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Mortality, diarrhea and respiratory disease in Danish dairy heifer calves: effect of production system and season

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ABSTRACT

Diarrhea and respiratory disease are major health problems for dairy calves, often causing calf mortality. Previous studies have found calf mortality to be higher in organic dairy herds compared to conventional herds. The aim of this study was to investigate the association between production system (conventional/organic), season (summer/winter) and calf mortality risk, diarrhea, signs of respiratory disease and ocular discharge, respectively, for dairy heifer calves aged 0-180 days. Sixty Danish dairy herds, 30 conventional and 30

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