

GIZMOS & GADGETS

Products for use on farms and ranches

Compiled by Shauna Hermel, editor

In this month's edition we highlight a wool calf warmer, a new round baler, a feeder-calf program, a fence-post driver, FDA approval of six Blue Bird combinations for a feed additive and multiple animal-health products.

▶▶▶ Wool calf warmer

Woolover Ltd. of Christchurch, New Zealand, introduces to U.S. livestock producers woollen animal covers designed to ensure survival of newborn lambs, calves and kid goats. Doing business in the United States as Woolover Direct, the company has supplied Woolover animal covers to the U.S. dairy industry since 1996. MWI Animal Health, Boise, Idaho, distributes the covers nationwide.

Woolover Ltd. introduces a wool calf cover, called Fit N Forget™, specially designed to fit newborn beef calves. Made from wool needle punched to a hessian substrate,

the biodegradable covers are designed to stretch as the calf grows and to fall off after three to four weeks, totally biodegrading within a year. The wool is absorbent, breathable and comfortable to wear.



Fit N Forget cattle cover

Ideal for calves born at 85 pounds (lb.), the covers will fit calves much smaller.

Fit N Forget Beef Cattle Covers are available from bbajackets@gmail.com or by calling Busse Acres at 715-296-7596.

▶▶▶ Krone round baler with belts

The VariPack round baler from Krone is designed for hay growers looking for a high-quality round baler — with belts — that can bale faster while building dense, uniform bales. The baler features four endless belts with a smooth surface to deliver uniform, high-density bales. Rollers are spaced close together for dependable power transfer to the belts, making for reliable bale starts and consistency as the chamber fills. A quick-close rear door opens and closes in less than five seconds, reducing time spent waiting for the bale to eject.

From the cab the operator can select variable densities for the inner, middle and outer sections of each bale. Select a softer core that can breathe, while maintaining denser middle and outer sections.



Krone's VariPack round baler

The VariPack net-wrapping system is reliable, simple and easy to operate. The net threads easily and consistently through the rigid net feeder and starts automatically when the chamber is filled.

Long-lasting, high-flotation tires are designed for North American field conditions.

This baler's electronic system makes for easier work and faster baling. The system is compatible with the ISOBUS tractor terminal, and offers clear, user-friendly interfaces.

Krone's exclusive EasyFlow camless pick-up delivers maximum crop to the bale chamber and starts each bale out right. It's a durable and long-lasting pick-up, thanks to minimal moving parts. A pivoting, spring-loaded design follows any terrain, eliminating crop loss. A 7-foot (ft.) pick-up width handles wide windrows. The exclusive large auger creates more consistent crop flow from pick-up to feed roller.

The days of getting off your tractor to clear a plug are over. A wide feed rotor, which increases crop flow, and hydraulically engaged drop floor are standard, enabling faster baling, while making quick work of the occasional plug.

Choose 4x5 or 4x6 bale models. Both allow you to change bale diameter on the go.

▶▶▶ New feeder-calf program

Purina Animal Nutrition introduces Purina® Plus, a feeder-calf program to help cattle producers supply high-value, low-risk feeder calves to the marketplace. Program calves receive quality nutrition, vaccinations and dewormers — indicators of a well-raised, healthy calf with strong potential to perform through to the feedlot.

Purina worked with other industry leaders, including Zinpro, Elanco, Merck, Zoetis and Boehringer Ingelheim, to establish the requirements for the program. The end goal was to set parameters that add value to cattle while giving cow-calf producers the flexibility to use strategies that best fit their operation. The result is a program built around a portfolio of products that work to optimize weaning performance and help create a sale-day advantage for the calves in it.



Program calves must be:

- ▶ fed Purina starters at weaning initiation;
- ▶ transitioned to a balanced nutrition program after starter feed;
- ▶ weaned and on feed for a minimum of 45 days prior to sale;
- ▶ fed the appropriate amounts of vitamins and minerals through starters or supplements;
- ▶ vaccinated and appropriately boosted for (1) strains of *Clostridium chauvoei*, *C. septicum*, *C. novyi*, *C. sordellii*, *C. perfringens* (Types C & D); (2) strains of infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR), parainfluenza-3 (PI₃), bovine respiratory syncytial virus (BRSV) and bovine viral diarrhea (BVD) Types 1 and 2 through a modified-live vaccine; and (3) *Mannheimia haemolytica*/*Pasteurella multocida*;
- ▶ dewormed of internal and external parasites with program-approved products; and
- ▶ all males must be castrated, and all horned cattle must be dehorned. Calves must be healed from management procedures at the time of sale.

The companies involved are creating new marketing opportunities through networking, specialized sale events, advertising and more. Purina dealers are collaborating with regional livestock auction markets to establish a reputation for Purina Plus and facilitate calf sales. There is no enrollment fee.

For more information, contact your local Purina dealer.

▶▶▶ Six Blue Bird combinations receive FDA approval

CycleGuard® 500, a melengestrol acetate feed additive used for increased rate of weight gain, improved feed efficiency and suppression of estrus in heifers, has received Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval for combination use with other drug feed additive products in the manufacture of Type B and C medicated feeds.

