



How Can Johnes Disease be Minimized?

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Prevent Exposure to Infected Manure, Milk & Colostrum

Calving Management

- One at a time in the calving pen.
- Clean calving pen after each use.
- Do not use calving pens as hospital pens.
- Keep calving pens clean, dry, and well-ventilated.
- Clean dam's udder and teats before calving.
- Remove newborn calf from dam ASAP.



Calving management is critical! Newborn calves are highly susceptible to infection by MAP and other pathogens.

Colostrum & Calf Feeding Management

Neonatal Calves

- Feed colostrum from individual cows. Do not pool colostrum.
- Collect colostrum after complete milking prep routine.

Pre-weaned Calves

- Feed milk replacer or pasteurized milk.

Contamination/Manure Management

- House calves and weaned heifers away from adult herd.
- Do not feed refusals from cows to younger animals.
- Use separate equipment for handling feed and manure.
- Avoid contaminating feed and water with manure.
- Minimize manure transfer from cow facilities to calves by cleaning boots and using separate equipment.
- Reduce exposure to manure from other farms and visitors.
- Use extra biosecurity precautions when working with sick cows.



Keep feed clean and away from manure-contaminated tractors, skid steers, run-off, etc.



Pastures should be designated for cows or heifers, not both.

Crop and Pasture Management

- Mature cattle and heifers should graze in separate pastures.
- Spreading of manure on fields used for forage is preferable to spreading on grazing pastures.
- Topdress manure as soon after harvesting forage as possible to allow ample time for environmental conditions to reduce MAP levels.

Johnes Disease Facts

Johnes disease management points:

- Calving
- Colostrum
- Contamination
- Crops (or pasture)

Proper teat and udder cleaning is essential to prevent disease transmission.



- Avoid exposure of animals to infected manure, milk, or colostrum.
- Avoid manure contamination of feed and water.
- Use separate equipment for manure and feed.
- Work from youngest to oldest animals to minimize disease spread to the most vulnerable animals.



This material is based upon work supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, through the Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program under subaward number ONE22-416-AWD00000495. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

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