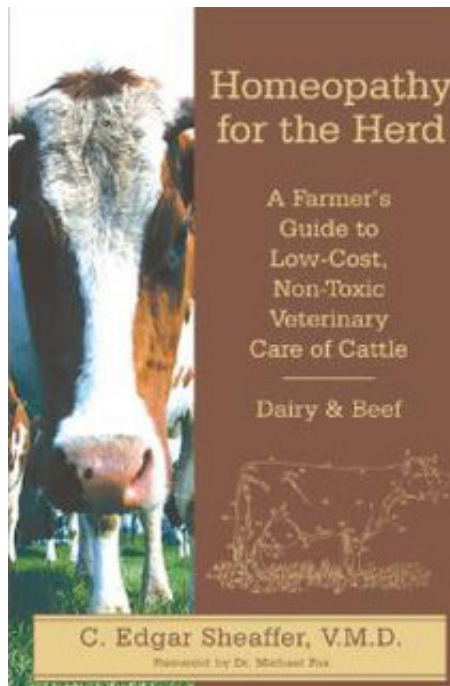


C. Edgar Sheaffer Homeopathy for the Herd

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Preface

I graduated from Gettysburg College in 1965, did graduate work in nutrition at Penn State and then graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine in 1970. I began practice as a traditional veterinarian at that time. After ten years of practice, I felt that there had to be a better way to practice medicine than the way I was doing it. I began by using fewer drugs and more vitamins and studying nutrition. Then a flyer appeared on my desk announcing that George Macleod, M.R.C.V.S., from England, would be lecturing on veterinary homeopathy at nearby Millersville University. My employer at the time had no interest in going, but permitted me to attend. That meeting changed my life and started me on the journey toward using homeopathic medicines in my practice.

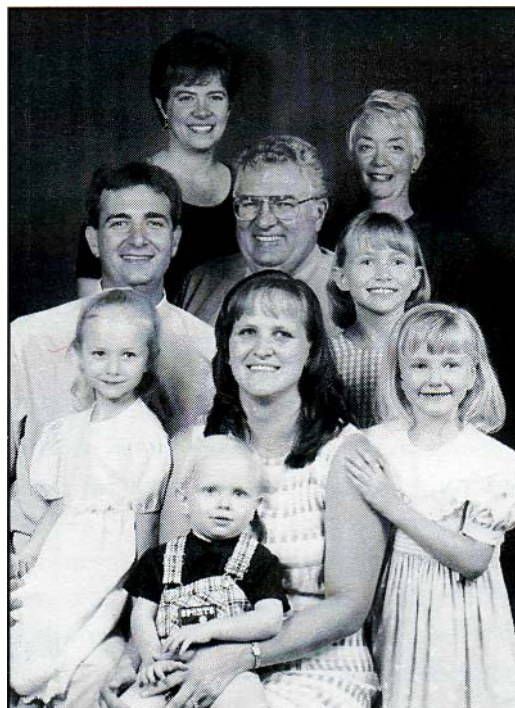
These days I use as much homeopathic medicine as possible. Actually, about 95 percent of my practice is homeopathic, and the remaining five percent is conventional. I always try to think of a homeopathic medicine before I use a stronger, conventional method of therapy. On rare occasions when I can't get results with a homeopathic medicine, antibiotics are helpful. Where there is obvious bacterial infection and sensitivity studies indicate a particular antibiotic, I prescribe it along with the indicated homeopathic medicine. Guy D. Hoagland, M.D. of Melbourne, Florida, states it well, "Homeopathy as a science can build on the conven-

tional practice of medicine and provide more than we can provide without homeopathic medicine."

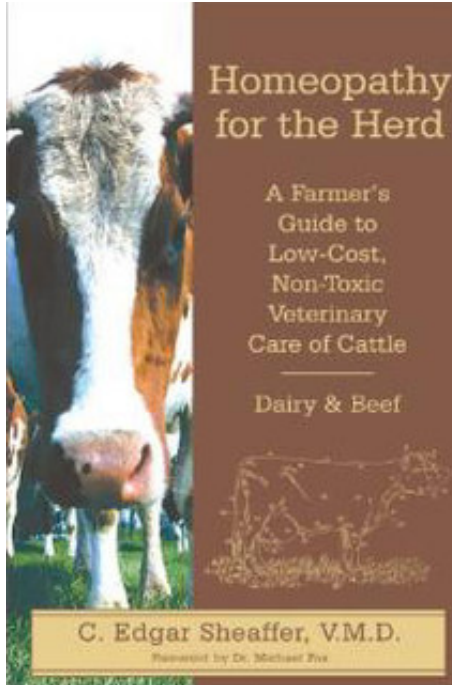
Homeopathy is a part of the whole, not the whole of medicine in itself. In medicine, one needs to be aware of nutrition, environmental stresses, vaccination history and genetic predisposition, to name a few factors. Most homeopathic medicine is given orally as opposed to giving an injection. The medicine is given right in the mouth, right on the tongue or in the cheek. That is the ideal method. When that is not possible, the tablets can be placed directly on top of a small amount of grain. The medicines are given on the basis of a total symptom picture. It takes a while to learn the picture of each medicine, and there are between two and three thousand homeopathic medicines in common use in the world, so it can seem overwhelming at first. There is some overlap, but there are also distinctions, and the important thing is to learn those distinctions. A person learning homeopathy for the first time studies a few medicines at a time. As he or she becomes more familiar with those, confidence increases. Using those few medicines leads to learning about other related medicines. It's learning through experience.

With conventional medicine, you have basically three main options: antibiotics, anti-inflammatories (steroids, etc.), and surgery. With homeopathy and nutritional therapy, the options are almost unlimited. My mentor, Dr. Macleod, said about homeopathy, "It always works." For homeopathic medicines to be effective, the patient must be impacted with the energy of the medicine. There may be factors which prevent that, such as persistent viremia (viruses in the blood), as found in BVD and parvo virus, and abnormal endocrine functions. Persistent viremia often responds to the appropriate homeopathic nosode (a remedy produced from a product of the disease) given in combination with the simillimum (the homeopathic remedy which most exactly reproduces the symptoms of any disease). Endocrine dysfunction may be treated using a combination of homeopathy, nutritional therapy and a natural supplement. A natural supplement may target any specific organ or tissue of the body. Thyroid and adrenal supplements are often prescribed for animals.

This book is intended to help you get started in the use of homeopathic medicines with cows. If you get a homeopathic kit and start using the medicines for first-aid needs a little at a time, you will see results. I hope that you will try some of the medicines found in this book and keep a journal of those used and the results with your animals. I assure you that you will learn something new from each patient and case.



My family has always supported my sojourns in veterinary medicine. Both Amy and Clark would ride along on calls and soon came to the decision, "Dad, that's just too much blood. " Rather than veterinary medicine, both chose the educational field as their vocation. They were the "guinea pigs" when I was learning homeopathy. Everything from bruises and abrasions, colds and influenza, insect stings, ingrown toenails, sore throats and sports injuries to anxiety before exams and indigestion from college foods were treated with homeopathic medicines. Our children learned the value of these medicines first hand and now reach for the homeopathic medicines first. When the youngest granddaughter has an abrasion, she asks, "Mommy can I have a 'bam-baid' and CalenDula?"



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