Dallisgrass poisoning is most prevalent in late summer and early fall. This occurs when cattle consume a significant amount of seed heads that are infected with an "ergot-like" fungus. Infected heads can be spotted by the gray to black swellings that have a sticky sap substance on them. Cattle are most affected when they are turned out on new pasture that contains large quantities of these infected seed heads. Because dallisgrass poisoning is potentially fatal, it is important to know what quality your pasture is in before turning cattle out to graze.

If you have any questions or concerns about dallisgrass poisoning affecting your herd, please contact me

Thanks, Jesse Richardson, DVM

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