

PREWEANING BOVINE RESPIRATORY DISEASE



CAUSES

BRD is commonly caused by a combination of pathogens, often starting with a virus, like BRSV or herpesvirus (i.e. IBR).

Then, bacteria like *Mannheimia*, *Pasturella*, *Histophilus*, or *Mycoplasma bovis* invade and take over.

APPROXIMATELY 3% OF BEEF CALVES IN WESTERN CANADA ARE TREATED FOR RESPIRATORY DISEASE BEFORE WEANING!

CLINICAL SIGNS

Also known as pneumonia, summer pneumonia, or BRD.

Clinical signs include:

- Dullness or lethargy
- Runny nose
- Crusty eyes
- Droopy ears
- Fever
- Difficulty breathing
- Lack of appetite
- Weight loss
- Rough haircoat



Typically occurs at one of two ages:

- <1 month of age in calves who did not get enough colostrum
- 2-4 months when previously high levels of maternal antibodies from colostrum drop below protective levels



ALWAYS TALK TO YOUR VETERINARIAN ABOUT ANTIMICROBIAL TREATMENT CHOICES.

TREATMENT

Antimicrobials can be used to treat BRD. An early, accurate diagnosis is critical for a good treatment response. **Follow your veterinarian's treatment protocol to ensure the right drug is used for the right bug.**



PREVENTATIVE MANAGEMENT

Preventing respiratory disease in calves starts with good colostrum management.

Minimizing co-mingling of age groups and ensuring proper biosecurity of newly introduced animals are also important management strategies.

Contact your veterinarian on how to control the disease if you observe an unusually high number of sick calves.

VACCINATION

Cows and/or calves can be vaccinated to help prevent BRD in calves.

Cow vaccines are generally against the viruses (i.e. BRSV, BHV1, PI3, and BVD) and are usually given before breeding or at preg check.

Calf vaccines are given intranasally either at birth or spring processing (i.e. branding) and include either viral or bacterial agents.

See Core Vaccine Program Guidelines.