

## Calving Management Workshop Planning Ahead for Success and Profit

### The Situation

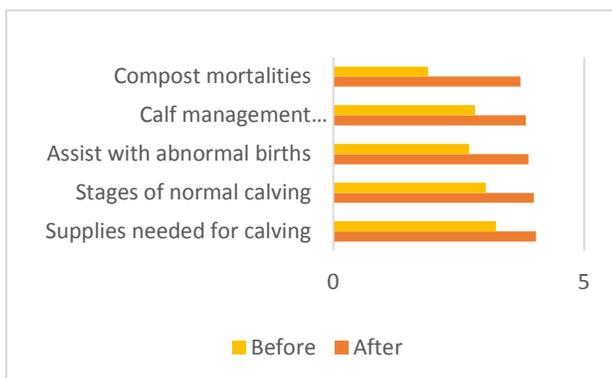
Reproductive efficiency is an important characteristic of a cow-calf operation. Local needs assessments have discovered that calving season tends to be a stressful time for livestock producers and brought up the need for increased knowledge of calving management and preparation skills. Without the delivery of a healthy calf, there is no calf to be sold for revenues to be generated in the upcoming year.

### Extension Response

A workshop was held in Minot at the start of the spring calving season geared towards livestock producers from a multicounty area around the north central and northwest region of North Dakota. Producers participated in the interactive event to learn to recognize the signs of labor, stages of calving, normal delivery expectations, and identifying calving problems. Hands on demonstrations on how to assist births and how to deal with abnormal presentation of the calf was taught. Health management of the new calf, colostrum needs, tube feeding procedures, signs of calf stress and supplies to have on hand were also discussed.

### Impacts

Evaluations were conducted retrospectively with participants rating their knowledge level on a 5-point scale before and after the program.



### Feedback

Participants were asked what actions they intended to take as a result of attending the workshop. Responses included:

- “Address cow labor issues on a timely basis. Consult vet more frequently.”
- “Placement of chains for pulling, better rations, getting assistance earlier.”
- “Move cows/calves to newer/dryer area throughout calving.”
- “How to recognize calving difficulties.”

### Public Value Statement

Being more prepared to handle the challenges and complications that occur during calving season results in a better outcome of assisted deliveries and better management practices of the pregnant cow and newborn calf. This increases the percentage of live calves born, weaned, and sold resulting in more economic return for the producer.



### Collaborators

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