

Guyer's

SHOW-RITE TIP



With the New Show Season under way there is a time old question that arises at every show, "How Do I Get My Calf Fuller". There are a lot of "fill products" out there but the one we recommend is ShowRite Stretch.

Stretch is a new fill product that just became available this fall. It is a pelleted product that when fed at the rate of one part stretch to one part water you will see three times the expansion. Now I know you are thinking will they eat it? The answer is yes, especially if you go through the right process.

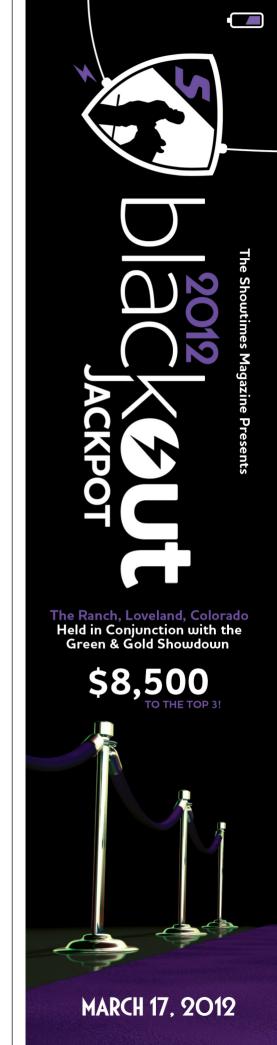
If you bring your calf into the barn the morning of the show and decide he or she needs fill and throw any kind of filler in front of them and expect them to eat it and fill up, that is most likely not going to happen and the same goes with Stretch. As I stated

earlier, with the right process we can add fill but we have to plan ahead. If you will start your calf 2-4 days ahead of the show it will allow the product to give you the best results. Example: Calf is being fed three scoops of feed/ feeding. Take out two scoops of feed and replace it with one scoop of Stretch. The reason for this is to keep your calf a little on the hungry side but due to the extra expansion you will keep that fuller look. The only way a product will work is if they eat it. Cattle that have already been fed show morning and have laid down because they are full will not eat any fill product because there has not been any preparation. So don't run to the show supply trailer on show morning and expect to get something to fill your calf up. With just a little planning Stretch will become a huge tool to your success in the ring.

Also always wait to water your calf after they have consumed all the Stretch possible especially on show morning.

Go through the process and you will see the fantastic results.

Good Luck at the show!





Dave, Guyer's



he tip this month is going to be based on selection. It's getting to be that time that many of you are thinking about finishing this year as well as already thinking about next year. In the selection process I have a few things or guidelines that I like to follow to help make the year as successfully as possible. Decide as a family before you ever leave home a few things. 1) Decide what you are going to buy. Heifer or steer? What breed? The only advice I have here is that if you have younger kids to put them in a small breed in numbers so when you go to the show they have a better chance of being at the upper end of the class to build confidence. 2) Decide what you are going to spend. This can be a deep subject but ALWAYS remember the more you spend the more you win is NOT the truth. The truth is the more you work the more you win. The highest priced calf with little work equals nothing but an average priced quality calf with the right effort equals a winner. In the livestock show world we buy animals. Some families buy vacations,

RV's, motor cycles, boats, etc. while others buy drug rehab, lawyers, and teen pregnancy. So always remember that the money spent here is hopefully teaching responsibility, dedication, and reward. 3) Decide where you are going to buy. Don't buy off someone because you think you have to, buy off someone you like and trust. You need to trust the guy you are buying from because I would hope they would guide you in the right direction to a calf that fits you and your family's needs. That person is also going to be your teachers and hopefully your kids mentor.

Now when you set out to find your next project here is the biggest piece of advice I can give you... Don't get in a hurry!!! You will be much more satisfied with your purchase by waiting until later to buy. The later you wait to buy for next year the more it takes out the guess work on the way the calf will turn out. So wait until late fall to make your purchase.

Good luck at the shows this summer!!!



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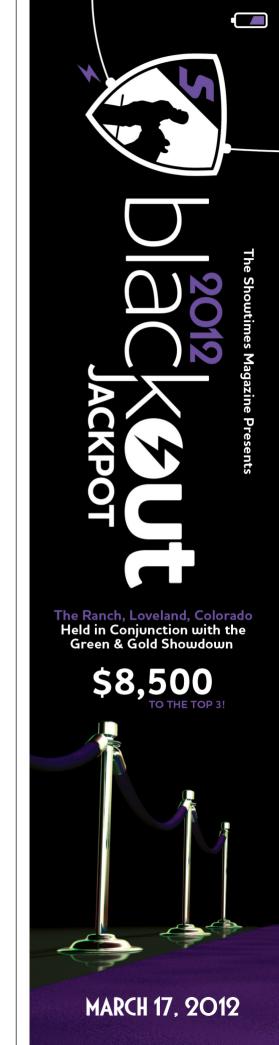
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his time of the year is a time that many of you get discouraged because your cattle are rubbing or loosing hair. Just a few thoughts... If you have been showing and clipping them they are more apt to lose their hair earlier. If not they will be more apt to hold it longer which can be good or bad. If you were getting ready for a certain upcoming show such as an state expo show, that is good because the hair will be fresh but if you are getting ready for a state fair, lets say in Aug. that is bad. If your getting ready for a summer time show you want them to go ahead and lose it so you can get the new hair started back. They can lose it by brushing, combing,

