The effect of monensin on pulmonary arterial pressures in beef calves

Investigators: Colby Hales, Tim Holt, and Scott Lake

Issue: Ionophores are widely used throughout the beef industry due to their ability to increase efficiency. Ionophores, including monensin, are antibiotics used to treat bacterial, fungal, and parasitic infections. There have been reports of increased heart rate and cardiac stress accompanied with the feeding of monensin, which may place cattle that are susceptible to high-altitude disease at risk, regardless of elevation (Fig. 1).

Goal: Study the effect of monensin on pulmonary arterial pressure (PAP) in beef calves fed a high-concentrate diet.

Objectives: Evaluate PAP scores in beef calves in two groups: a control (no monensin added), and the other fed a base ration combined with monensin.

Expected Impact: This study should help cattle producers and feeders further understand the potential impact of monensin on increasing susceptibility of cattle to high-altitude disease, commonly known as brisket disease.

Contact: Scott Lake at scott.lake@uwyo.edu or 307-460-8129, or Colby Hales at chales@uwyo.edu or 307-760-1315.

Keywords: monensin, brisket disease, pulmonary hypertension

PARP: V:10,13

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2018 All-America Selections annual and perennial flowers

Investigators: Karen Panter

Issue: All-America Selections (AAS; http://all-americaselections.org) is an international, independent, non-profit organization devoted to testing and highlighting the best of the best in flowering annuals and perennials. There are more than 70 AAS Trial Grounds plus almost 200 Display Gardens in the U.S. and Canada. The gardens at the University of Wyoming are Display (Fig. 1), and are the only AAS gardens in Wyoming.

Goal: Showcase new and improved annual and perennial flowering plants for the high-altitude Wyoming climate.

Objectives: The effect of various substrate mixes and rooting hormone concentrations on root production in goji berry hardwood cuttings will be evaluated.

Expected Impact: Test new, unsold cultivars; inform gardeners and landscapers about AAS winners; earn gardeners’ and landscapers’ trust in AAS winners; and determine which of the AAS selections can be successfully grown in Wyoming’s climate.

Contact: Karen Panter at kpanter@uwyo.edu or 307-766-5117.

Keywords: flowers, annuals, perennials

PARP: not applicable

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Figure 1. Cattle are susceptible to brisket disease at any elevation, but it is more common at higher altitudes. (Photo courtesy Robert Waggener)