

# LINWOOD VETERINARY SERVICES PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

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## August 2005 Newsletter

### SWINE

Many producers have already received notification that Health Canada has removed Baycox from the market. As of June 27<sup>th</sup>, Baycox is not to be used for the prevention of coccidiosis in swine. Health Canada stated that the company did not provide enough data. What does this mean? For shipping it means that pigs can not be shipped under 100kg, if you ship on a lighter grid, the pigs must be over 150 days of age. For prevention of coccidiosis this means that we are back to the basics. Hygiene is very important, physically scrubbing or pressure washing is best. Next, keep piglets comfortable, warm and dry. Once piglets start to scour needle with ½ cc to 1cc Trivetrim or Borgal daily, mix Deccox in with Pig Perk or use Stalosan-F. Stalosan-F is a phosphorus base drying agent. Take a handful and throw it excessively throughout the crate. You can purchase it in 25kg bags.

### COW/CALF

The border is open – get these calves well-adjusted.

For the cattle feeder:

1. Feed creep feed, ensure deccox, rumensin or bovatec is in it.
2. Hopefully you are on a modified live program and you can vaccinate pre-weaning. If the cow herd is vaccinated with Bovishield 4+L5 then vaccinate the calves with Bovi 4 at weaning or ideally pre-weaning. Some sales and buyers prefer a pasteurella vaccine. Look into where you will be selling and ask what the buyers want.
3. Will you preg check your beef cows? If you want to tighten up your calving interval this is the best way. Cull cow prices are holding their own, feed prices continue to increase.
4. Do not forget to deworm/delice. Delicing is best done after a few good frosts and some cold weather. However, calves may need to be done for sales. If you can, hold off until late October to delice/deworm for better results throughout the winter.

### DAIRY

What a summer we are having! Hot weather continues to be the story of the season with crops loving it and cows enduring it. Several issues have surfaced over the hot spell; here is a summary.

1. Breeding is definitely proving to be a challenge. Cows are not showing heats well, and conception also decreases by up to 25%. With fewer breedings and lower conception rates farmers are faced with fewer pregnancies for next spring. Farmers should consider increase use of Ov-synch as a way to increase breedings since heat detection suffers in hot weather.
2. Butterfat percentages have dropped in most areas as a result of the heat. This in combination with reduced milk production has left many producers scrambling for production to meet quota and fall incentives. Addition of sodium bicarbonate or yeast to rations may aid in digestion of forages and prevent pH drops in the rumen which help suppress butterfat. Discuss this with your nutritionist or Feed company.
3. Farms which have added fans to increase air flow, and where sufficient access to water is available have seemed to handle the heat better than farms lacking ventilation. Water demands increase up to 50% in hot weather, so have lots of water capacity for your cows. Investments in fans and water troughs now will pay dividends later.
4. The hot weather has played havoc with toxic mastitis. Research out of the U.S. shows that as soon as fresh cow groups are stocked greater than 90% or mid-lactation cow groups stocked greater than 110% cow/udder health suffers. Yes, you can overstock but you can pay a price. If toxic mastitis continues to plague you, call and discuss a monthly vaccination booster during summer weather. Herds can benefit from up to 5 booster shots of Enviro-core in seasons posing increased challenges. Of course, clean stalls, proper ventilation and well-balanced rations are all a part of the total package in supporting the cow's immune system.

### CALVES

Water, water and more water. Record number of days above 30°C in June and July. Our most important nutrient should not be limited. If you have large numbers of calves, get a large barrel and hose connected to it. Drive down the row of hutches or calf pens and quickly full up the water pails. If it is convenient it will get done more often.