

LINWOOD VETERINARY SERVICES PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

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September Newsletter

DAIRY

The summer has produced some great weather for growing crops and sitting under a shade tree enjoying the company of friends, but has proven a challenge for breeding cows. Signs of heat have been elusive, and conception rates have suffered as well. As cool air once again returns, it is time to focus on reproduction and get more animals bred/in calf. Here are two methods which will help get more cows or heifers bred:

Heifers

CIDRs (progesterone releasing devices) help increase the response to Lutalyse. Give heifers a CIDR for 7 days. Needle with Lutalyse and remove the CIDR. Watch for heat in approximately 3 ½ days and breed.

Cows

The Ov-synch program is a good method to get cows bred. By following the Ov-synch program open cows can be appointment-bred in 10 days. The use of a CIDR will in many instances increase the success rate of the Ov-synch program. Typical conception rates using the Ov-synch program are usually in the same range as with other heat detection programs.

Ov-synch Programs

Day 1	Give 2cc Cystorelin (and CIDR if required)
Day 8 (mid-morning)	5cc Lutalyse (Pull out CIDR if required)
Day 10 (evening)	2cc Cystorelin
Day 11 (mid-morning)	Breed animal 12-18 hours after Cystorelin shot

CALF MANAGEMENT

The weather is perfect, not too hot and not too cold but for whatever reason the scour complaints are on the rise. Unfortunately there is a trend this time of year for increased Salmonella cases. As well this summer we have a parasite in some scour samples called Giardia. Giardia in the past has been associated with livestock near rivers or lakes with beavers. The reports from around the world reveal that it is in the cattle population. Science has not proven that it is a cause of scours, however if it is present in a scouring calf then I would treat the calf. Taking samples using milk sample vials is best. If you can take 3 to 6 samples and submit them within a day that would be best. Take samples from non-treated freshly scouring calves. If you can only sample 1 calf at a time, place the sample in a freezer, hopefully a freezer that is in your barn or shed, not in your house.

Treatment/protocol:

1. When outside air temperature is greater than 15°C take off of milk and use water or water + electrolytes every 3 to 4 hours.
2. Needle with Trivetrin for an antibiotic and pain killer such as Anafen or Banamine.
3. Oral antibiotic medication of Sulfa Plus and Neomix.
4. If Giardia is diagnosed – vet prescription for treatment is required.

COW/CALF

Perfect weather for processing calves pre-weaning is upon us! For those that have their cow herd vaccinated with a Modified-live vaccine then this month is perfect for vaccinating these beef calves pre-weaning for the October/early November sales. However, vaccinating is not everything for a healthy calf. Bunk adjusted calves that know what a bunk and grain are do much better. Calves that have been dehorned and castrated that are all healed up do better. Dewormed calves and creep fed calves that have had Deccox, Rumensin or Bovatec in the feed, at the correct levels for a minimum of 3 weeks perform much better. The markets are back and strong so let's market quality calves.

SWINE

Disease Update

After it's arrival in the spring, H₃N₂ influenza has continued to cause outbreaks in sow herds, nurseries and finishing barns. The worst presentations were during the severe heat waves. It is too early to tell if this virus will cause chronic problems in nurseries and finishing barns.

Recommendation: If you have not gone through an influenza outbreak in your sow barn you should consider vaccination of the sow herd. We can blood test to identify your status.

PRRS outbreaks slowed down dramatically in the late spring and summer. In Ontario this has been a typical seasonal pattern with this disease. Fall and winter are the higher risk seasons.

What can you do to reduce your risk of PRRS outbreaks:

1. Ensure your gilt introduction program is well thought out and protocols are followed.
2. Get as much history on purchased pigs as possible.
3. Ensure biosecurity programs are adhered to.

If you start to see reproductive PRRS signs in your sow herd, call right away. Last year, we put together a new intervention program for acute PRRS outbreaks. Results in three herds have been excellent. A big part of successful intervention is timing. If the outbreak is in the early stages, our interventions are far more cost effective.

Finally – Circovirus

We wish we could give producers some significant answers to this growing disease problem. The summary of many interventions is simple "Don't stress your pigs" however in Ontario this is very hard to do. The very best interventions so far are pulling sick pigs into a hospital pen A.S.A.P. and target all in all out pig flow.

BEEF

Exporting live finished cattle under 30 months of age has been a challenge. All cattle must have their CCIA tags recorded, aged by teeth, heifers must be preg checked open and a mountain of paper work done. Having said all this live cattle export is a very positive step for the industry. We are committed to following all export requirements to the letter therefore ensuring that the border stays open. The optimism resulting from the border opening has pushed weaned calf prices up. Since BSE producers have looked at cost cutting measures on health programs and treatment costs, it is important to invest health dollars wisely but keep in mind the risk.

Proper vaccination and incoming treatment programs are a very important part of a successful start. The industry has gotten better at preconditioning calves prior to sale but accurate information is a must. We will be more than happy to offer prepurchase consults. In other words if you are buying cattle and we are given a contact i.e. owner or seller, we can inquire about their health programs. With accurate information, vaccine, deworming and antibiotic recommendations can be tailored to your cattle. When information is not available, we recommend:

- Bovishield Gold or Resvac
- Liquamycin LA or Micotil for high risk cattle
- Dectomax pour on

Cattle should come into a feedlot and be started on a ration medicated with Aureomycin and Deccox

First line treatment for pneumonia:

- 3cc Nuflor/100lbs IM
- 5cc Biomycin/100lbs SQ
- 2cc Predef 2x/100lbs IM

Repeat the treatment in 48 hours

Second line:

- A-180

A-180 is a relatively new antibiotic. The active ingredient is Danofloxacin. This drug is a very close relative of Enrofloxacin (Baytril).

A-180 dose

1.5cc/100lbs under the skin.

Repeat this dose in 48 hours (7 day meat withdrawal)

Give this drug plus an anti-inflammatory eg. Predef

A-180 is our big gun and we are looking forward to good treatment response.

The other new product we are hoping to make available is a treatment dose (medicated) feed top dress. We have preferred feed medication to water for stocker cattle. The goal is to provide 10mg/lb/hd/day treatment dose of Chlortetracycline feed for 5 days. We will need you to give us number of head and average weight then we can give custom directions for this new product.

Good luck on all your cattle starts.

EQUINE

Mare Reproduction

It is time to mark "90 day gestation preg checks" on your calendar. Mares that were confirmed pregnant via ultrasound earlier in the season (i.e. sixteen to twenty one day gestation ultrasounds) should be confirmed pregnant via rectal exam at 90 days gestation (or later). Mares who have absorbed their embryo (early embryonic death or EED) prior to 90 days gestation may not experience a return to heat, nor will you necessarily see blood on her tail or any other clinical sign of abortion. In the event a mare goes on to abort after 90 days gestation, there is often physical evidence of the event, such as a vaginal discharge, blood on her tail, or the fetus itself.

Mares who were bred in April or earlier should now be receiving vaccination against contagious abortion.

"Pneumabort K" is a rhinopneumonitis (herpes virus 1) vaccine, which should be administered to mares at 5, 7 and 9 months of gestation. Any mares that have contact with horses that go off farm should be vaccinated.

