Elanco

Scour Bos®

# SCOURS RISK ASSESSMENT

**EVALUATE THE RISK OF SCOURS THIS FALL.**

Utilize the chart below to determine the potential risk of scours your operation may face. By identifying potential risk factors within your cow/calf operation early, adjustments can be made prior to calving. Talk to your veterinarian to develop a sound herd health program to protect against scours.

## NEONATAL DIARRHEA RISK ASSESSMENT FORM[1]

| Risk Factor | Total Value Possible | Your Risk Potential |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Herd performance not analyzed | +5 | |
| 2. Forages not tested | +5 | |
| 3. > 2% abortions in the herd this year | +5 | |
| 4. Heifers calved before March 10 (northern climates) | +5 | |
| 5. > 20% first calf heifers | +20 | |
| 6. History of significant calf diarrhea | +15 | |
| 7. Average body condition score ≤ 4 (out of 9) | +5 | |
| 8. Winter weight loss | +15 | |
| 9. > than 30 days in the precalving area before calving | +10 | |
| 10. Poor drainage in the pre- and postcalving areas | +10 | |
| 11. Sick cows/calves not isolated from the calving area | +15 | |
| 12. Heifers calved in the same areas as cows | +10 | |
| 13. Newly purchased cows/calves added during the calving season | +15 | |
| 14. Foster calves purchased to replace lost calves | +20 | |
| **Total** | **155** | |

### POINTS

**0–55**

**Slight risk** of a neonatal diarrhea epidemic this year

**56–70**

**Moderate risk** of a neonatal diarrhea epidemic this year

**71–155**

**High risk** of a neonatal diarrhea epidemic this year

## THE COST OF CALF SCOURS

- A Canadian study identified calf scours as the second leading cause of antimicrobial treatment in calves.[2]
- Calves with inadequate colostrum are 1.6 times more likely to die before turnout.[3]
- A 2010 Canadian survey found that between 2.4-17.6% of calves were treated for scours with the average being a 5.5% treatment rate.[4]
- Scours in the early life of calves resulted in an average reduction in adjusted weaning weight of 10.7 kg in treated calves.[5]

**To establish a proper herd health strategy, contact your local veterinarian or your Elanco Animal Health sales representative.**


[1] Pence, M., Robbe, S. et al. 2001. "Production Management: Reducing the Incidence of Neonatal Calf Diarrhea through Evidence-Based Management". Compendium of Cont. Education for Practicing Vet. 23.8:S73-S75

[2] Waldner, C., Wilhelm, B., et al. 2022. "Improving beef calf health: frequency of disease syndromes, uptake of management practices following calving, and potential for antimicrobial use reduction in western Canadian herds" Translational Animal Science. 6: 1–12

[3] Waldner, C., Rosengren, L. 2009. "Factors associated with serum immunoglobulin levels in beef calves". Can Vet J. 50:275-281.

[4] Waldner, C., Jelinski, M. et al. 2013. "Survey of western Canadian beef producers regarding calf-hood diseases, management practices, and veterinary service usage" Can. Vet J. 54: 559-564

[5] Wittum, T., Salman, M. et al. 1994. "The influence of neonatal health on weaning weight of Colorado USA beef calves. Prev. Vet. Med. 19:15-25




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