

# INFECTIOUS BOVINE KERATOCONJUNCTIVITIS “PINKEYE”

Lew Strickland DVM MS DACT  
Extension Veterinarian  
University of Tennessee

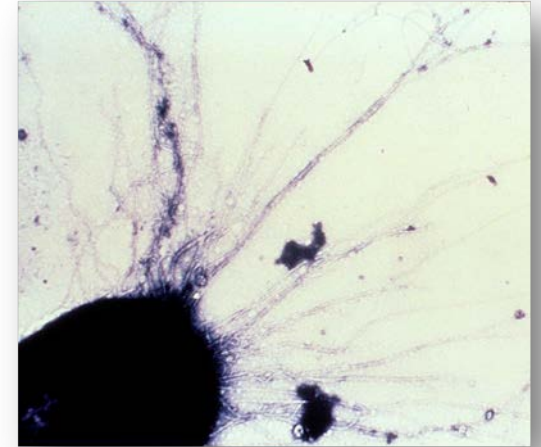
# INFECTIOUS BOVINE KERATOCONJUNCTIVITIS

- Pink eye
- *Moraxella bovis* possible *Moraxella bovoculi*



# IBK COMPLEX

Etiologic  
Agent

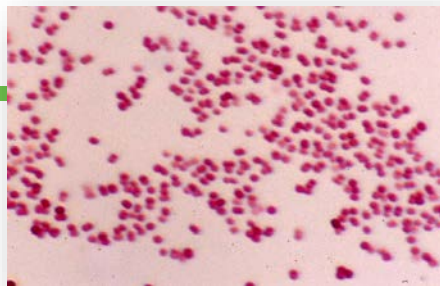


Corneal  
Irritation

Vector – Face  
Flies

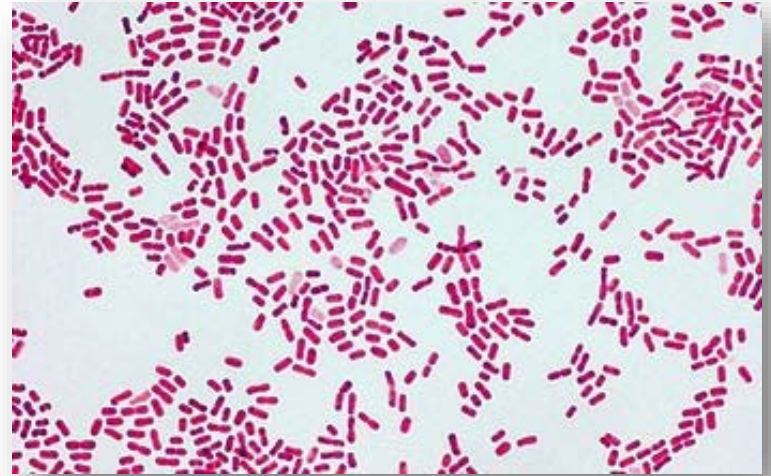
# ETIOLOGIC AGENT(S)

- *Moraxella bovis*
- Gram negative coccobacillus
- Carrier on several mucous membrane sites
- Eyes, nasal cavity, vaginal cavity



# ETIOLOGIC AGENT(S)

- *Moraxella bovoculi*
- Gram negative coccobacillus
- Carrier on several mucous membrane sites
- Eyes, nasal cavity, vaginal cavity
- Originally isolated from clinical cases in dairy and beef calves in Northern CA



# ETIOLOGIC AGENT(S)

- *Neisseria catarrhalis*
- *Neisseria ovis*
- *Mycoplasma* sp.
- Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR)  
BHV-1 alpha  
herpesvirus





