



DR. MURRAY RUNSTEDLER DR. PAUL SOSTAR DR. ANDREW MACLEOD
DR. JOHN TOKARZ DR. KELLY HAEZLE DR. IAN BISHOP

3860 Manser Road, Linwood, Ontario N0B 2A0 (519) 698-2610
1-800-663-2941 Fax (519) 698-2081
linwoodvet@linwoodvet.ca

Clinic Hours: Mon-Fri 7am – 5pm Sat 7am – 12pm Hwy 89 Clinic: Mon-Sat 7am-1pm
Orders for Delivery: call by 9:30 for same day delivery Mon to Friday
24 Hour Emergency Vet Service

APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER

Clinic News

The clinics will be **closed Good Friday, April 22**. Also, we remind you that Hwy 89 Veterinary Services office is open 7am -1 pm Monday through Saturday. For same day pick up and milk testing at Hwy 89, please call in your order in the morning.

Announcements

6th Annual Waterloo Wellington Beef Tour - April 13th 2011 at 11:00 am at the farm of Elmer and Doris Frey, 7423 6th Line RR 2, Drayton, N0G 1P0. From here will move on to two more barns in the afternoon. For more information: Justin Martin (519) 664-3789, David Horst (519) 846-2043 or Maynard Martin (519) 669-0048

Online course to assess dairy calf housing and environments

This is a very informative source of data regarding calf handling and facilities.

Washington State University has made available an online course to help dairy producers and employees assess dairy calf housing and their environments.

The purpose of the online course is to provide the background and science behind current recommendations for dairy calf housing and environmental management to dairy producers, calf care-takers, dairy advisors, and veterinarians.

The ultimate goals are to improve the health, welfare, and performance of young dairy calves and reduce the pathogen load into the environment.

The online course is available <http://www.vetextension.wsu.edu/EnviLoad.htm>

If you have any questions on the topics discussed please do not hesitate to ask one of the veterinarians.

Source: Washington State University

Take steps to improve water quality

Water quality is an important contributor to dairy and beef cattle well-being and the meat quality from market cattle. The following are some general water-quality practices:

- Have access to clean, fresh, uncontaminated drinking water in water tanks or other watering devices.
- Maintain clean water tanks and other watering devices routinely.
- Do not allow cattle access to ponds and streams as these water sources can become contaminated with manure and other potential run-off contaminants which can serve as potential sources of disease, pathogenic bacteria or chemical exposure.
- Minimize pools of standing water in cattle facilities and outdoor lots. Standing water can become contaminated with manure and pose a threat to cattle health.
- Improve drainage in areas where standing water tends to pool.

These general guidelines are intended to enhance and demonstrate quality animal care practices, which assure food safety, quality and value as well as enhance consumer confidence in the milk and beef products that are harvested from cattle.

Now is the right time for Pour-On Dewormer

With spring arriving, cattle will be spending time on pasture and the topic of parasites and deworming comes up. Most internal parasites are spread through manure and picked up on grazed pastures. Virtually all pasture and every animal has at least a small number of parasites; it would be nearly impossible (and unnecessary) to completely eliminate them.

However, reducing the load of internal parasites in cattle consistently improves production in both affected and healthy looking groups of animals. Properly used for an individual farm, most endectocides (dewormers) improve average weight gain or lactation many times over the cost of the product. There are many factors to consider when choosing a product and when to apply it. A few are the parasites it kills, meat and milk withdrawals, route of application, cost per dose and persistency. Persistency is how long the dewormer continues to kill parasites after it has been applied. It can have an important effect by delaying the re-infection of cattle and recontamination of pasture. By setting back the number of parasites at the beginning of the pasture season we can significantly reduce their concentration on pasture over the rest of the spring and summer therefore getting more effect from the product used.

In this article, we will as an example highlight the product **Cydectin®**. **Cydectin®** is produced by Boehringer Ingelheim with the active ingredient moxidectin. The Pour-On formulation covers a wide spectrum of internal parasites with a fifteen (15) day meat withdrawal in *cattle* and **Zero Milk withdrawal** in *cattle*. It has significant persistency, continuing to kill different parasite species for 2 to 6 weeks. Two of the most important parasites in cattle, Brown Stomach Worm (*Ostertagia ostertagi*) and Lungworm (*Dictyoacaulus viviparus*), are inhibited for 28 days and 42 days respectively.

Eprinex® by Merial also offers broad-spectrum parasite control with a zero milk withdrawal in cattle

We encourage you to improve your bottom line by consulting your veterinarian in planning your Dairy or Beef Deworming strategy this season.

Beef Cow /Calf

Calving season is well under way or completed for many. For those still calving, a reminder for a repeat dose of scour vaccine if calves have gone more than 5 weeks beyond their last shot of scour vaccine. Alternatively, give the remaining calves a First Defense bolus at birth. Cows fed hay only this winter are showing lower body condition scores and would benefit from some extra groceries this spring while they are still nursing calves indoors.

Use of endectocides this spring will help to clean up pastures and ensure the expensive feeds being fed are being fully utilized. The kill of lice and mange with the endectocides will be another bonus for the cows. What is good for the cows will in turn be good for the calves! The way the market looks they will pay back your investment in the fall.

Now is the time to vaccinate your open cows if you are transitioning to use of modified live from a previous killed vaccine program. Our clinic stance has always been and remains that modified live vaccine provides the best fetal protection from BVD virus.