Dairy Cattle Health Management in Russia

Mushtaq A. Memon, Volunteer
Farmer-to-Farmer Program
ACDI/VOCA & USAID

The Assignment Objectives

- To assist ‘Raduga’ & ‘Kazminsky’ dairy companies (Stavropol area) in animal care & health issues
- Diagnosis and treatment of reproductive diseases, artificial insemination, mastitis, etc
- Provide recommendations on prevention and control of the diseases
Assignment Support

- Supported by USAID
  Farmer-to-Farmer program
- ACDI/VOCA
- Washington State University

‘Raduga’ (The Rainbow)

*Closed Joint- Stock Company*

- Located in Raduga village (2,000 residents), ~150 km from Stavropol
- Established 1969, grow crops, swine, dairy cattle production
- 1,030 milking Holstein cows in tie stalls
- 5,700 litters annual milk yield/cow
- Milking twice/day
Raduga Dairy – Background

- Veterinary care/artificial insemination (AI) by 5 vets/vet techs
- Heifers bred by bulls, all cows – AI
- Elena Anyutina vet performing AI → with frozen-thawed semen

Kazminsky Production Cooperative

- 22nd among 300 best Agriculture producers in Russia
- Established 1929 – corn production and breeding Holstein cattle
- 1,500 milking cows (1,200 Holstein, 300 local Steppe breed →
Kazminsky - continued

- 6,300 liters annual milk yield/cow
- Cows milked 3x/d
- Vet care/AI by 9 vets/vet techs
- All heifers/cows - AI
- Calves housed in individual ‘wired’ → → hutchess

Raduga & Kazminsky veterinary practices

- Estrus detection - visual observation
- AI: frozen-thawed semen
- Semen frozen in pellets from Moscow, ~$3/breeding unit
- Hand-written health & repro records → → in multiple registers
Raduga & Kazminsky practices

Continued

- Pregnancy diagnosis – palpation per rectum at 3 months
- Retained placenta (RP) manually removed
- Ovarian cysts manually ruptured per rectum
- Sergey Zolotaryov, vet, manually removing RP

Veterinary Therapies

- Antibiotics & numerous locally produced products used
- Some imported drugs available
- One of the few vet pharmacies in Stavropol area

Pictured (L to R) - Mushtaq Memon; Andrey Saveliev, Head Vet, Raduga Farms; pharmacist; Victoria, manager - vet pharmacy warehouse
Locally Produced ‘Medicines’

- For example, human placenta extract → → used for treating mastitis and endometritis

Assignment Activities

- Discussed and demonstrated early pregnancy diagnosis (35-40d post AI)
Health Management Discussions

- **Following topics were discussed**
  - Health records-manual vs. computerized
  - Reproductive disease diagnoses and treatments – retained placenta, metritis, post-partum disorders
  - Management practices-animal housing, calf nutrition, barn floors
  - Mastitis prevention, metabolic problems

Recommendations

- **Detailed recommendations provided on following issues**
  - Continuing education of Vets/vet techs
  - Computerized records
  - Manual removal of retained placenta and manual rupture of ovarian cysts
  - Mastitis prevention strategies, etc
Russia Map


Russia – Brief Description


- World's largest country with 11 time zones
- Bordered by Arctic & Pacific Oceans, dozen seas and 14 countries
- Moscow: capital, over 12 million residents
- History - occupied by Mongols and others for centuries
  - 300 year control of Romanov family
  - Czar Peter I transformed Russian Empire
  - Queen Catherine II – Russia emerged as influential European force
Russia – Description, continued

- Russia survived political uprisings, bloody civil war led by Vladimir Lenin, participation in World Wars I and II, the tragic oppression of Joseph Stalin, Communism and a long succession of ideological, often brutal leaders
- 1991 - USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) dissolved
- Russia and its former republics became separate countries
- President Dmitry Medvedev inaugurated on May 7, 2008

Russia – 87 Regions

For info on individual regions see <http://map.rin.ru/index_e.html>
Russia: Socio-economic System

- The Soviet economy and society was stagnated until General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev (1985-91) introduced glasnost (openness) and perestroika (restructuring) in an attempt to modernize Communism, but his initiatives inadvertently released forces that by December 1991 splintered the USSR into Russia and 14 other independent republics. Since then, Russia has struggled in its efforts to build a democratic political system and market economy to replace the social, political, and economic controls of the Communist period.


Religions in Russia

- About 40 religions
- Russian Orthodoxy - dominant religion
- Islam – 2nd largest number, estimated 14 million Muslims
- Jews – estimated 2 million
- Other Christians denominations and Bhudists
- Non-believers-16 – 48%

[Cathedral of Christ the Savior, Moscow, demolished during the Soviet period, was reconstructed from 1990–2000]
St. Basil's Cathedral, Moscow
Must see tourist attraction

Religious Revival

- New churches and mosques are being built and the old are being remodeled

- New church recently built in Raduga village
- Mushtaq with Father Gemadly in Raduga church
- Mosque in Moscow is being expanded to build a Madrasah (religious Islamic School)
Victory Day Celebrations in Raduga Village

- May 9 - Victory Day in Russia, a national holiday which remembers the defeat of Nazi Germany in World War II and honors 20 million Soviets who died in the war.

Food

- Russians enjoy eating almost all parts of an animal.
  - Chicken feet, liver, gizzard, etc are sold together for making a popular soup.
  - Cooked bull testes are served as an important part of the dinner menu.
Food Markets in Stavropol

Veterinary Education

- There are 67 vet faculties (colleges) – 1 in each Ag University in Russia
- Five year curriculum after high school

Vet students in pathology lab observing necropsy at Vet Faculty Stavropol Ag Univ.
Russians Hospitality

“We are happy having an American colleague which was not possible a few years ago”, said Andrey Saveliev, Chief Vet Raduga Farms while making a toast welcoming Mushtaq at his home with family.