use of a grill brick, or plucking it off with clippers. Which ever the way you choose to get that old hair out is your decision, but the quicker you get it out the quicker you get it back. Another thing you might face this time of the year is rubbing and the one thing I would do is to limit as much as you can of the things or places in their pen to rub on. Also and probably the most important is keep the skin and hair from drying out. Most think they are getting lice and such but in reality it is just dry skin. Use oils and hair conditioners to keep that skin and hair as fresh as you can to keep them from rubbing especially if you are try to show. Just a few thoughts on hair this time of the year. Good luck at the shows!





Guyer's

SHOW-RITE TIP



re you ready for the summer time shows? Are you far enough along in condition, do you need to make feed adjustments, how's your hair, do you need to make some management adjustments, etc.?

One of the first things I look at is if they are far enough along. In other words, are they fat enough for this time of the year? If it's a steer you should be in that 1200 to 1250 range 45 to 60 days out from the show. If it's a heifer you should be looking at her not from a weight stand point but from a condition stand point. Is she in real good condition 45 to 60 days out? If you meet either of these you are good to go. You are sitting in a position that you can cruise right into the show. As it gets hot you won't have to worry about being behind the eight ball on condition and trying to get them to eat in the heat. Also while you are cruising you are more able to be growing hair due to the main reason that you're not feeding so hard. When you are coasting your calf is the best time to be looking at ShowRite Cruiser. It's a low energy, high fiber ration that does just what its name says......Cruise. Maybe you might need to even slow your calf down even more. That's

when you can be adding some Stretch to that ration. It will act as a filler as well as help with rib expansion. It also keeps the gut working properly while in the holding period. If you think you are behind the eight ball then I would suggest trying GLU-Coat to increase fat coat as well as feed intake.

Look at your hair. That old dead hair should be gone at least 90 days out from the show. The rule of thumb is that you need 90 to 120 days to get the optimal hair that we all desire for the show. Get that old hair out and start keeping them cool. Get them in out of the sun and put them in the barn under fans or get them in the cooler if you have one. A cooler is not a necessity but whether you have one or not you still need to get them in early and turn out later after dark. Besides keeping them clean and cool during the hot months, I feel that the BEST tool in hair growth is to be using Hide and Hair. I believe without a shadow of a doubt that it will help you along with good management.

Hopefully this give you a few time lines to meet that might help you out to be more ready on show day. Have fun at the show and enjoy the summer!



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Breaking your calf this fall. BY DAVE GUYER, IL



If you are showing spring borns it's that time of the year that you are going to be getting calves in soon to get broke. If you show summer borns this will be a liitle early but you can put it away in your memory bank for later. Breaking a calf is something that I think is very important to be done correctly. It's kinda like a young person creating some bad habits and then it's hard to break them of it. So let's try not to let our calf create any bad habits right off the bat. A good example is letting them drag a halter. I personally am not a fan of letting them drag a halter. You put it on to get them use to it but all it teaches them is to put their head down and pull. You think about it, as they are dragging that halter and they step on it, it pulls their head down and the more they move forward and pull harder the halter releases from under their foot. In short you are teaching them to put their head down and pull and they can get away from the pressure. If you wish to let them get use to a halter, I would prefer putting them in an aisle way or working chute with the halter. Then you can get close to teach them you are on their team and not there to hurt em. Then you can tie em up right there also as they can't swing around or go anywhere. Be sure to start by tying them with their heads down. Don't tie one with their head up until you feel they have got to the point in the learning process that you feel confident it is safe to do so. When tying up in a stall don't be afraid be afraid to leave tied for most of the daylight hours for three or four days. Don't tie them by themselves, I like to tie them side by side right up against another calf or calves or against a wall. This way you are are teach them to stand straight in the stall. Don't let a calf pull their ears down. If they are one that pulls and pulls hard and isn't letting up, then untie and you are going to tie up more times for short periods. The best advice I can give on one that pulls or one that has some fire or spunk is to tie in a stall as long as the halter will allow. Yes give them four or more feet of rope. This way they don't feel confined and will give into the halter sooner. Then as time goes you can shorten and shorten the halter. This technic is what we use the most even with large numbers. You can use a donkey if you have access to one that works. Be sure you know the donkey because they can bite and kick. To avoid this be sure to tie them close together at about 12 to 16 inchs. Be patient in the breaking process and don't loose your cool. It takes some calves a little time to come around but over the years I have only had a few that we couldn't conquer. Remember if you have chosen to show livestock as a family, it is a great place to teach responsibility, dedication, and reward. Good luck at the shows and have fun.



