

# Investigation of Summer Scour Syndrome (SSS)

## What is SSS?

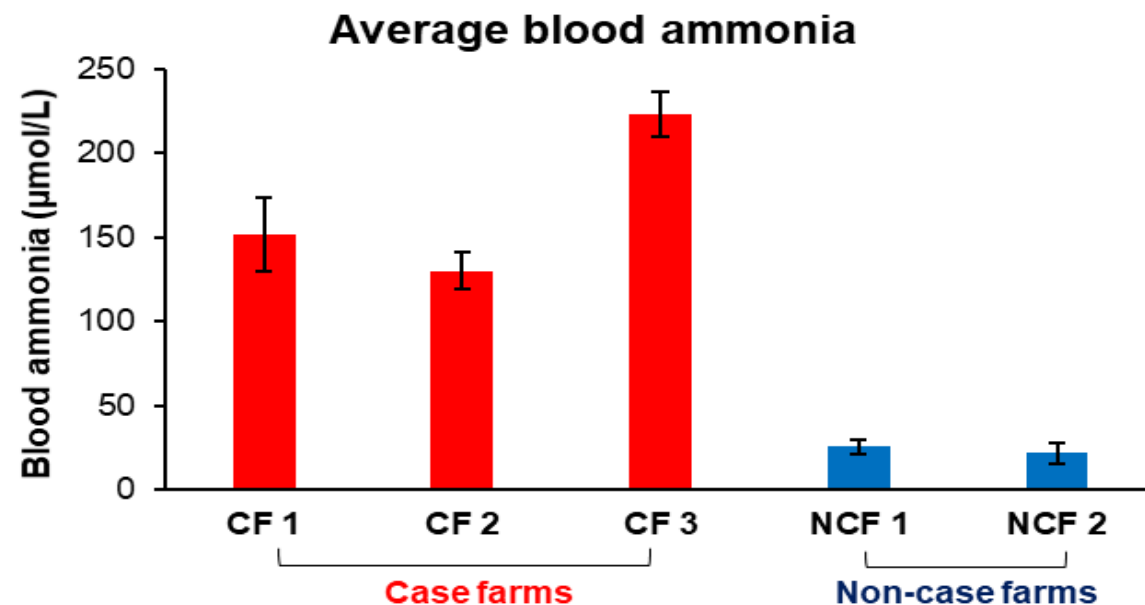
- Recently identified syndrome
- Affects weaned dairy and dairy beef calves within a month of turnout to grass
- Clinical signs: diarrhoea, ill-thrift, weight loss, mouth ulcers
- Can lead to death
- **Causes remain unclear**

## Investigation of calves with SSS

### Summary of investigation

Coccidia and worms	Low
Rumen pH	Normal
Blood copper and molybdenum	Normal
BVDV	Negative

✓ **Farmers applied fertiliser 1 - 3 weeks prior to grazing**



## Take home messages

- Rumen acidosis, and copper and molybdenum toxicities are not potential causes of SSS
- SSS calves had high blood ammonia
- Potential association between timing and level of fertiliser application and SSS occurrence