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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.*

Clinic Hours: Mon-Fri 7am – 5pm Sat 7am – 12pm Hwy 89 Clinic: Mon-Sat 7am-1 pm

NOTE: CLINICS ARE CLOSED SUNDAY

Orders for Delivery: **call by 9:30am at the latest** for same day local delivery Monday to Friday  
24 Hour Emergency Vet Service

## **MAY 2013 NEWSLETTER**

**Clinic News:** Delivery will not be available Monday May 20<sup>th</sup> due to the holiday. Please plan your needs in advance. The clinics will be open in the morning and vets will be on duty for emergency service.

### **Update on the Ontario Johne's Program:**

The program comes to an end soon

**All testing must be completed by May 31, 2013.**

**All Dairy Farmers in Ontario are eligible.** We encourage all producers that have not participated in the program so far to start now. To start, contact CanWest DHI to test your herd using the milk test OR contact your vet to test your herd using the blood test. DHI and non-DHI clients are welcome to participate.

**For the 2<sup>nd</sup> time** – Previous participants can sign up now for a chance to participate (test and do the RAMP with their vet) provided funds allow, in April and May 2013. Participation will commence as funds allow. Contact the Johne's Program Co-ordinator (226-979-1664 or [johnes@uoguelph.ca](mailto:johnes@uoguelph.ca)) to sign up.

#### ***Special message to Mennonite dairy producers:***

***The funds for the Johne's Program come from producer contributions.*** This is not a government-run program, nor part of any insurance or risk management program.

#### ***Organizations contributing funds are:***

DFO, Ontario Cattlemen's Association, Canadian/Ontario Holstein, Canadian/Ontario Jersey, Guernsey Breeders, CanWest DHI, Progressive Dairy Operators (PDO, formerly LHO) and OABP (Ontario Association of Bovine Practitioners). These are all producer organizations. The University of Guelph and OMAFRA help with the administrative duties.

Please contact the program co-ordinator if you have any questions:

Johne's website [www.johnes.ca](http://www.johnes.ca)

Johne's cell phone 226 - 979- 1664

# Great News! Milk Cultures in House

The Clinic has begun milk culturing in house at the Linwood location.

Why is this Important:

- a must for monitoring Udder Health
- to avoid violating the SCC Penalty level
- to insure the proper use of medications in the treatment of mastitis
- to reduce the risk of inhibitor violations
- provide additional information in making culling decisions

The Vet Techs will be running the lab and be providing the veterinarians with the results to help clients make Smart therapy decisions.

The major advantage with the in-house lab will be improvements in turnaround time for results.

Results will be mostly within 36 hours (80%) with up to 48 hours (20%) required if additional culture time or tests are required to identify the growth. Results may be delayed due to weekends and holidays. Milk samples received Monday to Thursday Noon would have the greatest chance to have a 36-48 hour turn around. Samples arriving after Noon Thursday would not have results until Monday due to the weekend.

The clinic will send samples off to an outside lab on a regular basis as a means of Quality Control to ensure accurate results.

When should you take a Milk sample for culture?

- Minimum 10 days following the last antibiotic treatment
- Prior to treating any new mastitis/new clinical cases
- Any cow with a chronically high SCC
- Can do a post mastitis treatment sample to confirm a "cured" infection

Please utilize sterile milk collection to get the most accurate culture results.

## Milk Culture Collection

The way to reduce milk culture failures to grow or contamination is to follow a strict procedure in the collection of the sample. Please wear gloves to reduce the chance of sample contamination due to contact with the collector's skin.

Best to sample single quarters rather than a composite sample.

The correct steps for taking sterile milk cultures are:

- Use Proper Equipment (**sterile vial/container**)
- Clean, Dry Teats and Udders
- Forestrip Teats to be Sampled
- Predip Teats (**teat dip**)
- Dry teats
- Sanitize Teat Ends (**alcohol swab**)
- Take Sample (10-20ml) and label sample
- Refrigerate or Freeze Sample and get to the lab ASAP

If you have any questions regarding milk collection or culturing don't hesitate to ask your veterinarian.