

ABSTRACT

THE EFFECTS OF BAMBERMYCIN (GAINPRO 10) FED TO MILK-FED HOLSTEIN HEIFERS: A COMPARATIVE FIELD TRIAL

A trial was conducted to examine the effects of feeding bambermycin on growth rate, mortality, and morbidity in milk-fed Holstein calves. A total of 588 calves were observed: 297 calves were fed bambermycin at 20 mg per day and 291 calves served as untreated controls. Bambermycin-fed calves had a higher body weight at 56 (63.75 vs 61.55 kg, $p < 0.0001$) and 88 days of age (91.93 vs 89.71 kg, $p < 0.0001$) than control calves. Bambermycin also improved average daily gain from birth to 56 days (442.64 vs 395.46 g, $p < 0.0001$) and to 88 days of age (619.03 vs 584.20 g, $p < 0.0001$). Average daily grain intake for bambermycin-fed calves was higher than their control counterparts. Mortality was reduced in bambermycin-treated calves (1.35 % vs 2.75 %). Bambermycin-fed calves showed more healthful fecal consistency and color. Feeding bambermycin positively influenced growth and performance of neonatal Holstein heifers.

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