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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.

St Clements Clinic Hours: Mon-Fri 7am to 5pm Open Saturday 7am-12pm

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CLINICS ARE CLOSED SUNDAY and NO DELIVERY SERVICE SATURDAYS AND HOLIDAYS

Orders for Delivery: Please, call BEFORE 9:30 am, for same day local delivery Monday to Friday

24 Hour Emergency Vet Service - call 519-698-2610 519-323-9002 519-699-0404 1-800-663-2941

May 2024 NEWSLETTER

Announcement

June 21st, 2024: Waterloo-Wellington Beef Tour

Producers from all over are invited to take part in the annual Waterloo-Wellington Beef Tour this coming June! The event goes from **3pm – 6pm**, visiting barns in a “Come and Go” format. Following the tours, a steak supper will be served at the **Mount Forest and District Sports Complex (850 Princess Street, Mount Forest, ON)**.

The three barns being featured on the tour are:

- **Nelson Martin: 104486 Southgate Road 10 – Mount Forest**
- **Kyle Aitken: 183266 Grey Road 9 – Holstein**
- **Dippel Farms: 101517 Concession 10, Municipality of West Grey, RR#2 Ayton**

After the tour and dinner, there will be speakers presenting from **8pm – 9pm**, featuring: Elam Bauman, Organizing Committee Member (“Welcome”); John Baker, OCFB Director of Brand Management (“Update”); Christoph Wand, OMAFRA Livestock Stability (“Crops/Cattle”); Brent Cavell, OCFB Quality Assurance Manager (“Benchmarking”); and Steve Duff, OMAFRA Chief Economist (“Market Outlook”).

Please RSVP for the steak supper by June 12th – pre-registration is mandatory. To RSVP, please contact by call or text either Jared Frey (226-338-5763) or Glen Martin (519-572-3905).

On Farm Euthanasia Decisions

This month's newsletter isn't the happiest of topics but remains important all the same. How often do you hear or say “If you work with livestock, you have dead stock”? Euthanasia is a sad but necessary aspect of animal production. Knowing when to make the decision to euthanize an animal is extremely important to animal welfare, but also has a financial and potential overall herd health component as well. Euthanasia is described as “the act of intentionally and humanely ending the life of an animal.” Many farmers can euthanize cattle on farm with a firearm or captive bolt and the act must be performed by trained personnel or a veterinarian. If euthanasia is performed by captive bolt a secondary method **MUST** be used; such as bleeding, IV injection of a saturated solution of either potassium chloride, magnesium sulfate, or pithing. Knowing when to make the call is sometimes easy, but oftentimes the decision to cull or euthanize an animal is not straight forward. This is why, on the reverse side of this newsletter, there is a decision-making tree produced by the National Dairy Farm Program in the USA. Have a read through, and we also highly recommend keeping it and putting a copy of it in your farm office or CQM binder as a reference.

