

Summer Management of Animals

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Abstract

The growth, production and reproduction of animals can be affected by seasonal variations. Summer is the one of the season that negatively affects animal performance due increased environmental temperature, shortage of green fodder, hormonal changes in animal body, etc. Animals need more than average space to move around in a barn. If the same space is overcrowded, it takes longer for the heat to dissipate. Trees should be planted in the surrounding area of the cowshed. So that the atmosphere in the manger remains cool. In dairy farming, it is necessary to make necessary changes in the management of animals according to the environment and season. Failure to make necessary changes can lead to difficulties. Effective dairy farming requires protection of livestock from excessive heat, cold and rain. If the temperature goes above 45 degrees Celsius, heat stress occurs in animals. As a result the animals are not productive. Good milk production is possible if the animals are kept in the right environment, proper amount of feed and other management.

Introduction

We are constantly striving to make our dairy business more profitable and for this we are always looking for and adopting new technologies. While doing such new experiments, if we constantly study our environment and modify the technology in our own way, then the technology will be fruitful for us and it will benefit us and the livestock farmers around us permanently and in all seasons. But most of the times we do not make necessary changes in our dairy farming according to the environment and season and hence we face the problems caused by it. While doing dairy farming, it is necessary to protect your livestock from more rains, colder and hotter summers so that there is no harm to its production. If we look at the temperature, it is 45 degree celsius. It is more than that and in such temperature our animals are not productive as required. At such times heat stress occurs on the animals.

Symptoms of heat stroke

- Generally 10 to 26 degree Celsius is considered suitable temperature for animals. (24 to 26 degrees Celsius for hybrids and 33 degrees Celsius for Indian natives and up to 33 degrees Celsius for buffaloes)
- After the temperature rises, animals regulate their body temperature through the process of transpiration or transpiration.
- Animals are subjected to additional stress after temperature fluctuations.
- Animals release the energy produced in the animal's body. But, as the temperature of the atmosphere increases, the release of energy becomes more difficult. Increased energy load in the environment affects the energy excretion system of animals.
- Animal hormone production changes. It adversely affects the production, health, feeding and breeding of animals.
- Animal body tries to regulate body temperature by using feed and it makes the animal uncomfortable. The feed intake of the animal's decreases and the thirst and appetite slows down.
- In an attempt to regulate body temperature, the animal acts as if it is panting by increasing the rate of respiration. Breathes through the mouth. Breathing is shallow and rapid. As a result, the pulse rate increases.
- The skin of the animal's body becomes dry. Eyes become red and watery.
- The animal is likely to suffer from acidity and diarrhea.
- The amount of urine of the animal decreases.
- Animals are constantly sitting.

Side Effects of Warming

Indigenous animals are more resilient to climate change. In contrast, hybrids and exotic animals have less strength. Such animals have difficulty in regulating their body temperature after the rise in ambient temperature. This affects the milk production and health of the animals.

- Increases the energy requirement of animals: The energy in the body of animals is mainly used for milk production, calf growth, walking, breathing, eating. Due to the change in environment, additional stress is put on the animal. To overcome it, the animal needs extra energy.

- Decreased milk production: Milk production can decrease by up to 30 percent after temperatures rise above 35 degrees Celsius.
- The increase in heat has a greater effect on the growth of calves and calves.
- The composition of milk changes. As the amount of fat and protein in milk decreases.
- The quantity of fodder consumed by animals decreases.
- Affects the reproductive system of animals. A heat-stressed cow does not come to heat. Also there are difficulties in getting pregnant.
- Heat stress can cause pregnant cows to miscarry or give birth prematurely.
- Animals pant to relieve stress and dissipate heat.
- Stomach movements of animals slow down. As a result, the entire digestive system is affected.
- Due to the imbalance of salts in the body, the animal may suffer from acid indigestion and watery diarrhea.
- Affects the health of the animal's udder.
- Affects hormones that control milk production.
- During this period, hoof diseases and lameness of animals are likely to increase.

Measures to be undertaken to prevent heat stroke

- It is necessary to provide maximum shade to the animals without standing in the sun
- To protect the animals from heat stroke, care should be taken that the animals are not exposed to direct sunlight.
- Animals need more than average space to move around in a barn. If the same space is overcrowded, it takes longer for the heat to dissipate.
- Trees should be planted in the surrounding area of the cowshed. So that the atmosphere in the manger remains cool.
- The shed should be ventilated. There should be space in the cowshed for hot air to escape and cold air to enter.
- While building the cowshed, its roof height should be kept high.
- The roof of the manger should be painted white. Therefore, heat stress in animals can be reduced by reflecting heat.
- Mulch or mulch should be placed on the roof of the cowshed.
- Fans should be installed in the cowshed to keep the air circulating.

- Water sprinklers should be installed on the roof of the shed. The body of animals should be watered by sprinklers, foggers. It helps the animal's body to stay cool.
- A wet gunny bags or a water-holding cloth should be tied around the cowshed. So that the hot air coming in gets cold. And the cold air inside will stay inside.
- Plenty of clean, cold water should be provided to the animals in the cowshed itself. The water tanks should be made of cement so that the water in the free-flowing cowshed remains cool.
- Animals need to chew more fodder should be given in the morning or evening. Because extra heat is generated in the animal's body for biting the fodder.
- Adequate amount of salts should be given to balance the disturbed salts in the body to bear the stress during this period.

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