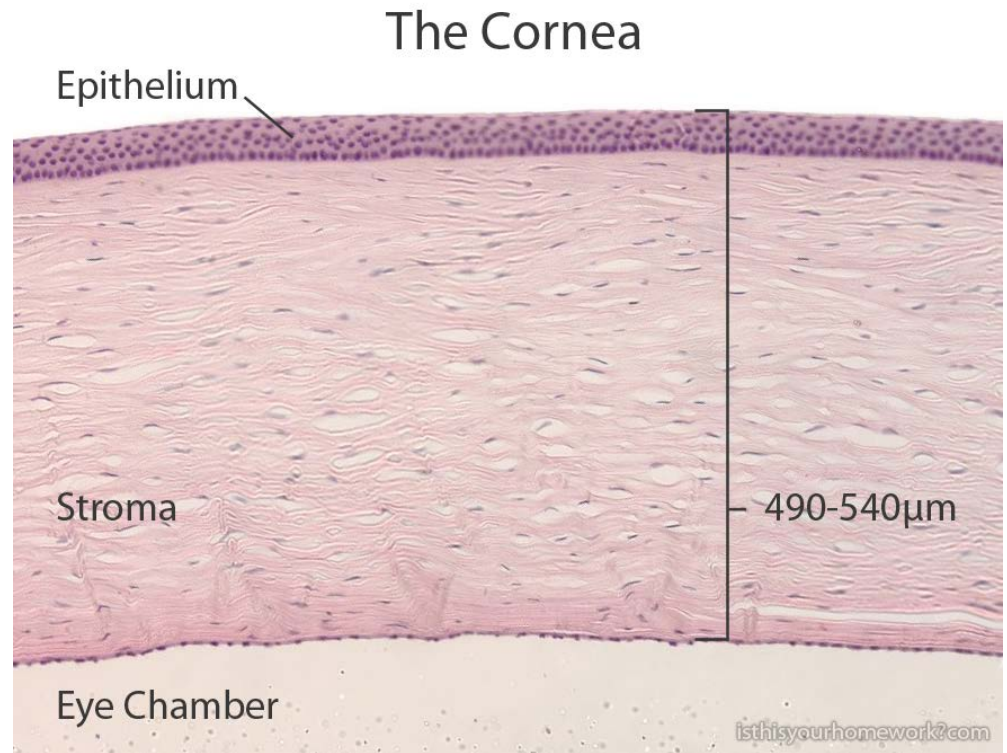
# CORNEAL IRRITATION

- Fescue and other grass seed heads
- Round bale hay
- Pigweed
- Ultraviolet radiation in lightly pigmented breeds
- Dust
- IBR infection



# CORNEAL IRRITATION

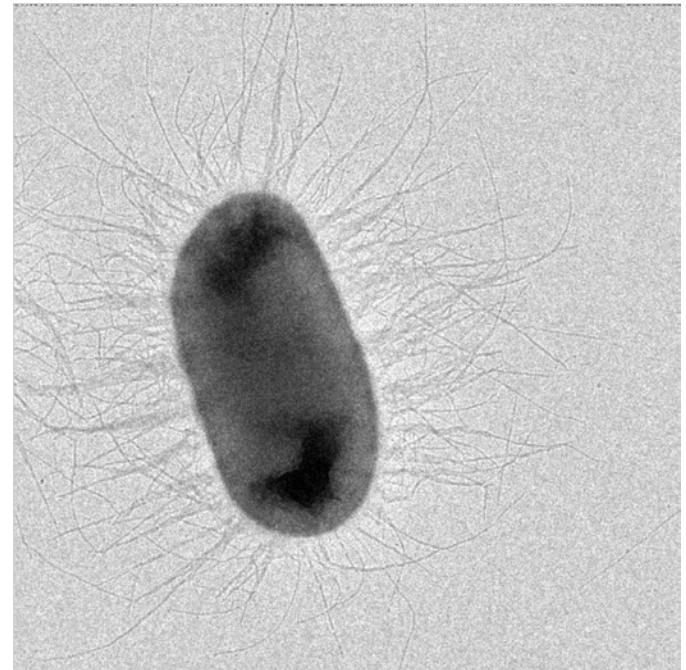
- Corneal damage necessary first step toward infection
- Exposure of the stroma and collagen permits bacterial pilus attachment



