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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

Hwy 89 Clinic Hours: Mon-Sat 7am to 1 pm

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

JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER

July Holiday

PLEASE NOTE DATES The clinics will be open with delivery and services as usual on Thursday July 1, Canada Day, and instead we will **observe the holiday on Friday July 2nd with only emergency vet services and NO delivery service ON Friday July 2.** Clinics will be open in the morning on Friday for pick ups and early residue tests and open as usual the morning of Saturday the 3rd.

Pasture Cattle Parasites

Traditional parasite control in cow herds has often been done as a convenient addition to other reasons for processing through the chute early in the summer or at weaning in the fall. Producers should move away from this routine of convenient deworming in favor of a more strategic application.

We need to know the cycle of parasite infestation, environmental conditions specific to the farm along with year-to-year variability in factors affecting internal parasites. Producers should work with their veterinarian to develop a control program.

The goal of strategic control is to prevent heavy infestations. This means stopping adult parasites in the cow from shedding eggs for as long as possible, especially during the early part of the grazing season.

Infective larvae must have warm temperature and moisture, from rain or heavy dew, to leave the manure and swim up the grass. The larvae don't go far; most are found within 10 cm of the manure and less than 5 cm up the grass leaf. This is why close grazing makes the problem worse. The larvae reach infective stage in 14 days or less and live for 60 to 90 days waiting to be swallowed by a cow. Once ingested, they will develop into adults in a few days and begin shedding new eggs in four to six weeks.

The process slows in winter, but the eggs or larvae can survive very well and become infective when it warms up. Numbers build rapidly in the spring with these surviving larvae. During droughts and in hot and dry conditions of July and August, the process is slowed or suspended without moisture.

The first treatment is determined by when grazing begins. Cows will ingest over-wintered larvae in contaminated pastures. After this re-infestation, the **first treatment occurs before new shedding of eggs in four to six weeks after they are placed on pasture**. Even with continued ingestion, it will be another four to six weeks before new eggs are shed after treatment. Hopefully by then, we are into the hot and dry part of the summer **otherwise a second summer treatment may be required**.

A general strategic program for mature cows follows with **another treatment at the beginning of winter**. Deworming at weaning in mid-fall may leave time for the cows to become re-infested. Treating after the first heavy frost gives the herd a better chance of staying parasite-free through the winter.

Many other variables affect this cycle. Review the variables with your veterinarian and plan your strategy.