



DR. MARTIN MISENER DR. MURRAY RUNSTEDLER DR. PAUL SOSTAR
DR. ANDREW MACLEOD DR. JOHN TOKARZ DR. KELLY HAELZLE

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

JUNE 2010 NEWSLETTER

Clinic News *Holidays and Delivery Dates*

The clinic will be open 7am -12 on Friday July 2nd and Monday August 2nd to pick up orders. (Emergency delivery only by vet on call). Also please plan ahead for late June and place orders for delivery by June 30th as regular delivery service will be shut down for July 1-4th for inventory reconciliation.

Announcements *Waterloo Cattlemen's Association Annual Bus Trip is July 20th 2010*

Please RSVP Jones Feed Mills at 519-698-2082 by July 13th to reserve a spot. Tour agenda to date includes Q and A session with head butcher of Whole Foods Store, Q and A with Meat Product Development Manager and Tour at Loblaws, Walking Tour of St. Lawrence Market, and a Farm Visit to Sunnymead Farms in Brampton: 1400 head feedlot, backgrounding and finishing. Ask for Mike Edwards at Jones if you have any questions.

Bovine News *"If you can keep calves eating, they grow more and are healthier."*

Metacam is a new drug for treating calves. It can be used to treat calves with diarrhea to help keep them eating and growing and to reduce pain after dehorning which also makes them more comfortable so they tend to eat more. Metacam is similar to ketoprofen (Anafen) and flunixin (Banamine, Cronyxin, etc) but Metacam lasts much longer. One treatment with Metacam will last for 1 to 2 days. Metacam also reduces pain when the nerve block wears off after dehorning. Metacam can be injected under the skin or into the vein.

Researchers at OVC studied how Metacam works. In one study, they treated calves with diarrhea once with either Metacam or a placebo. The calves treated with Metacam continued to drink their milk and got onto starter 5 to 6 days quicker than calves treated with the placebo. The Metacam calves were weaned off milk 5 to 6 days sooner too. Because the Metacam-treated calves ended up eating more, they weighed 10 pounds more 6 weeks after they were treated.

Keeping calves eating is very important. Calves are very different from older cattle. If calves are too sick to eat, they never get a chance to catch back up. Calves will either eat all they can consume or all they are offered. If they don't eat because they are sick, they just can't possibly eat more once they feel better. If you can keep calves eating, they grow more and are healthier.

Rumensin Controlled Release Capsule (CRC) for Beef Cattle Going to Pasture

*"We believe that these new claims to the Rumensin CRC will benefit beef clients with reduced incidence of bloat and bloat related mortality as well as **improved weight gains** by control of coccidia in pasture situations."*

Something to consider prior to moving growing cattle to pasture in addition to the regular processing with vaccinations, ear tags and dewormers would be the **use of CRC boluses**. On April 22nd 2010, the Veterinary Drugs Directorate of Health Canada approved additional label indications for the new re-designed Rumensin CRC from Elanco. These are:

- **As an aid in reducing the incidence of bloat and bloat associated mortality in growing cattle, weighing from 300 kg (660 lb) to 400 kg (880 lb), *on pasture* containing legumes.**
- **As an aid in the *prevention of coccidiosis* caused by *Eimeria zuernii* and *Eimeria bovis* in cattle weighing from 300 kg (660 lb) to 400 kg (880 lb).**

You might recall that Rumensin CRC had label indications for bloat and bloat associated mortality in pasture cattle and prevention of coccidiosis in cattle in the past. There are a few differences between the current Rumensin CRC label and the previous beef label indications. The 2 most important changes are:

- **The weight limits for beef cattle have changed and Rumensin CRC is now indicated for beef cattle from 300 kg (660 lb) to 400 kg (880 lb).**
- **Rumensin CRC will *pay out over an average of 80 days +/- 8.3 days* in growing cattle.**

Elanco has chosen to distribute Rumensin CRC only through veterinarians. Elanco acknowledges that a bovine practitioner is in the best position to make recommendations to clients. We believe that these new claims to the Rumensin CRC will benefit beef clients with reduced incidence of bloat and related mortality as well as **improved weight gains** by control of coccidia in pasture situations.