Winter is Coming BY DAVE GUYER, IL



This time of year when winter is coming on, one can ease up or give yourself a break because of the cooler weather. This is true to an extent... but we have to treat mom's like mom's. kid's sometimes like kid's and show cattle like show cattle. Chad Day, when he was full time with me, said it hundreds of times that a show calf needed to be treated like a show calf and you know he's right. When the weather is nice like it will be coming up it is real easy to just let your calf go. I feel that if that happens you are missing the real learning stages in that calfs life. Think of it this way, could you have skipped 1st through 4th grade and just started in 5th? No, and neither can your calf. Get on 'em early and teach 'em what the halter is and how to respect that halter just like we talked about in last month's issue. Then teach 'em to be show cattle every day. When the weather is good at least get them in and rinse and blow out. Tie them up in a stall and teach 'em to stand straight and stand still. I know some of you are saying "Well it's too cold to rinse" and if it is at least get 'em in, blow 'em out, and work some Kleen Sheen into their hair. Keep them clean and if your one that has a muddy lot like most of us at some point do, do not let them get mud balls. This is one of my biggest pet peeves. If they are getting mud balls then it is just plain neglect. Show cattle should not be getting mud balls. It pulls hair out, it's hard on their skin, and then when you go to wash those mud patches out it teaches them that when they get a bath it's going to hurt because you are going to be pulling hair and they don't forget. It has to be pretty dang cool for me not to rinse my calf and keep them clean. The whole lesson to be learned from all this rambling on is this... Don't be lazy and use the weather as your excuse to not work your calf. If the weather is bad as least bring 'em in and keep 'em clean. Start teaching them as soon as you put them in the barn. And if you're going to have show cattle then treat them like show cattle. If you use and keep that motto, I promise your calf will act like a show calf. Good luck in this calf hunting season and for those of you that have filled your tag... Get to work, the shows are just around the corner!



Winter is Coming BY DAVE GUYER, IL



This time of the year a lot of you are getting new cattle in and there are a few things I would like to point out. Each of you need to check with your veterinarian and be sure that your new calves have had all their vaccinations. Some may assume that they have been done but don't always assume. I like to revac all my incoming cattle just to make sure. This is very important to their future health. Also be sure to worm and reworm your new cattle. We like to worm as they come in and after we have everything settled in we go through and reworm again. Be sure to keep them on a regular schedule of worming throughout the year. This time of the year is assessable to lice, so be sure to use a wormer or delice product that gets those little critter too. Lice can play havoc on that hair and when it's gone, it's gone. People are always wondering with their new calves on when to start trimming feet? My suggestion is to hold off for a while. Unless you have a major problem you are better off letting those feet grow so when it comes time to trim feet there is something there to work with. Some people start too early on a young tender foot and then later when you need to trim there is nothing there to work with due to the fact its wore off due to trimming too early. Getting them on a good feeding program such as ShowRite feed from the beginning is also a key. Some might think, "well I will wait till later to start them on that show feed ration" but truthfully then it's too late. Start them on a good feed program from the beginning. These are just a few things I feel you can do in the beginning that make for a successfully project in the end! Remember one thing, it's the little things that separate the winners from the rest. Enjoy the new show season and have fun along the way and also be sure to say "Hi" when ya see me at the show. Good luck!



The Little Things. BY DAVE GUYER, IL



his month's tip will be a little off the wall. I was at a show this past weekend and a few little nit picky things happened that may be little to some, but it's the little things that separate some from others. Where we were at the concrete was a little slick. It wasn't like glass but it was slick and there were some cattle that were being led by that fell and struggled.

Fortunately nothing got hurt but those falls could have been prevented. When leading a calf over slick areas give them the lead and walk. Don't try to slow down and try to force the calf to take it slow because all you will do is make it worse. Think of it like this, if you were to walk across a frozen pond you wouldn't have any problem if you were to just walk in a straight line across the pond. But if you were wrestling with somebody across that same pond, pushing and pulling trying to get you to go at a certain speed or direction, do you think your footing would be the same? Then on top of it all, some come straight from the wash rack with water dripping and that only makes the situation on the floor worse. At least comb and get as much water out at the rack before leading across the concrete. Back off their head and give the calf their lead and just walk with 'em. As soon as you start to strong arm them, they will lose their footing and then it's hard to regain. All this goes for any slick area you might have to walk through. To some of you, you might think this is a little crazy but to others it might save getting a calf hurt.

Remember it's that time of the year that a lot of you are getting in new calves for next year so be sure to get them started on the right track with a good nutrition program. I highly recommend contacting a ShowRite dealer near you and feed the Throttle Up finishing feed to get ahead of the game. Don't be left behind. See you down the road and always be sure to say "Hi" if ya see me at the show. Good luck in the upcoming show season!