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# Farm Animal Newsletter

February 2019

The new year brings new additions to your farms. Whether it is fresh stock, or 4H/FFA animals, it is important to be aware of some of the common causes of disease that can occur in young or traveled livestock. This newsletter will discuss Shipping Fever.

## Shipping Fever

- **What is it?** It is a respiratory disease that occurs typically from exposure to a virus (IBR, BVD, PI3, BRSV), then the stress of exposure to new places/animals decreases their immune system. This leaves them open to getting really sick with secondary bacterial infection.
- **Who can get it?** Like people with the flu the animals most likely to develop shipping fever are the young, old, and immunosuppressed.
- **What causes animals to be immunosuppressed?** STRESS! It is stressful to move to a new place, stressful to be mixed in with new animals, and stressful to be in cold temperatures.
- **When to contact us?** When the animal is off feed, elevated temperature, snotty nose, cough, and/or lethargy.

## Normal vital parameters:

- Cattle: Temperature 100-102.5F, Heart rate 40-60 beats per second, Respiration 10-30 breaths per minute
- Sheep and goats: Temperature 102-104F, Heart rate 60-90 BPM, Respiration 12-20 BPM
- Swine: Temperature 100-103F, Heart rate 60-100 BPM, Respiration 8-20 BPM



**As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please let us know!**

**Thank you, Dr. Misty Lambert, Dr. Robert Krueger, Dr. Jessica Krueger, and MVAH staff**