Abortions in Small Ruminants

U of G Study Running till Late Summer/Early Fall

The Animal Health Lab at the University of Guelph has started an investigation into the role of both *Chlamydia abortus* and *Coxiella burnetii* in small ruminant abortions in Ontario and wants to determine the relationship between rate of infection and load of the organisms using lab tests such as real-time PCR and immunohistochemistry. **Post mortem exams on aborted lambs and kids will be paid for with funding for the study**, provided the **placenta** is submitted either with the fetus or by itself. Normal lab charges will apply if the fetus is submitted without the accompanying placenta.

Chlamydia abortus and *Coxiella burnetii* (Q fever) are two important organisms involved in abortions in small ruminants and typically occur near the end of gestation. Lambs/ kids can also be stillborn or born very weak. Both organisms are zoonotic, meaning they can also cause problems in people in contact with infected sheep or goats.

More than 60% of females infected with *Chlamydia* will abort, typically in the following lambing/kidding season. Generally *Chlamydia* is introduced through the purchase of an infected individual and spread through inhalation from infected placentas or uterine discharge. Ensure good hygiene to control spread: Isolate aborting females, make sure to destroy aborted fetuses and placentas and confine lambings/kiddings to a specific area of the barn that you keep disinfected. Long acting tetracycline can be effective as a method of preventing late term abortions when given earlier in gestation, but does not prevent animals from shedding the organism and infecting others. Vaccination is possible using a killed vaccine for short term protection but effectiveness varies from flock to flock, herd to herd.

More than 90% of females infected with *Coxiella* will abort. Infection is by direct contact and inhalation. In humans, infection is primarily by inhalation. Signs of infection include fever, headaches, general tiredness, pneumonia, infection of the liver, and abortion in pregnant women, though often no symptoms may be noticed. Like *Chlamydia*, control includes good hygiene and isolating aborting females. No vaccines are available in Canada at this time.

If you are interested in submitting aborted fetuses and placentas for use in this study, which runs till late summer/early fall, or for more information please contact your herd/flock veterinarian.

SWINE NEWS

Update on the Swine practice move to St.Clements: Good News! We now have telephone numbers. As of July 1st we will be reached at 1-877-699-0601 or 519-699-2600. We will contact you before the end of June to fill you in on all the details. We are still working on the renovations but our contractor assures us that all will be ready to go by July 1st. Our thanks to those of you whom have brought your account current. We appreciate this assistance as we make changes. We greatly appreciate the interest and communication from our clients regarding this move. If you have any questions or concerns about this change please contact us at the current Linwood number. We always appreciate hearing from our customers. We plan to make this change as smoothly as possible and look forward to continue to provide customer friendly services to the swine producers throughout South Western Ontario.

Heat stress kills!! With hot summer weather it is important that pig farms prepare their barns and change some management routines to reduce the impact of heat stress.

Check list:

1. Ad lib water availability in extreme temperatures. Animals can increase their water intake up to 6 times so ensure clean water is always available. Dry sow troughs are often an area of concern.
2. Air flow. Ensure maximum ventilation rates, adequate inlets and all fans or vents are in working order.
3. Reduce stocking density including number of pigs loaded on trucks.
4. Utilize sprinklers and/or drip cooling systems.
5. Consult with your feed rep regarding ration density changes. Increasing the fat in the diet can be helpful if intakes are down.
6. Feed farrowing sows early and late to avoid the hottest times of day.
7. Induce sows to farrow on day 115 in the early am.

Don't forget to re-evaluate feed med usage during the summer months. With high ventilation rates and good weather respiratory disease is much less of an issue than fall and winter.