HOW TO REDUCE THE USE OF ANTIBIOTICS IN DAIRY CATTLE

Available fresh water, shade, silence and good ventilation can help to reduce heat stress, mastitis, respiratory problems and other health issues, while improving milk production.

Diseases spread easier in crowded areas; ensure enough space per animal. On average, 4.5-5.5 m² is required per cow in the barn.

Vaccination is a reliable alternative to antibiotics in the prevention of some diseases. Make sure you follow your vaccination calendar.

Following a comprehensive biosecurity program will reduce disease occurrence.

Moisture, mud and manure is a good environment for diseases to appear. Use bedding, such as hay, sawdust or shavings, keep it clean and dry and replace it often to reduce the occurrence of mastitis, lameness and respiratory diseases.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Adequate management of cows during the dry period can prevent infections and has a positive effect on lactation.

Milk quality and udder health highly depends on milking practices. Clean and disinfect the teats and your hands before milking. Use clean milking equipment and cloths. This will reduce the spread of mastitis.

Feed the calf at least 3 litres of colostrum in the first four hours after birth to ensure better disease resistance. An additional 2 litres are required in the following four hours.

Many high-producing breeds are more susceptible to diseases. If possible, choose a breed that is suitable for your production environment.

Update yourself on the latest in appropriate and balanced feeding to provide sufficient proteins, energy and fiber. This can help maintaining the health of your animals and reduce stress.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO USE ANTIBIOTICS EFFECTIVELY AND RESPONSIBLY IN DAIRY PRODUCTION PLEASE SCAN ME