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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: **Please call BEFORE 9:30 am** for same day local delivery Monday to Friday

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

MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER

Clinic News

We had a great turnout to our annual dairy producer meeting. It was great to see so many producers out for a bit of learning and a good meal. We would like to thank Zoetis for their support for the producer education meeting, and the vendors who supplied door prizes, Zoetis, Boehringer, Elanco, and Vetinguinol. A few key points to remember from the meeting include:

From Dr. Reny Lothrop's presentation, remember that your calves are the future of your dairy operation. Be sure to start them off right- vaccines, adequate nutrition, proper ventilation and clean, dry housing. A healthy well grown calf gives substantially more milk as a two year old. If you have any questions, be sure to ask your herd vet.

We now have calf coats in stock at the clinic. Be sure to order some for your calves to keep them warm and healthy. We have size medium, large and extra large in stock. As well there are smaller jersey size calf coats available. These are available at a cost competitive price and are made of an easy to wash material. Always make sure you wash and dry a calf coat between calves to help keep the spread of disease low.

Proaction Update

During our recent producer meeting, Dr. Ann Godkin of OMAFRA spoke on the ProAction program and discussed how it will be implemented and what it will represent to dairy farmers. Ann used pictures to show some interesting examples of things farmers can ensure on their own farms to be ready for ProAction.

The ProAction initiative is a national program designed to demonstrate responsible stewardship of animals and the environment to assure consumers we continue to produce high-quality and safe dairy products. ProAction consists of six key modules, each at a different stage of implementation:

- Milk quality
- Food safety
- Animal care
- Traceability
- Biosecurity
- Environment

The Animal Care component will have on-farm animal welfare assessments evaluated based on the requirements in the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Dairy Cattle. Assessments will begin later this year and will be performed by Holstein Canada field staff. We recommend that farmers continue to monitor and review cow health and prevent health issues in conjunction with your herd veterinarian. This will help ensure you are ready when the ProAction animal care audits begin.

Milk Culturing

Discount milk cultures! Now is the time to get to the bottom of any somatic cell issues or mastitis cases. Cultures are a great way to determine what is the best treatment for a particular mastitis case. Boehringer Ingelheim is running the Milk Culture Testing Program to promote prudent use of antimicrobials, through pathogen identification. With each purchase of 12 tubes of Cefa-Lak[®], Dry-Clox[®], or Cefa-Dri[®], you will receive a unique sticker to put on a milk vial to submit to the clinic for culture. Each sticker will give you \$12 off a culture submitted to the clinic. This sticker program runs March 1 to July 31. Discount stickers need to be redeemed by November 30th 2016.

Please remember when taking milk samples for culture, cleanliness is key. Be sure to prep the teats like milking, wipe teats with alcohol wipes, wear gloves and use a clean container. Keep refrigerated and get it to the clinic as soon as possible. Lastly, make sure the cow hasn't been treated with antibiotics in the last 10 days.

Rabies Vaccination for Farm Dogs

Don't forget to get your farm dogs vaccinated for rabies this spring! This is a requirement by law and a helps to protect you, your family and your animals from a fatal disease.