

# Cover All The Bases To Maximize Dairy Reproduction

**NEW YORK, N.Y.**

**M**ost U.S. dairy producers worry a lot about their herds' reproduction. And for good reason. Reproductive efficiency affects milk production, herd replacement rate and genetic advancement, among other factors.

"Managers of the most successful herds place tremendous emphasis on estrous induction and detection, correct breeding technique and timely checking for pregnancies," says Mark Kirkpatrick, DVM, MS, and senior veterinarian with Pfizer Animal Health. "They also carefully select and invest in semen to achieve their genetic advancement goals."

But there's a missing piece that also must be in place for ultimate reproductive success. Without ongoing disease protection, all of that careful management can be quickly negated.

"Anyone who has ever seen a clinical bovine viral diarrhea (BVD) outbreak can testify to its devastating results," says Kirkpatrick. "The abortions and calf deaths that can occur essentially wipe out the herd's investment in efficient reproduction." BVD also can manifest itself in more subtle ways, causing low-grade but persistent respiratory disease, depressed pregnancy rates, weak calves and suppressed immunity in animals of all ages.

What's more, BVD can become a reproductive menace in that cows can pass the disease on to the calves they are carrying, creating persistently infected (PI) offspring that can rapidly infect herdmates after they are born.

Producers can protect their herds from BVD by vaccinating with Bovi-Shield GOLD® FP®, the only five-way viral vaccine that offers 365 days of BVD PI protection. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has approved the Bovi-Shield GOLD FP label claim of "prevents BVD Types 1 and 2 persistently infected calves." This "prevents disease" status is the highest label claim that the USDA has assigned to a BVD PI vaccine.

Bovi-Shield GOLD FP may be administered safely to pregnant and nursing cows, provided they were previously vaccinated, according to label directions, with the same vaccine prior to breeding initially, and within 12 months thereafter.

Herds also can help secure protection against abortions caused by infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR) by routinely vaccinating with Bovi-Shield GOLD FP. Additional protection against leptospira can be secured by using Bovi-Shield GOLD FP 5 L5, and against both leptospira and vibrio by using Bovi-Shield Gold FP 5 VL5.

"Given the importance of efficient reproduction to dairy herds, and the emphasis that most herd managers place upon it, it only makes sense to cover all the bases by preventing reproductive-related diseases through regular vaccination," says Kirkpatrick. "The Bovi-Shield Gold FP line of vaccines helps provide both the thorough protection and scheduling convenience that successful dairy managers need to reap the full rewards of their breeding program efforts."

The Pfizer Animal Health Dairy Wellness Plan™ is a 365-day approach to managing a dairy operation that focuses on the health of the dairy animal, the economic health of the dairy and the proper use of animal health products leading to a safe and healthy food supply.

Pfizer Inc. (NYSE: PFE), the world's largest research-based pharmaceutical company, is a world leader in discovering and developing innovative animal vaccines and prescription medicines. Pfizer Animal Health is dedicated to improving the safety, quality and productivity of the world's food supply by enhancing the health of livestock and poultry; and in helping companion animals live longer and healthier lives. For additional information on Pfizer's portfolio of animal products, visit [www.PfizerAH.com](http://www.PfizerAH.com). Δ



Link Directly To: **SYNGENTA**



Link Directly To: **VERMEER**