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*We will provide industry-leading, reliable, knowledgeable service, in a friendly, courteous and timely manner, to benefit our clients and the communities we serve.*

**Linwood Clinic Hours: Mon-Fri 7am – 5pm Sat 7am – 12pm**      **Hwy 89 Clinic: Mon-Sat 7am-1 pm**

**NOTE: BOTH CLINICS ARE CLOSED SUNDAY**

Orders for Delivery: **call by 9:30 am at the latest** for same day local delivery Monday to Friday

**24 Hour Emergency Vet Service 1-800-663-2941**

## **DAIRY MONTH- JUNE 2014 NEWSLETTER**

### **HOLIDAY HOURS**

There will be NO DELIVERY SERVICE running on TUESDAY JULY 1 for the Statutory Canada Day Holiday. The clinics will be open July 1 for our usual hours.

Linwood and Hwy 89 will be observing the Holiday on Monday June 30<sup>th</sup>. Vets will be available for emergencies Monday June 30<sup>th</sup> and the Linwood clinic will be open from 7am to 12 pm and Hwy 89 will be open 7am to 1pm.

### **Environmental Mastitis Edition**

Prevention is the only effective means to reduce Environmental Mastitis impact on dairy cows and Somatic Cell Counts. These methods of prevention require planning and targeting high risk cows, environments and seasons. Summer/fall has historically have been the months of the year in which SCC are elevated the most and is why you can use the following options to manage/minimize that elevated SCC and the negative health effects of environmental mastitis.

**ENVIRACOR® J-5** is recommended for use in healthy dairy cattle as an aid in the control of clinical signs associated with *E. coli* mastitis. For effective mastitis control this product should be used in conjunction with acceptable good management practices including the Fresh Start Protocol.

Triple Protection Protocol includes:

**1. Enviracor J-5**, 3 doses of vaccine given as follows;

- 1st dose at 7 months of gestation
- 2nd dose at 8 months of gestation
- 3rd dose within 2 weeks following calving

**2. A Zoetis dry cow antibiotic treatment**

**3. Orbeseal at dry off**

- Cows enter the protocol at 7 months of gestation when they receive first dose of Enviracor
- Zoetis will compensate \$12 towards the cost of milk culture for each clinical mastitis occurring before 60 days in milk
- \$100.00 towards treatment when *E.coli* is isolated on culture

Double Protection Protocol includes:

**1. A Zoetis dry cow antibiotic treatment**

**2. Orbeseal at dry off**

- Cows at 7 months of gestation would receive antibiotic therapy for dry cow and teat sealant.
- Zoetis will cover the cost of milk culture for each clinical mastitis occurring before 60 days in milk.

**J-VAC<sup>®</sup>** used in the vaccination of healthy cattle as an aid in prevention of mastitis due to *E.coli* and the effects of endotoxemia caused by *E.coli* and *Salmonella typhimurium*. Inject 2 mL (1 dose) intramuscularly or subcutaneously at 7 months of gestation or at dry off; revaccinate at 1 to 3 weeks before calving. Revaccinate as recommended by your Veterinarian.

**Topvac** is an inactivated mastitis vaccine against *E.coli*, *Staph aureus*, coliforms and coagulase-negative staphylococci (CNS). This is a new vaccine for the Canadian market, but has been licensed elsewhere in the world under the name Startvac.

Topvac is similar to other *E.coli* vaccines on the market but has the added protection against *Staph aureus* and CNS. Topvac is the first vaccine able to prevent or stop the development of "biofilm", a thin protective layer that these pathogens (*Staph aureus* and CNS) create, thus protecting them against antibiotics and the host immune system.

Topvac is to be administered two doses before calving (45 days and 10 days before freshening) and one application post-partum (on day 52). The timing of this protocol reduces mastitis at the time of greatest risk of infections.

With Topvac you will:

- Decrease the percentage of cases of clinical and subclinical mastitis.
- Increase the spontaneous cure rate.
- Reduce the severity of cases of mastitis.
- Save on treatments.
- Decrease the individual SCC values.

Please consult your veterinarian to determine which is the right vaccine for your operation is and how we can help make reducing environmental mastitis easy for you.

Remember these vaccines will not protect the cows from infection but WILL:

- Reduce clinical signs with less milk production depression.
- Improve cure rates with reduced antibiotic treatments.
- Reduce SCC and culling rate due to mastitis.

## Gram-negative mastitis: You must treat that

This will lead to better milk quality and healthier cows.

Nearly 40 percent of mastitis infections on dairy operations are caused by Gram-negative mastitis. And, if left untreated, mild or moderate Gram-negative mastitis have the potential to become severe, toxic and have a detrimental impact on your cows and their udder health.

We recommend using the following approach:

• **Culture to identify organisms:** Make use of your veterinarian to establish a routine and ongoing culturing program. Determine the common mastitis-causing pathogens on your dairy operation and have your veterinarian recommend an intramammary tube labeled for treatment of the identified pathogens.

• **Determine length of treatment:** Your veterinarian can determine therapy protocols depending on culture records, severity and duration of infection, and health status of the cow. For now, you may want to consider a five-day extended duration of therapy for cases of mild or moderate Gram-negative infections. Be sure to use a product labeled for extended duration of therapy or get a script for the extra-label use of products.

• **Complete the full course of therapy:** No matter if the milk or cows appear to be cured, complete the full course of treatment prescribed by your veterinarian. A clinical cure is not the same as a bacteriological, or complete, cure. The use of extended duration of therapy often is necessary to achieve a complete cure and reduce the rate of relapse.

By using effective treatment methods and targeting known bacteria with appropriate therapies, you can limit the effects of Gram-negative mastitis on cow health, milk quality and production, and profitability on your dairy.

If you want more information ask your Veterinarian or visit [www.milkqualityfocus.com](http://www.milkqualityfocus.com).

### Collecting Milk Samples for Culturing

Always place samples in refrigerator immediately, especially since the warm weather has arrived, to prevent growth of bacteria not related to mastitis. If samples are not going to the lab within 48 hours, put them in the freezer, but fresh samples are preferred. Label each sample with the quarter (LH, LF, RH, RF), cow ID, and the date the sample was taken. Quarter samples will give you the best results over composite samples.

Proper sampling technique will minimize chances of a contaminated sample being sent for culturing. We have protocol sheets available at the clinic, or one of our Registered Veterinary Technicians would be happy to come out and show you or your staff the techniques!