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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

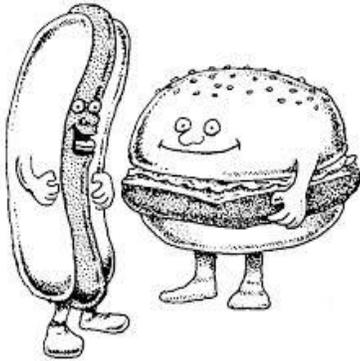
Orders for Delivery: Please call BEFORE 9:30 am for same day local delivery Monday to Friday

24 Hour Emergency Vet Service call any clinic number 1-800-663-2941 519-698-2610 519-323-9002

July 2017 NEWSLETTER

CLINIC NEWS

Hwy 89 Clinic Customer Appreciation BBQ Lunch



Please join us! BBQ Burgers and Sausages refreshments, and dessert.

Thursday July 27th 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

7434 Hwy 89, Mount Forest

Prize Table!

August Civic Holiday is Monday August 7th. Clinics will be open in the morning only, for order pick up and early drug residue milk tests, but there will be **no drug delivery service** available that day. Vets will be on call for emergencies.

DIGITAL DERMATITIS (STRAWBERRY FOOT ROT)

There isn't a dairy farm in the country without a lame cow now and again. Lameness, whether it is moderate or severe can have a huge impact financially on your dairy farm. Lame cows milk less, get sick more often, don't breed back as easy and are more likely to be culled early compared to sound cows. This newsletter article is going to discuss lameness caused by digital dermatitis (otherwise known as strawberry footrot). Future newsletter articles will explore other causes of lameness, treatment and preventative strategies.

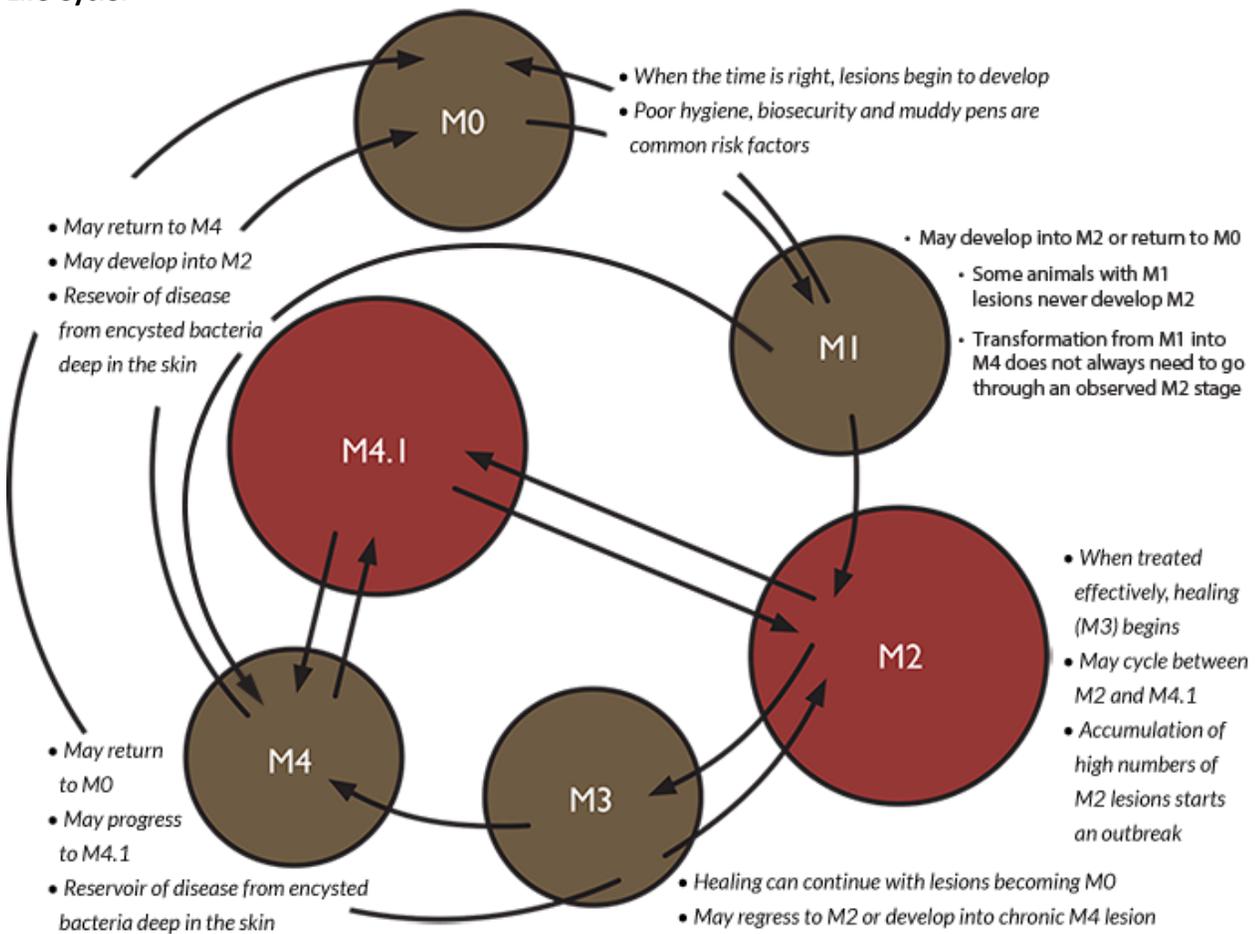
Digital Dermatitis is often called hairy heel wart or strawberry foot rot. It is the most common cause of lameness in dairy cattle, and is a particular problem in freestall type barns. It is caused by a bacteria called *Treponema*. This bacteria loves wet, dirty environments meaning a cow's foot standing in manure is the perfect place for it to grow.

