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Design and evaluation of a calf health programme to optimise health and welfare, and minimize use of antimicrobials

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Study phases

1. Identify management practices that maximise calf health
2. Controlled intervention study to evaluate the impact of a dairy-bred calf health programme
3. Design a comprehensive “Healthy Calf Programme”

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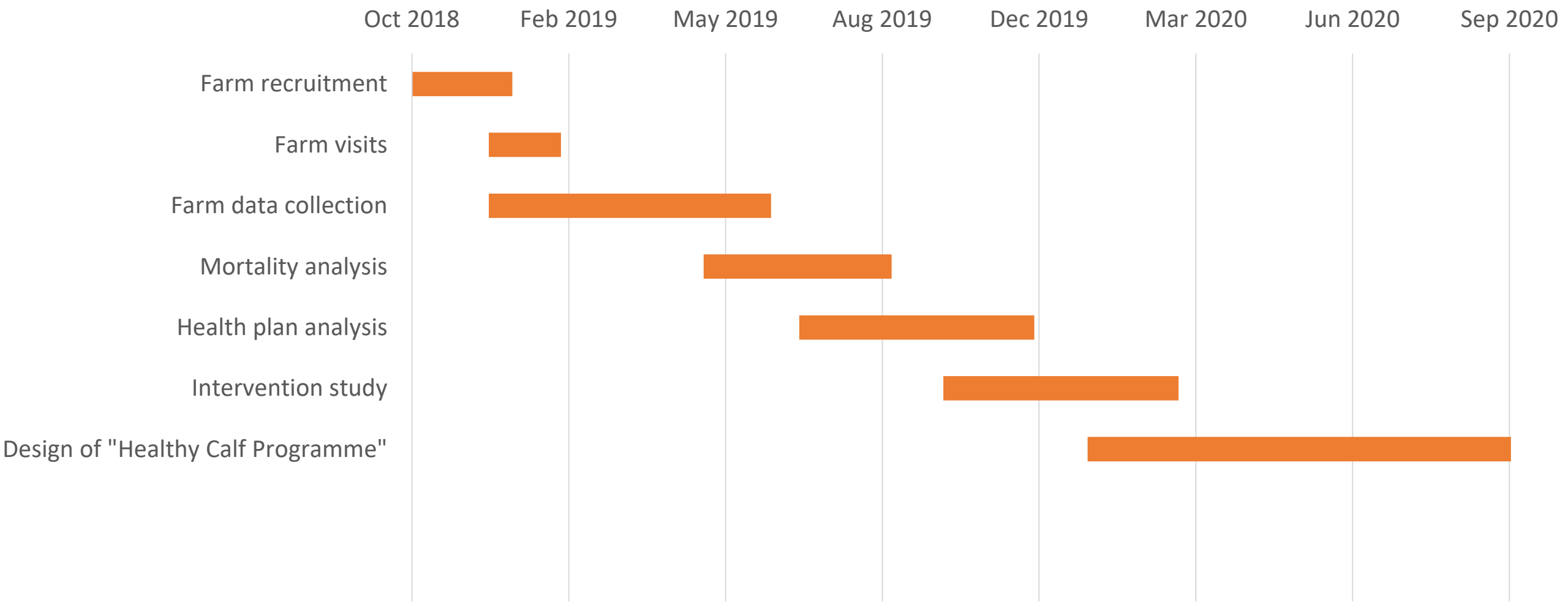
Timeline



