Bovine Birth Detector

Overview

The management of livestock is an important issue to farmers and the operation of their farm. Each year nearly 10% of the calf population is lost between birth and weaning age, with many due to birthing problems, not to mention that nearly 30% of the cows are lost during this susceptible time also *(Kaiser). With this stated, it would be beneficial to the farming and livestock industry to have a safe, reliable birth detector. The device should be easy to operate and be able to withstand different environments, considering the area of use. Overall, the biggest requirement is that the device should be safe for the cow, the calf, and the user. The device should also be cost efficient when compared to other products on the market. This is an acceptable time frame that if the animal would have complications, the probability of saving the calf is still high. The device should also be easily attached to the cow and be easy to operate.

Objectives

Create a “bovine birth detector” that will alert the farmer when the cow is getting near parturition.

Approach

- Research was done on existing patents.
- Presentations were heard from experts in this field/area.
- Research was done on existing products.
- Ideas were generated to try different approaches on the subject.
- A site visit was conducted to see the atmosphere the device would be located in.

Outcomes

- The project sponsor wishes to continue research on the topic. This includes possibly submitting a patent application over the summer.

Due to this possible patenting, exact details, pictures, etc. are unable to be shown.