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**Linwood Veterinary Services**

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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**

## **MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER**

### **May Holiday**

The clinics will be open only in the morning, and there will be no delivery for Victoria Day, **Monday, May 24**. Vets will be on call for your emergency needs.

## **MANAGING CALF SCOURS**

Undifferentiated calf diarrhea is the #1 cause of mortality in dairy calves. Most often the cause for scours is multifactorial. Calves with scours experience rapid water and electrolyte loss causing them to dehydrate quickly.



A sick calf may have the following clinical signs:

- Depression, lethargy
- Difficulty rising and/or difficulty holding head up
- Dull and sunken eyes, prolonged skin tent
- Cold and droopy eyes
- Increased frequency and quantity of manure that can be watery, pasty, yellow and may contain blood and/or mucous
- Nasal discharge
- Poor suckle reflex, unfinished meals

MOST COMMON INFECTIOUS ORGANISMS AND AGE OF DIARRHEA	
Cause	Age of onset
E.coli*	First 3 days
Rotavirus	Day 3-7
Coronavirus	Day 3-7
Cryptosporidium*	Day 5-7
Salmonella*	Day 5-14
Coccidiosis	Day 4-7 to 6 months

\*contagious to humans- take precaution when handling calves

To determine the specific cause(s) of diarrhea producers can work with their veterinarian and request a fecal sample to be sent out for testing.

*Treatment:*

- Most calves will run through the course of scours and recover on their own without antimicrobial treatment.
- The most critical point is to maintain hydration! Give electrolyte and milk feedings at separate times throughout the day.
  - Provide electrolyte feedings 2-3 times per day. Mix electrolytes according to label directions.
  - Continue to provide milk feedings.
  - Note: the amount of fluids required increases in the summer with heat stress.
- Administer anti-inflammatory treatment (Metacam)
- Consult with your veterinarian when choosing antimicrobial treatment
  - Antimicrobial treatment is not effective for treating scours due to viruses or parasites.

*Prevention/Control measures:*

- > Providing adequate and good quality colostrum within the first 4 hours of birth
- > Cleaning and disinfection of calving areas, feeding equipment and calf pens/hutches prior to placement of a new calf
- > Vaccinating dams during the dry period with vaccines providing protection against agents contributing to scours
- > First defense boluses at birth- reduce morbidity/mortality of scours due to Coronavirus and E.coli.