



Executive Summary

2022 Joint Stockmen's Convention

Managing Herd Health Through Drought,
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Albuquerque, NM—2022 Joint Stockmen's Convention:
Transforming Challenges into Opportunities

Summary:

Managing herd health is just one challenge producers face in the wake of heightened drought. Particularly, the cost of Bovine Respiratory Disease (BRD) in the U.S. cattle industry today is around \$1 billion. Regardless, there are fundamentals that can be implemented at the ranch level to minimize downstream problems, particularly with BRD.

BRD brought about by stress and nutritional deficiency make cattle more susceptible to additional bacterial infections. The key lies on improving resistance at each stage of BRD, seeking a wholistic outcome to improve overall herd health.

Emerging innovations are paving the way for better herd health practices, such as the Inforce 3 intranasal vaccine that targets IBR, PI3 and BRSV viruses. Having a concrete strategy with immunization patterns and practices is important for minimizing future complications in the later growth of cattle.

Key Points:

1. While risk in herd health cannot be eliminated, it can be minimized through effective strategy.
2. BRD is an example of a common impediment that can be combatted.
3. A well-structured vaccination program and emphasis on nutrition in calves helps mitigate risk.
4. Focusing on the mother is always a productive step and oftentimes offers room for improvement.
5. Taking proper precautions will help ensure that beef is produced and raised more efficiently.



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