



## Bohaty Farm Bulletin

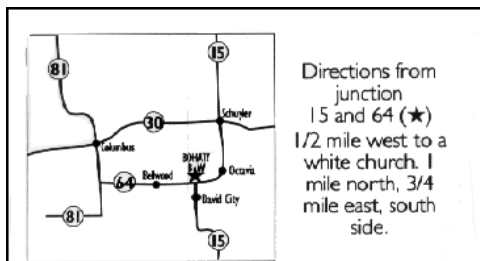
March 2011

**Bohaty's British Whites—  
Quality You Can Count On!**

### **British White Enthusiasts**

**who arrive on April 15, 2011  
for our Annual Open House  
& Sale are invited to join us  
for a Pre-Sale Cook Out  
here at the Farm.  
Featuring Norm Andrews  
and his unique grill.  
Food will be served starting  
around 6 or 7 PM. The gathering  
will allow everyone time  
to visit & chat about their  
British Whites  
in a relaxing atmosphere.**

**Bohaty's British White  
19th Annual  
Open House & Sale  
April 16, 2011  
Sale Starts at 1PM  
Come early to check  
out the sale animals  
Lunch at 11:30  
Sale Catalog at  
[www.britishcattle.com](http://www.britishcattle.com)  
Or call us to mail  
You a copy**



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*The Right Assistance at Calving*  
by Carl Dahlen  
from *Farm Journal* Feb 2011

If you see a cow or heifer in trouble during calving, remember this advice from ND State University Extension Service beef specialist Carl Dahlen on assisting with the delivery:

1. Once you decide to enter the cow, be as clean as possible. Clean the area around the birth canal & the calving chains, & make sure you are wearing plastic AI sleeves. The uterus is a sterile environment; any bacteria you put in the uterus has the potential to cause an infection that may lead to re-breeding difficulty.
2. Relax & concentrate on what you feel: Which direction is the calf facing? Is the calf's head properly presented between its legs, or is it facing away from the rest of the body? If there are twins, do the 2 legs you feel belong to the same calf?
3. If you find a cow that has been calving for a while, the calf may feel slightly dry when you enter the cow. In this case, use plenty of lubricant to make the calf come out more easily. You can never use too much.
4. Getting malpresented calves sorted out can be a chore, but rushing can do more harm than good.
5. A mechanical calf puller can be one of the producer's best & worst tools. Work with the cow & her contractions. Remember that any trauma caused during deliver will result in a longer time for the calf to recover & for the cow to start to cycle again.

"If you find yourself in a situation that is beyond your capabilities, do not hesitate to call your veterinarian or a neighbor with more calving experience," says Dahlen.

*Add Temperament to Culling Criteria*  
by Rhonda Vann  
from *Farm Journal* Feb 2011

A five-year Mississippi Agriculture & Forestry Experiment Station (MAFES) study found that cows with poor temperaments can affect the entire herd & reduce profits.

"We suggest that producers evaluate their herds & the cattle they buy," says Rhonda Vann, MAFES associate research professor in MS State University's Department of Animal & Dairy Sciences. "You don't want a cow or steer that's unreceptive, but one that's a bit more docile. They are going to have less sickness, gain weight better, do better in pastures & be more productive for the producer throughout their entire life span."

Vann suggests producers cull cows with poor temperaments out of the herd since anxious & aggressive cows present a host of problems that will impact the rest of the herd.

"They become sick more often, have more difficulty gaining weight & damage farm equipment. Their rowdy behavior rubs off on cows that would otherwise be perfectly calm," Vann says. "Cow behavior even affects meat tenderness, as certain hormones, such as cortisol, & enzymes remain at higher levels in stressed-out cattle, possibly toughening the muscle. All of these problems directly affect a cattle producer's profit margins." At market, ill-tempered cattle typically bring in \$5 or \$6 less per cwt than do calmer animals, Vann adds. An aggressive cow that weighs 800 lb. may net \$480 less than her nonaggressive counterpart.

**BEEF TODAY.COM—Bonus Content: find links to the complete study in the Cattlemen's Notebook section at [www.beeftoday.com](http://www.beeftoday.com)**