Study numbers

4,535 calves born

- 6,973 weights recorded
- 2,042 morbidity/mortality recordings

689 colostrum brix recordings

225 colostrum bacteriology results

280 Total Protein results

100 data loggers

- 4.8 Million environmental temperature/humidity readings

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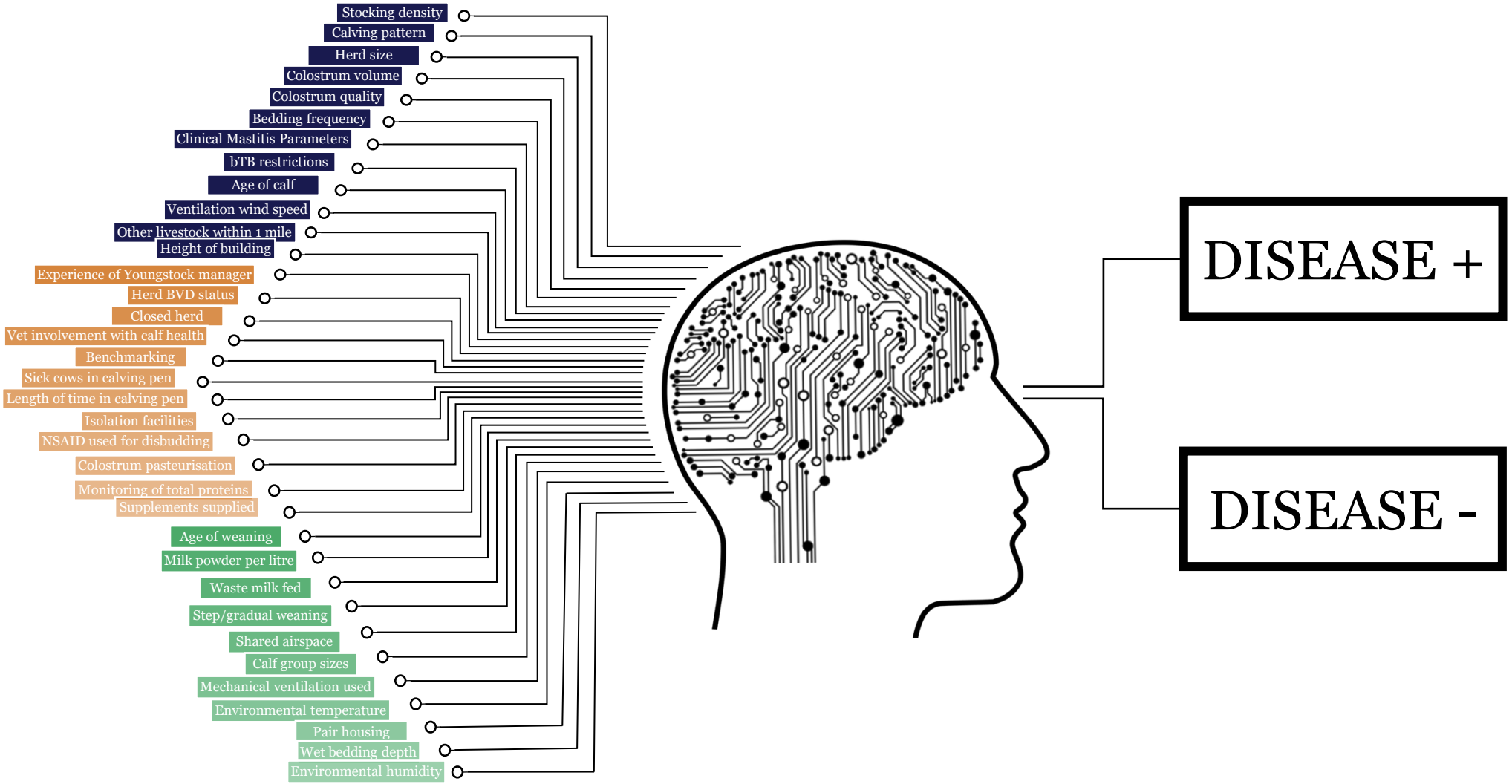
Identify important management factors through machine learning



Research outputs

J. Dairy Sci. 103:2615–2623
https://doi.org/10.3168/jds.2019-17383

Quantitative analysis of calf mortality in Great Britain

Robert M. Hyde,[1]* Martin J. Green,[1] Virginia E. Sherwin,[1] Chris Hudson,[1] Jenny Gibbons,[2] Tom Forshaw,[2] Mary Vickers,[2] and Peter M. Down[1]
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In Review: Factors associated with daily weight gain in preweaned calves on dairy farms