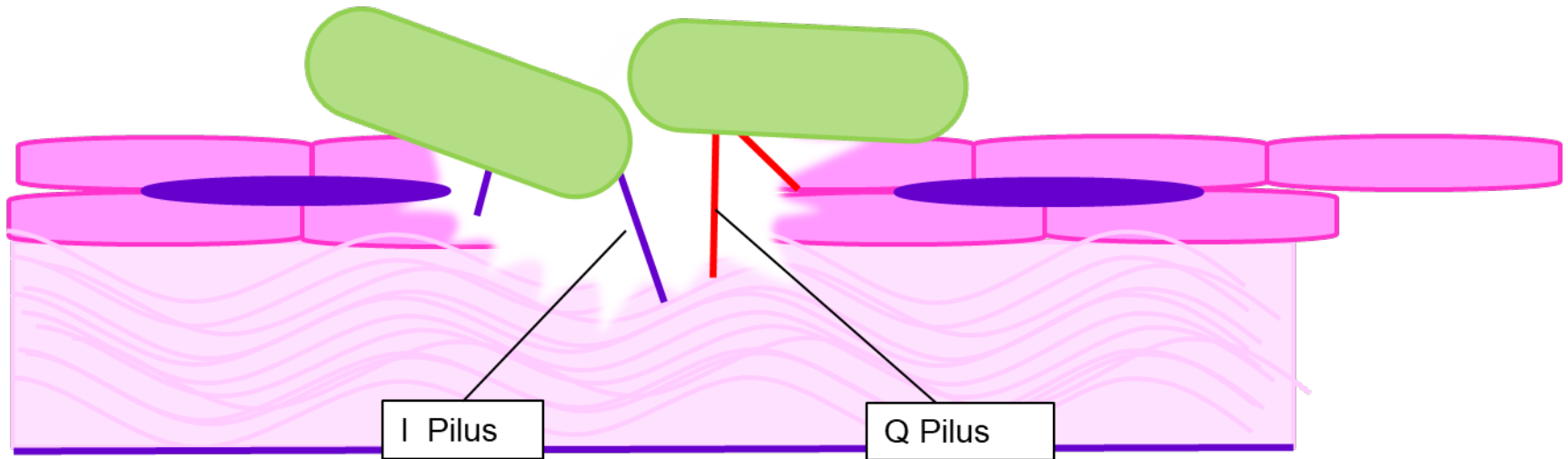


# PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

- *M. bovis* pilus (fimbrial) antigens
- Q pilus – necessary for initial attachment
- I pilus – necessary for persistence
- Pilus: filamentous extension that bacteria use to attach, sense the exterior environment and exchange DNA

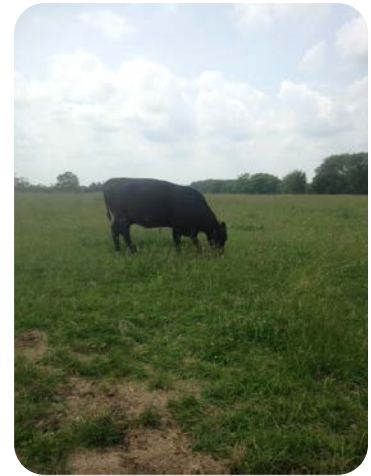
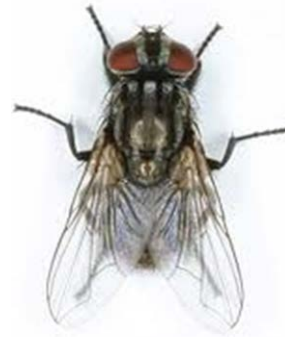


# CORNEAL IRRITATION



# FACTORS

- Irritation of cornea
- Dusty conditions
- Ultraviolet radiation
- Flies feeding
  - *Musca autumnalis*
- Pigmentation
- Age
- Other infection
  - IBR, Mycoplasma



# TRANSMISSION

- Infected secretions
  - Eyes
  - Nasal secretions
- Flies
- Inanimate object
- Asymptomatic carriers
  - ~ 1 year



# CLINICAL SIGNS

- Infection rates 2 to 80% of the herd
- Peak infection rate
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week of an outbreak
- Incubation period : 2 to 3 days
- Conjunctivitis
- Excessive tearing
- Squinting
- Decreased appetite (pain and moderate fever)
  - 7 to 17 kg lower body weight at weaning





# STAGE 1

- Tearing
- Photophobia
- Excessive blinking
- Conjunctivitis
- Pain: reduced feeding
- Small ulcer: central
- “Cloudy” cornea
- Unilateral or bilateral



# STAGE 2

- Similar to stage 1
- Larger corneal ulcer
- Greater inflammation
- Increased “cloudiness”
- Iris still visible
- Blood vessels on outside of cornea
- Edge of cornea is “pink”



# STAGE 3

- Ulcer covers most of the cornea
- Inflammation to inner parts
- Anterior chamber fills with fibrin
  - Yellow appearance