It is important to note that digital dermatitis often starts in the heifer pen and persists as heifers calves and enter the milking herd.

Predisposing Factors:

- Wet environment → skin damage (allows bacteria easier access)
- Dirty environment → food for bacteria to grow

Life Cycle:



To understand the best way to prevent and treat digital dermatitis we need to understand the lifecycle. From the lifecycle flow chart you can see the best way to control digital dermatitis is to a) prevent it and b) treat it as early as possible to prevent chronic lesions from forming. Chronic lesions are nearly impossible to get rid of and act as a reservoir for the bacteria and spread it to other cattle.



Treatment:

1. Scrub affected area clean & dry. Trim foot if needed.
2. Apply 1 tsp tetracycline or lincospectin powder & wrap with vet wrap
3. REMOVE wrap on day 2 or 3. Do not leave wrap on past 3 days.
4. Repeat Steps 2 and 3 as many times as needed.
5. Less severe lesions may also be treated with a spray bottle containing water and tetracycline

** Note: Always be sure not to contaminate the teats or udder with antibiotics**

Prevention:

1. Scrape stalls and alleys often
2. Use lots of bedding in stalls to keep them clean and dry
3. Keep feet clean and dry
4. Treat current digital dermatitis lesions aggressively and as early as possible. (Look in the heifer pen for early lesions and get those treated- as a herd digital dermatitis problem often starts in the heifer pen)
5. Footbath (for freestall housing)- 3x/week. Products like formaldehyde and copper sulphate work well for digital dermatitis prevention. If digital dermatitis is present in your heifer pen be sure to include them in your footbath regime.

SEE OVER ⇒

Footbath Tips:

1. Place in a well ventilated and well lit area (cows don't like stepping into dark areas).
2. Ideal footbath- 10-12 feet long, 10 inches step in height, 24 inches wide and an easy way to drain and clean out.
3. Use often.
4. Keep clean- using a dirty footbath doesn't disinfect it helps to spread bacteria around.
5. Set footbath in a level area
6. A standard footbath can handle 200-300 cow passes if cattle have clean feet going in.