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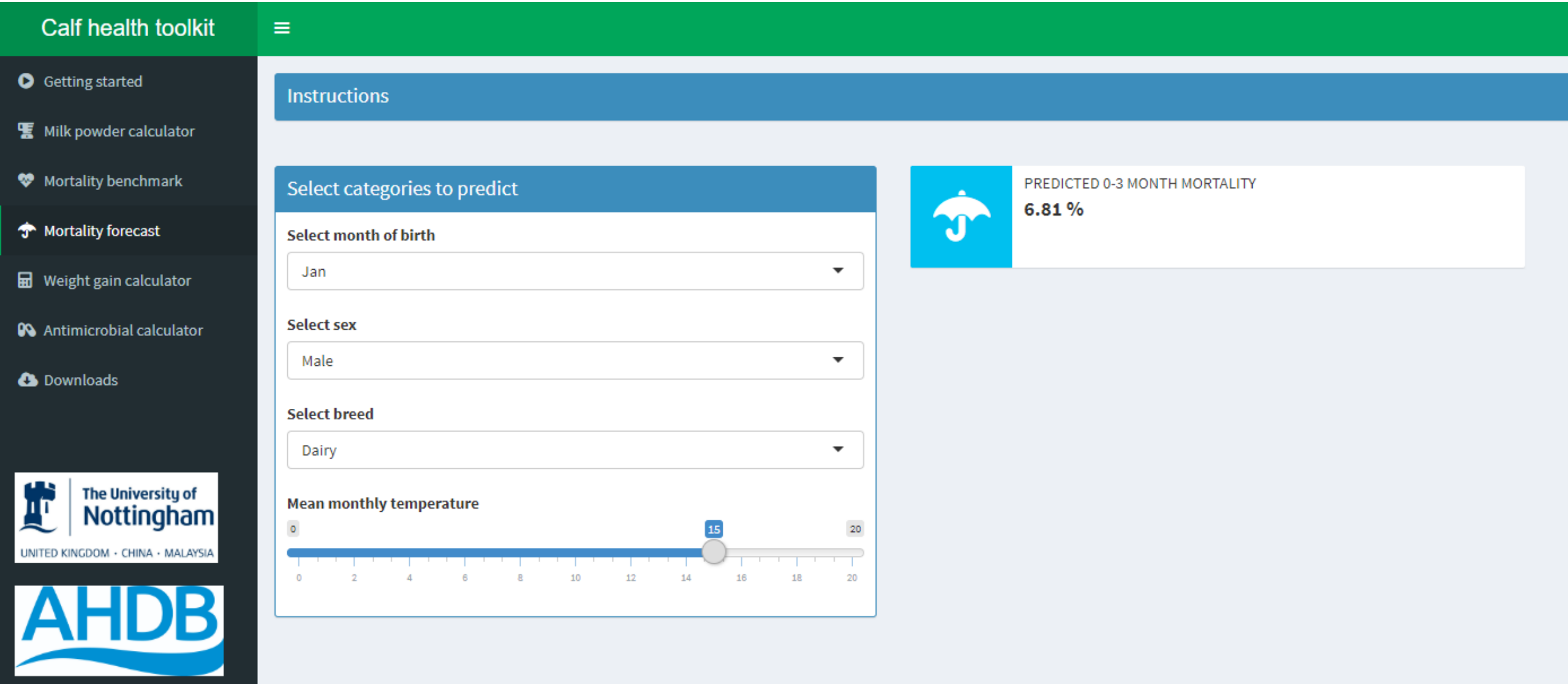
Calf health toolkit now available

A web app to allow vets/farmers to access the latest research (www.herdhealth.shinyapps.io/toolkit/)



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Ruminant population health group

High impact solutions for a sustainable future

Peter Down
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