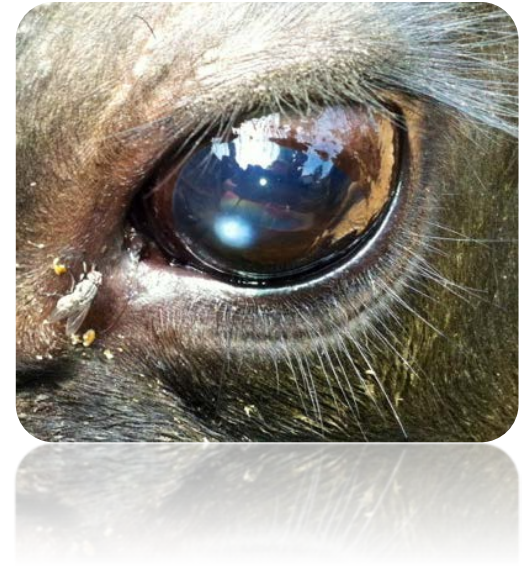
# STAGE 4

- Ulcer completely through cornea
- Iris may protrude through ulcer



# CORNEAL SCAR

- Blood vessels recede
- Initially “Cloudy” blue cornea
- Cornea may become clear
- White scar may be permanent





# TREATMENT

- Early treatment
  - Successful outcome
  - Reduce shedding
- Systemic Antibiotics
  - Oxytetracycline
  - Ceftiofur
  - Nuflor
  - Penicillin



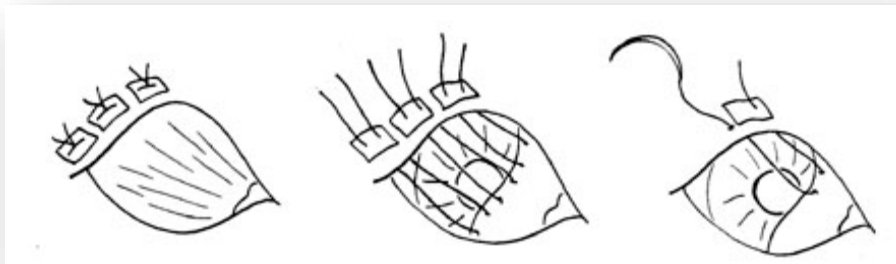
# TREATMENT

- Local Antibiotics
  - Bulbar or palpebral conjunctiva
  - Penicillin and dexamethasone
  - Labor/expertise



# TREATMENT > STAGE 3

- Patch
- Tarsorrhaphy
- 3<sup>rd</sup> eyelid flap



# TREATMENT

- Topical treatments
  - Tear production
  - Multiple treatments daily (4X per day)



# TREATMENT — TOPICAL

- Vetericyn Plus™ Pinkeye Spray
- (0.009 % hypochlorous acid)
- Experimentally induced lesion
- 2.0 ml, twice daily application for 10 days
- ***Reduced pain scores, lesion circumference, and healing time***
- 







**Illegal !!!**

# VACCINATION

- Autogenous Vaccines
    - 3 commercial labs available  
Addison, Newport, and AgriLabs
- Take a culture and mail it to the lab
- pathogen grown : make a vaccine
- Back to you in ~ 6 weeks
- ~\$500 for 200 doses
- Requires primary and booster immunization



# PREVENTION

- Fly control
- Reduce irritation
  - Clip pastures, provide shade
- Separate clinical animals
- Vaccination/implants/SolidBac
  - Multi strains
  - Minerals Vit A/ nutrition



# FLY BIOLOGY

- Face fly maggots develop in freshly deposited cattle manure.
- Female face flies lay their eggs within 15 minutes after it is deposited
- The four stage life cycle takes about 15 to 25 days.
- Overwinter as adults in sheltered areas such as barns or attics and become active again in the spring.

# EXTERNAL PARASITE CONTROL FLIES, LICE, GRUBS AND TICKS

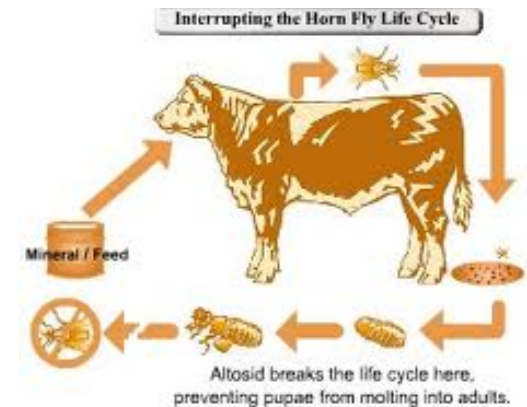
## Classes of Products:

- Organophosphates (Coral, Warbex, Spotton)  
(Organochlorine Endosulfan)
- Pyrethoid (Cylense, Durasect, Boss)
- Spinosyn (Elector)
- Avermectins (Ivomec, Dectomax)
- Tolfenpro (Bayer Ear tag)
- Insect Growth Regulators (IGRs) and Oral larvacides



# INSECT GROWTH REGULATORS

- IGR
- Not an insecticide
- Interrupt or inhibit the life cycle of a pest
- Cannot reach adulthood,
- Not capable of reproducing