Available as a Type A liquid medicated article from

Huvepharma, CycleGuard 500 must be mixed with other feeds when fed and should be fed according to label directions. The combination approvals, or Blue Bird labels, allow the product to be used with other feed additives commonly fed to feedlot cattle to enhance rate of gain and feed efficiency, promote carcass leanness, and control coccidiosis, including monensin, tylosin and ractopamine hydrochloride.

The combinations receiving FDA approval include CycleGuard 500 with

- ▶ Monovet® 90;
- ▶ Monovet 90 and Optigrid® 45;
- ▶ Monovet 90 and Tylovet® 100;
- ▶ Monovet 90, Tylovet 100 and Optigrid 45;
- ▶ Optigrid 45 and Monovet 90 plus; and
- ▶ Optigrid 45, Monovet 90 and Tylovet 100.

For more information, contact your Huvepharma sales representative or customer service at 877-994-4883; or visit www.huvepharma.us.

▶▶▶ Viable option to support responsible use of antibiotics

Elanco Animal Health announces the U.S. launch of Increxxa™ injection for the treatment of bovine respiratory disease (BRD). Increxxa quickly targets the site of infection in the lungs for fast-acting performance combined with a long half-life, giving



cattle more time to bolster an effective defense against BRD. “Studies consistently show tulathromycin, the active ingredient in Increxxa, helps decrease the negative effects of BRD, such as morbidity and mortality, when used metaphylactically,” notes Bill Platter, executive director of U.S. beef at Elanco. “This can lead to more profits by

avoiding return trips to the hospital pen and getting cattle back to the feedbunk.”

With the availability of Increxxa, producers have another viable option to help support the responsible use of antibiotics in their herds.

▶▶▶ Weighing system with connectivity

Gallagher introduces an entry-level, low-cost livestock weighing system that is extremely accurate and easy to use, complete with Bluetooth® connectivity.

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Weighing is a powerful performance measurement tool for farmers, as informed management decisions come from animal weight data that are easily obtained and accurate. A few benefits of weighing animals include:

- ▶ monitoring weight gain over time to calculate feed conversion to maximize yield;
- ▶ monitoring animal health;
- ▶ increasing reproductive rates;
- ▶ determining weaning and selling weights; and
- ▶ evaluating animal breeding performance for genetic selections.

With the release of the new W-0, Gallagher has made it easier and more economical to weigh your animals. Paired with the Animal Performance App that is free with the purchase of the W-0, you can create sessions, record weights, view your session statistics with your animal's visual ear tag, and record any relevant notes for the animal, as well as manage the individual weight gain. All of this is done through the indicator and sent via Bluetooth to the app on your phone. There is no longer the need to hand-record those notes.

To learn more visit www.gallagher.com.

▶▶▶ Fence-post driver

Rhino tool introduces the Minuteman® Post Driver and the Minuteman XL8® Post Driver to replace handheld manual post-pounders. The Minuteman makes quick work of installing a chain-link fence around your house and home or installing miles of T-posts to create a perimeter fence for livestock. The self-contained, one-person driver

saves time over a manual, handheld post driver and eliminates the hassle of pounding and digging fence posts. The fixed-handle design safely installs posts up to 6 feet (ft.) tall without a ladder. The 2.25-in. inside-diameter chuck will accommodate posts up to 2 inches (in.) in diameter. The driver includes two patented adapters — 1 in. and 1.75 in. — to properly align the post and driver for driving efficiency and quick driver removal.

The XL8's unique on-board, rotating extension handle drives fence posts up to 8 ft. tall without a ladder while keeping your feet securely on the ground. It has a 3.25-in.-inside-diameter chuck to accommodate fence posts up to 3 in. in diameter. It includes three patented adapters — 1.75 in., 2 in. and 2.5 in. — to properly align the post and driver for driving efficiency and quick driver removal.

For more information, visit www.minutemanpostdrivers.com.

▶▶▶ New options against bacterial and viral BRD

Introduced by Elanco Animal Health, Nuplura® PH+ builds on the proven performance of Nuplura PH against *Mannheimia haemolytica*, while adding protection against common viral causes of BRD, including BVD Types 1 and 2 and IBR.

Nuclura PH+ provides protective immunity against *M. haemolytica*, the primary bacterial cause of pneumonia in cattle, in as little as 10 days. The product protects against *M. haemolytica* and other causes of BRD in calves, as well as in animals at risk for BRD during weaning, branding, shipping, commingling and other times of elevated stress.

For cattle producers concerned about both bacterial and viral causes of BRD, these options provide additional protection:

- ▶ Nuclura PH+BVD delivers additional protection against BVD Types 1 and 2; and
- ▶ Nuclura PH+3 adds protection against BVD Types 1 and 2, plus IBR.

The product is gentle and safe to use on animals as young as 28 days. Field trials show that calves vaccinated with Nuclura PH+ stay on feed and water with minimal sweats or other setbacks. With few postvaccination reactions to overcome, animals can devote energy to growth and productivity.

For more information, contact your herd health veterinarian, Elanco sales representative or technical consultant; or visit www.nuclura.com. |



Minuteman post driver



Minuteman XL8 post driver