. Rd. 1, Box 5E
Chaffee, Minnesota 55323

SEEING IS BELIEVING!

Take a look at Lincoln Reds at one of these farms:

- **John and Lorraine Ashby**
Stonehedge Farms
Prescott, ON
(613)925-5778
- **Jean Babineau**
Meadow Brook, NB
- **Sarah Band**
Mohil Farms
Puslinch, ON
(519) 824-5619
- **Tom Fillmore**
Oxford, NS
- **Dennis and Mary Hoffrogge**
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085
(507) 227-5745
50% bulls & heifers available
- **Dan and Lily Lamarche**
St Charles, ON POM 2W0
(705) 867-2683
- **Scott & Heather McClinchey**
Orton, ON LON 1N0
(519) 928-3106 (h)
(519) 570-7020 (c)
hlm.dvm@sympatico.ca
For Sale: 2 yr old bulls
- **Gordon MacRae**
Montague, PE
- **Larry and Sarah Pedelty**
sarahpedelty@yahoo.com
Straws for US Breeders
(Collected and Shipped from Hawkeye Breeders)
- **Cedar Ridge Lincoln Reds**
Bill Reid
Oxford Station, ON
(613) 926-2456
bill@lincolnred.ca
- **Rose's Lincoln Reds**
Amherst, NS B4H 3Y1
(902) 667-9834

Visit our website at www.lincolnred.org