

Dottorato in scienze veterinarie e dell'allevamento

XXXVIII° CICLO – 2022/2023 – **TEMATICHE**

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Tematica di ricerca: Migliorare il benessere delle vitelle da latte prima dello svezzamento: utilizzo della PLF per l'identificazione precoce di indicatori comportamentali di malattia.

Descrizione tematica: The overall goal of this research is to improve welfare of pre-weaned dairy calves by applying PLF technology to early detect behavioural indicators of the most common diseases (Neonatal Calf Diarrhoea and Bovine Respiratory Disease).

The project aims to identify innovative early warning behavioural indicators to distinguish between healthy and diseased calves. Based on known prevalence rates for the mentioned diseases, a suitable sample of dairy calves will be continuously and remotely monitored from birth to weaning using accelerometers, sensors to record behavioural and physiological parameters, and video cameras. Health will be independently and daily monitored by farm staff and treated as per normal farm practice.

This Research will provide insight into the usefulness of early-warning systems for young calves to improve their welfare and health.