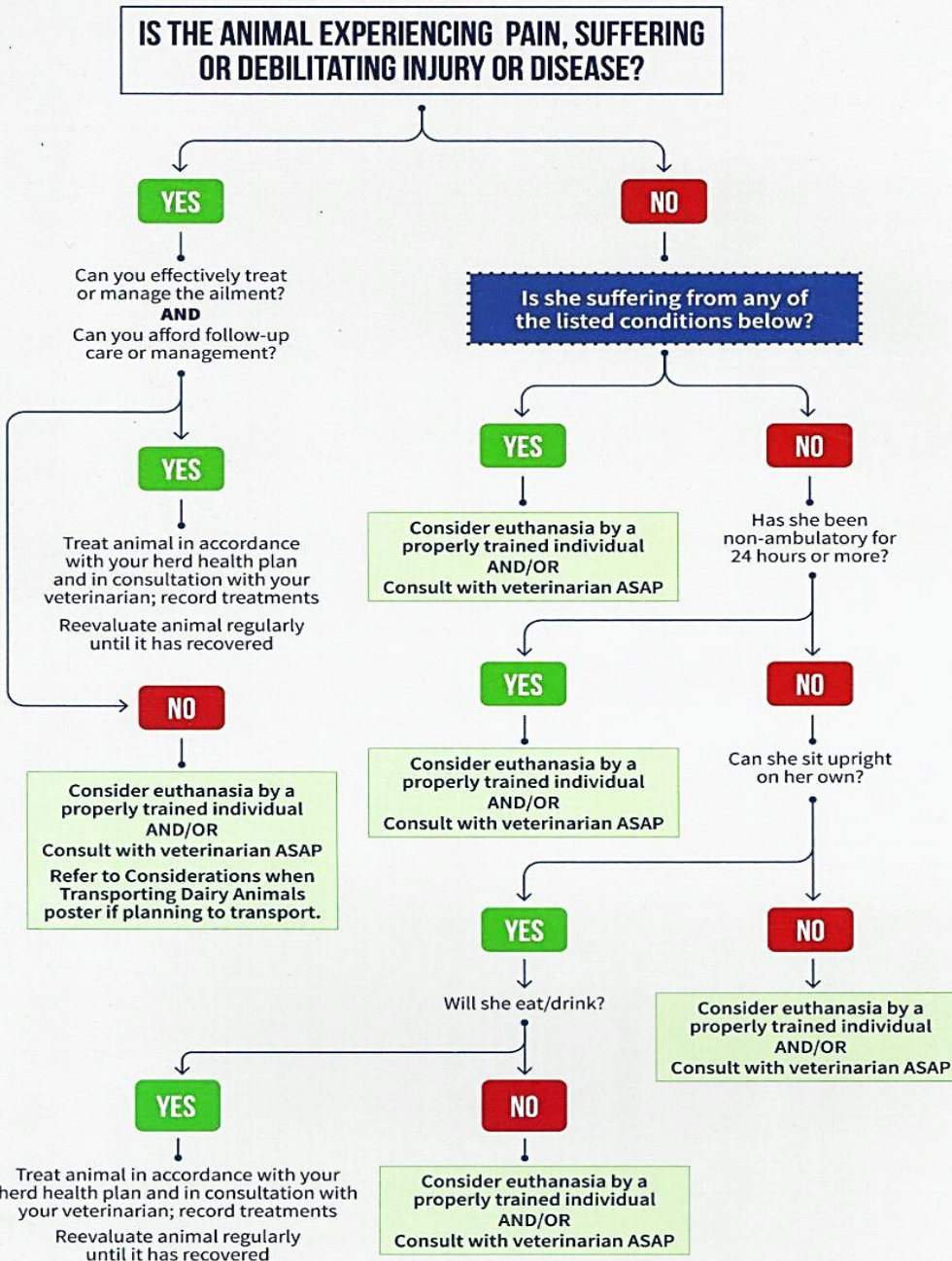
As always if you have any questions or concerns on the topic do not hesitate to talk to your Linwood Vet Services veterinarian.

DAIRY CATTLE EUTHANASIA DECISION TREE

Use the following decision tree to determine if euthanasia should be performed immediately.



Pain: An unpleasant physical sensation occurring in varying degrees of severity because of injury, disease or resulting from a medical or management procedure.



RECOMMENDED PRIMARY EUTHANASIA METHODS

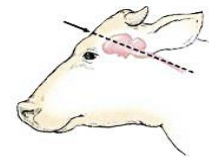
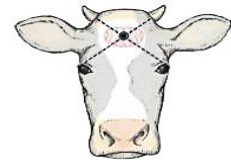
If death is not confirmed following a primary method, a secondary method must be used to complete euthanasia.

1

Gunshot using an appropriate firearm, ammunition and anatomic site to cause physical disruption of brain activity by direct destruction of brain tissue.

2

Penetrating captive bolt (PCB) to induce unconsciousness in combination with an adjunctive step such as exsanguination, intravenous administration of a saturated solution of either potassium chloride or magnesium sulfate, or pithing (increasing destruction of brain and spinal cord tissue) to ensure death.



3

Chemical Intravenous (IV) barbiturate administered by a veterinarian or IV anesthetic agents that render the animal unconscious to allow for a secondary step. Note, these animals should not be rendered.

Illustration courtesy of a member of the Ohio State University Extension. Photo courtesy of Oregon State University.

Conditions or situations may lead to an animal being compromised to such an extent that euthanasia should be performed immediately:

- Extended drug withdrawal time for clearance of tissue residue
- INABILITY TO:**
 - Maintain sitting upright position with head held up
 - Move and raise front legs once lifted under assistance
 - Stand due to catastrophic fracture, trauma or disease of the limbs, hips or spine
- SUFFERING FROM:**
 - Advanced ocular neoplastic conditions (i.e., cancer eye)
 - Age or injury that results in the animal being too compromised for transport or market
 - Chronic pneumonia and difficulty breathing/gasping for air
 - Chronic repeated bloating
 - Conditions with no effective treatment (e.g., Johne's disease or lymphoma)
 - Disease conditions with cost-prohibitive treatment
 - Diseases with a significant threat to human health (i.e., rabies)
 - Emaciation and/or debilitation from disease
 - Pain and distress that cannot be managed
 - Poor prognosis or prolonged expected recovery
 - Uncontrollable bleeding from a major blood vessel