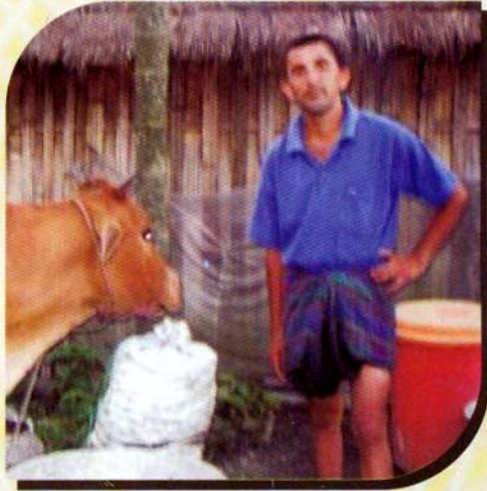


# PREVENTION OF SOME ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT DISEASES IN CATTLE



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The socio-economic status of the farmers in North Eastern Region is greatly influenced by the livestock they rear. If these livestock are exploited to their full potential, farmers can greatly supplement their income by producing quality milk and meat from them. Out break of diseases and the mortality thereafter, often leads to great losses to the livestock farmers. The occurrence of some economically important diseases in cattle can be prevented by adoption of proper vaccination and deworming practices.

Following are some diseases that causes great economic loss to the farmers:-

**1. Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD):** It is a viral disease affecting cattle, buffalo, sheep and goat, pig. Although mortality rate is rare, it causes economic loses to the farmers through reduction of milk, meat and working capabilities of animals. Symptoms of FMD are fever, vesicular eruptions in the oral cavity, muzzle, feet, teats, udder etc.

**2. Hemorrhagic Septicemia (HS):** It is abacterial disease caused by *Pasteurella multocida* affecting cattle, buffalo, pig etc. It leads to high mortality if treatment is not given in time. High fever, typical swelling of the head, neck, dewlap and brisket region, abnormal sound from the throat etc are the main signs of HS.

**3. Black Quarter (BQ):** It is a bacterial diseases caused by *Clostridium chauvoei* characterized by rise of body temperature

and development of swelling in thick muscles of thigh, buttocks, shoulder, neck and lumber region. Swollen areas are hot and painful and emit crepitating sound on pressure. It affects mostly young group of animals.

**4. Anthrax:** It is an infectious bacterial disease caused by *Bacillus anthracis* characterized mostly by high rise of temperature, bloat, increased pulse and respiration and death.

**5. Parasitic diseases:** Fascioliasis is a major problem affecting cattle and buffalo. It spreads mostly from infested pastures of low lying area. Affected animals suffer from chronic diarrhea and bottle jaw (swelling below the jaw or intermandibular area).

Vaccines are commercially available for preventing these diseases. But prior to vaccinating the animals, de-worming is most essential for getting better result. A Veterinarian should always be consulted before administration of deworming drugs and vaccines.

#### De-worming schedule for cattle:

Age of the animals	Medicine *
New born calves, between the age of 15 to 30 days, should be given the first dose of deworming, and repeated after 21 days. At the age of six month.	Piperazine citrate or hexahydrate @300mg/kg of body wt.  Albendazole, Fenbendazole, etc @ 7 mg /kg
Adult should be dewormed twice a year particularly in the month of March and October.	Albendazole, Fenbendazole, etc @ 7 mg /kg
For Fasioliasis	Triclabendazole @ 12 mg per kg body weight.

## Vaccination schedule for cattle:

Diseases	Vaccine	Source	Month
FMD	FMD vaccine	State Vety. Dept. or any other reliable sources.	February to March
HS and BQ	HS and BQ vaccine	State Vety. Dept. or any other reliable sources.	February to March
Anthrax	Anthrax spore vaccine	State Vety. Dept. or any other reliable sources.	May to June

Other than the above diseases some **nutritionally related diseases** also occur in cattle and indirectly affect the productivity.

Such diseases may occur due to:-

1. Nutritional excess,
2. Nutritional deficiency, and
3. Nutritional imbalance.

Therefore, a proper nutritional management is essential to maintain animal health and productivity. Adoption of few simple practices may help in keeping a check in the occurrence of nutritional diseases in cattle like:

1. Feeding of balanced feed,
2. Supplementing mineral mixture at times, and
3. Giving vitamin or liver extract to weak animals under supervision of a Veterinarian.

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