

Metabolic Disorders in Livestock What They Are and How They Affect Your Animals



Common Types of Metabolic Disorders

- 1 Milk Fever (Hypocalcemia)**
 - Low calcium levels after calving
 - Causes weakness, inability to stand, risk of death
- 2 Ketosis**
 - Happens when a cow burns body fat too fast after calving
 - Leads to energy drain, low milk yield, dullness
- 3 Grass Tetany (Hypomagnesemia)**
 - Low magnesium, usually in lush pastures
 - Causes muscle tremors, collapse, or sudden death
- 4 Acidosis**
 - Caused by too much grain or low-fiber diets
 - Leads to rumen imbalance, diarrhea, and reduced performance
- 5 Bloat**
 - Accumulation of gas in the rumen
 - Can cause death in hours if not relieved



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Description

Metabolic disorders are some of the **most silent yet damaging issues** in livestock. They don't always start with fever or visible wounds. Instead, they begin **inside the animal's body**, affecting how nutrients are absorbed, processed, and used for production, growth, and reproduction.

What Are Metabolic Disorders?

Metabolic disorders in livestock occur when an animal's body **fails to maintain normal chemical balance**, especially around:

- **Energy**
- **Minerals**
- **Protein or fat metabolism**

This imbalance leads to major health issues—even in well-fed animals.

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• Why They Matter to Farmers

Even when you're feeding well, these disorders can **reduce productivity** and silently drain profits:

- Lower milk yield
- Delayed conception
- Increased treatment costs
- Sudden deaths
- Weak calves or stillbirths

They are **common in high-performing animals** – the very cows, goats, or sheep that you value most.

How to Prevent and Manage Metabolic Disorders

- **Use balanced mineral supplements** (not just salt)
 - **Feed quality roughage** with correct energy-to-fiber ratios
 - **Avoid sudden diet changes**
 - **Use products like RestoreX® or MbuziPro** to support mineral balance, energy levels, and metabolism
 - **Prepare cows properly during the dry period and before calving** (steaming up)
 - **Watch for early signs:** dullness, slow eating, abnormal posture, reduced milk
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Final Thought:

Metabolic disorders don't knock—they sneak in.

And by the time you notice, **you're already losing money.**

Healthy feeding, proper supplementation, and early care are your best defense

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Author

samson

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