**DairyNote** 

## RETURN TO START

## Fat Cow Syndrome

Excessively fat cows are particularly susceptible to post-calving metabolic disorders, including <u>retained placenta</u>, <u>metritis</u>, <u>displaced</u> <u>abomasum</u>, <u>ketosis</u> and <u>milk fever</u>. In fat cow syndrome, these disorders are often associated with <u>fatty liver</u>. However, fatty liver may also develop in cows which are not excessively fat.

Cows are judged excessively fat when their <u>condition score</u> is greater than 4. These cows typically have reduced appetites both before and after calving. Low feed intake results in severe <u>negative energy balance</u> which may trigger the metabolic events leading to clinical disorders.

## for more information:

Fresh Cow Problems: How to contol them, Hoard's Dairyman Books