



LINWOOD
VETERINARY SERVICES

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January 2010 Newsletter

LINWOOD AGRICULTURE INFORMATION DAY– Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Once again we are happy to be continuing our annual agriculture and information day along with Jones Feed Mills Ltd. on Tuesday, February 23, 2010 from 9-4 at the new Linwood Community Centre. If you need to arrange transportation, please contact Jones Feed Mill at 698-2082.

Upcoming meeting

Waterloo Cattlemen's Association Annual Meeting
Wednesday January 20, 2010, 11:00 am
Linwood Community Centre
Beef dinner and guest speakers
more information call Steve Foster 519-746-0258

SWINE

We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas filled with family or friends and a Happy New Year. We extend our thanks for your continued business and we extend a warm welcome to new customers who joined us in 2009.

The obvious New Years resolution is our hope to see some profit in the Pork industry in 2010. We pledge to do our best in helping farmers overcome herd health issues and we will continue to help at an industry level when opportunities present.

PRRS is still the biggest disease challenge we battle against and we are enclosing an OPIC bulletin for your information.

OPIC Bulletin

Ontario swine veterinarians have utilized the OSHAB PRRSv Database to identify that there is circulation of a virulent strain of PRRS virus in Southwestern Ontario with an RFLP pattern designated as 1-22-2. This strain of PRRS is very problematic in the breeding herd and the nursery phases of the production unit. In the breeding herd there is a dramatic increase in fever,

off feed, early farrowing, early and late abortion, stillborns, mummies, prewean mortality and repeat breedings. The nursery is affected by increase in post weaning mortality (>30%) with unthrifty, thumping and generally poor doing pigs.

This strain has been in Ontario for several years, however; analysis of the OSHAB database indicates increasing frequency and spread of the virus. The 1-22-2 PRRS virus was identified on 2 farms in 2007, 2 farms in 2008 and 6 farms in 2009. In the last quarter of 2009, the herds infected with this virus have been concentrated in the Lambton and Middlesex County areas.

Biosecurity is always important but the “stakes” in the cost:benefit risk assessment have just gotten higher with this more severe strain. We encourage you to use best practices such as a Danish Entry. Increased scrutiny of biosecurity with vehicles, products and supplies coming onto your property is important. Market hog and cull sow transport vehicle sanitation should be reviewed. To review biosecurity recommendations for service providers, transport loading and unloading procedures and truck cleaning guidelines and view a checklist to assess your Danish Entry and download a poster and full protocol on Danish entry usage visit <http://www.opic.on.ca/cms/en/oshabTools.aspx>. To review the OSHAB PRRS Position Statements visit <http://www.opic.on.ca/cms/en/oshabPositionStatements.aspx>.

If you suspect your herd is showing signs of PRRS, please contact your veterinarian so that they may assist you in the diagnosis and provide some options for managing the problem.

On a more positive note we are seeing good results with the new Flusure XP influenza vaccine. It appears to give good protection for H₃N₂. The most common use of this product is in gilt acclimatization and/or sow herd vaccination.

Finally we want to acknowledge those producers who have left the industry. In many cases we have worked with them for many years and developed close business and friendship ties. We hope your future is bright and you will be missed.