

Clinical Vs Subclinical Health Problems in a Dairy Cattle Herd

Muhammad Elnaggar*

DVM and Dairy Cattle Farms Management Consultant, Egypt

***Corresponding Author:** Muhammad Elnaggar, DVM and Dairy Cattle Farms Management Consultant, Egypt.

Received: July 11, 2020; **Published:** September 30, 2020

Unfortunately, most of the dairy cattle farms owners and management teams looking for clinical health problems within the dairy herd to solve, ignoring the most dangerous and costive subclinical health problems.

It's a fatal mistake, because when herd health problems turns from subclinical to clinical one it cause sever clinical damage to the cattle herd and the investments while its treatment and control becomes too costly and very hard!

So what?

The only successful way in dairy cattle herds management to maximize profits and minimizing economic losses due to health and management issues, is to control subclinical health problems that cannot be detected by the farm owners and management teams because it have no detected symptoms within the herd.

Subclinical health problems within the herd called the "silent killer" of the investments as it is sub clinically reduces production, reproduction and health performance of the herd.

For example, the subclinical "Bovine viral diarrrhea" that when become clinical and fatal called "Mucosal disease" so we will discuss the subclinical symptoms of the subclinical BVD in a given dairy cattle herd:

1. Immune suppression that makes the herd susceptible to any other infections even the herd was vaccinated against!
2. Intermittent light undetectable diarrrhea, that reduces feed conversion and alters animal health.
3. Low conception rate.
4. Sporadic Dead calving and or abortions.
5. Reduces milk production by 15 - 30% all over the season.
6. Early Embryonic deaths.

The subclinical BVD is not the only subclinical herd health issue within the dairy herd it is only an example for understanding the risk and the economic losses of the subclinical health and management issues within the dairy cattle herds.

Other examples of subclinical health issues within the dairy herd include:

- Subclinical mastitis
- Subclinical acidosis

- Subclinical contagious dermatitis
- Subclinical IBR.

And many other subclinical herd health issues that must be focused and prevented.

How to prevent?

Strict vaccination programs against diseases and strict nutritional and prophylactic and biosecurity measures or just monitoring and control.

Volume 5 Issue 10 October 2020

©All rights reserved by Muhammad Elnaggar.