

# **DROUGHT HEALTH PROBLEMS IN BEEF CATTLE**

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## **THIN CATTLE**

- Malnutrition/Starvation
- Range Ketosis – Hypoglycemia
  - Thin, nursing cows/stress
- Grain Aflatoxin Poisoning
  - Corn, Sorghum Stressed
  - > 400 PPB
- Lumpy Jaw/Woody Tongue
  - Irritated Mouth/Tongue

## **DEHYDRATED CATTLE**

- High Salinity Tanks
  - > 10,000 PPM
  - Reduced Water Intake
  - High Salt Intake (Neurological Signs)

## **STRESSED CATTLE**

- Heat, Malnutrition, Dehydration
  - Low Fertility
  - Low Milk Production
  - Abortion
  - Dystocia
  - Retained Afterbirth
  - Uterine Prolapse
  - Immunosuppressed

## **SICK CATTLE**

- Stress
  - Immunosuppressed
  - Germ Recrudescence
  - Germ Shedding
  - Low Immunity
  - Low Response to Vaccines
  - Contact Exposures

## **DOWNER/DEAD CATTLE**

- Malnutrition
- Foot Founder (Laminitis)
  - Front Feet
- Polio (Polioencephalomalacia)
  - Low protein, low roughage, and high sulfate diet
  - Confined and fed a grain diet without roughage
  - Downer cow attempts to stand
  - Ankles remain flexed or knuckled over
- Grain Aflatoxin Poisoning
  - Corn, Sorghum Stressed
  - > 600 PPB
- Plant Nitrate Poisoning
  - Corn, Sorghum, Johnson Stressed
  - > 1%
- Plant Cyanide Poisoning
  - Sorghum, Johnson Stressed
- Poisonous Plants
- Blackleg Group (Soil-Borne/Recrudescence)
- Anthrax (Soil-Borne)

## **DEAD CATTLE AFTER RAINS**

- Plant Cyanide Poisoning
  - Sorghum, Johnson New Growth
- Fog Fever (Pulmonary Emphysema and Edema)
  - Toxic reaction in the lungs
  - Lush, green grass in spring or fall
- Blackleg Group (Soil-Borne/Recrudescence)
- Anthrax (Soil-Borne)

## **PURCHASED CATTLE/CARRIERS FOR RESTOCKING**

- Johne's Disease (Cow/Bull)
- Neosporosis (Cow)
- Vibriosis (Bull)
- Trich (Bull)