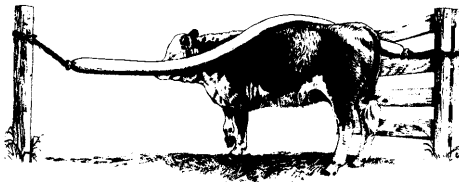
# EAR TAG

- Duration ~ 5months
- Apply when flies > 50+ / side
- 12-15 wks control



# RESISTANCE

- Early season use back rubs / topical
- Use fly tags during heavy infestation
- Use one class of drug for 1-2 yrs
- Keep records of resistance in area
- Remove tags @ end of season

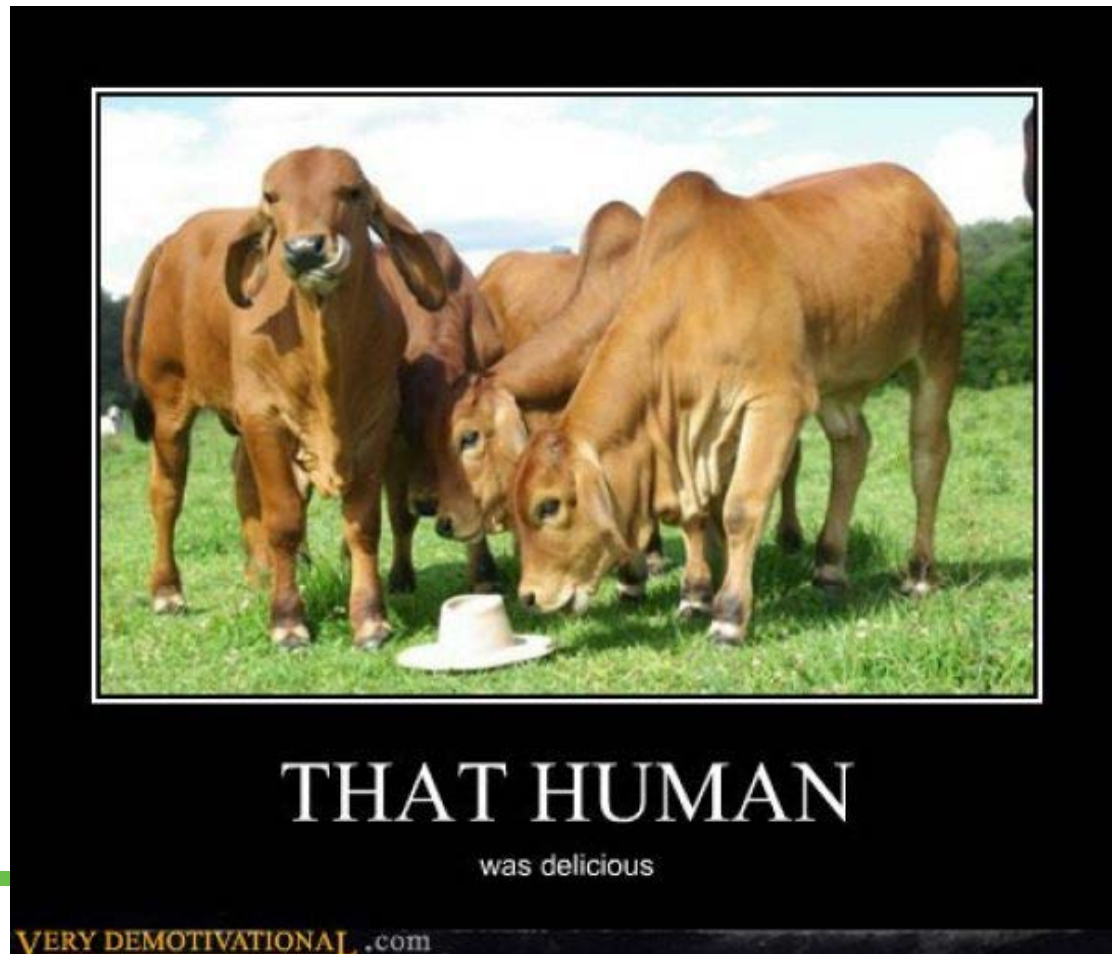


# LABEL DIRECTIONS

- Always read & follow label directions
- Always wear non-permeable gloves & keep away from food
- Withdrawal periods beef & dairy
- Proper records of treatment dates products & lot #'s



# QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION PLEASE



Real. Life. Solutions.