

KANSAS FARM MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

COW-CALF

2018 SURVEY SUMMARY - PRECONDITIONING PRACTICES

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304

**SURVEY
RESPONDENTS**

40 123 141
WEST CENTRAL EAST

RESPONDANTS BY REGION



**WEST - 154
CENTRAL - 118
EAST - 181**

**AVERAGE HERD SIZE
BY REGION**

INTRODUCTION

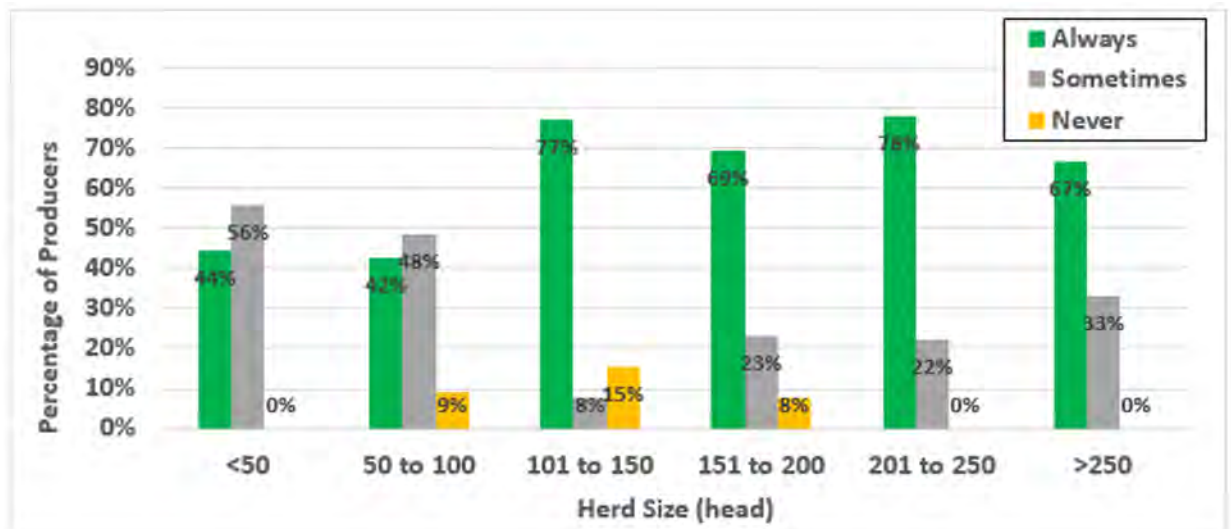
In 2018, the Kansas Farm Management Association collected survey data from cow-calf producers across the state. The results of this survey can be found on AgManager.info in a report titled "A Snapshot of Kansas Cow-Calf Producers: An Analysis of 2018 Kansas Farm Management Association Cow-Calf Enterprises". Supplemental factsheets covering topics such as breeding program and calving season, preconditioning practices, and feeding are also available to provide quick summaries of important factors impacting cow-calf producer profitability.

The survey was completed and returned by 304 cow-calf producers. It is important to note that these responses are from KFMA members only, and therefore these results may not necessarily be reflective of cow-calf producers in general.

WEANING

When looking at weaning by herd size, the larger producers utilize weaning 45 days or more prior to marketing more frequently than the smaller producers. Nearly 70% of respondents with herds of 100 head or more indicate they always wean at least 45 days prior to marketing, in comparison to smaller herds where only approximately 40% of producers indicate they wean 45 days prior to marketing.

WEANING PRACTICES BY HERD SIZE



DEHORNING & CASTRATION

Larger herds tended to always utilize dehorning as a preconditioning practice, with 95% of producers selling feeders always dehorning when applicable. Also, ninety-eight percent of producers marketing feeders always included castration in their preconditioning practices. However, the utilization of castration or dehorning as a part of preconditioning did not have a significant impact on profitability.

98%

of those marketing feeders

**UTILIZE CASTRATION IN
PRECONDITIONING PRACTICES**

95%

of those marketing feeders

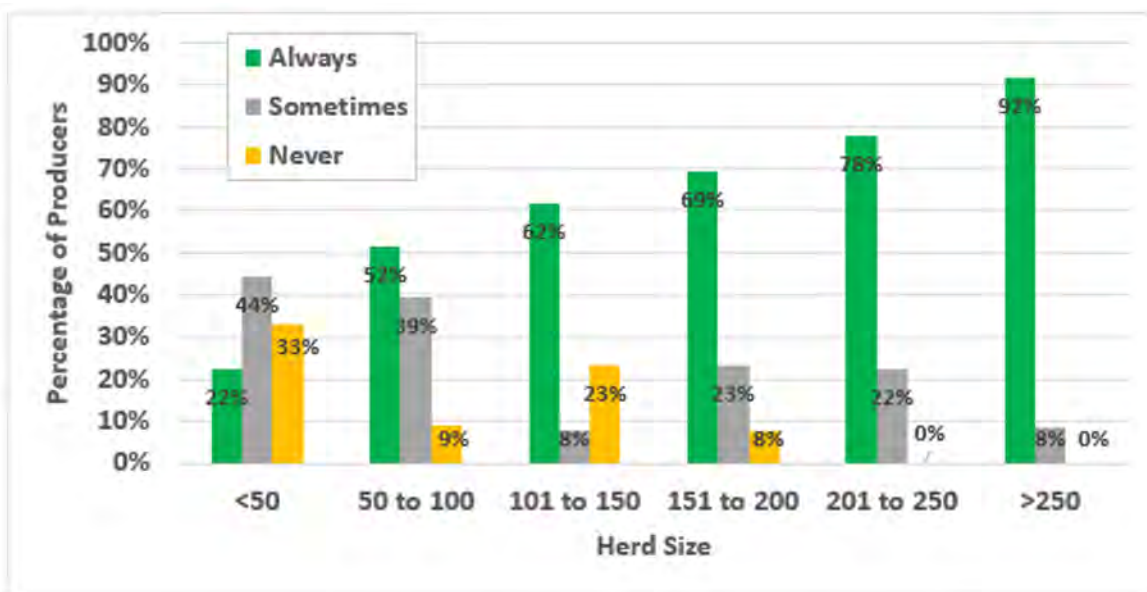
**UTILIZE DEHORNING IN
PRECONDITIONING PRACTICES**



VACCINES & PARASITE TREATMENT

The use of two rounds of respiratory vaccines as a preconditioning practice became more common as herd size grew, with smaller producers choosing to only sometimes utilize two round of vaccines or to not utilize them at all. Parasite treatment followed a similar pattern, with larger herds tending to utilize parasite treatments more regularly than smaller herds.

RESPIRATORY VACCINE USE BY HERD SIZE



FEED BUNK FAMILIARITY

Familiarity with feed bunks was fairly similar across profit groups and herd sizes, but with a larger portion of smaller producers having never utilized feed bunks as a part of preconditioning. Additionally, those that marketed feeders were more likely to utilize feed bunks as a part of preconditioning compared to those that market calves.

98%

of those marketing feeders

**UTILIZE
FEEDBUNKS**



56%

of those marketing calves

**UTILIZE
FEEDBUNKS**