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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 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 any clinic number 1-800-663-2941 519-698-2610 519-323-9002**

## NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

### Clinic News

**ORDERING:** Now is a good time to think about what you should have on hand over the winter holidays and bad weather days. As winter approaches, we remind you to keep your lanes clear for Gerry and Bruce to deliver, and your Vets and RVT's to access your barns. Some of our vendors have year-end shut downs and limited incoming shipments to work around.

### DAIRY PRODUCER MEETINGS

#### **PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!**

#### **Presentations this year will focus on Dry Cow treatment.**

Linwood Thursday Dec 13 at the Linwood Community Centre (5279 Ament Line)

Mount Forest on Friday Dec 14 at the Legion (140 King St. N)

We will be looking for **RSVPs please by Wednesday December 5th** for our hot beef lunch!

Doors open at 9:30 with coffee and a snack, with presentations starting at 10:00 am.

Lunch is served around noon in Linwood and 1:00 pm in Mount Forest, and meetings will conclude by 2:30 pm.

**2019 Zoetis Calendar Books** have arrived and will be available at the Producer Meetings, or ask for one to be sent with an order.

### Preventing Calf Mortality & Morbidity

Did you know that the average dairy farm in Canada loses an average of 10% of their calves by weaning? Think about that for a minute, 1 in every 10 dairy calves born alive are dead before they reach 2 months old! This is a huge opportunity for all of us in the dairy industry. The question is what can we do to prevent pre-weaning calf death? One aspect of preventing calf scours and pneumonia is with vaccines and colostrum.

**Colostrum.** You may be thinking, how many times can we talk about colostrum?!? We can never talk about it enough as it is the very best way to protect a calf from disease and death. Colostrum feeding tips:

1. Holstein calves need 4L of colostrum by 6 hours old. Jersey calves only need 3L by 6 hours old.  
(NO EXCEPTIONS)
  - a. Did you know that a calf drinks really well when its 10-30 minutes old?
2. Clean colostrum- clean teats, clean pails, clean buckets, clean bottles
  - a. A calf's guts are open to let antibodies across but bacteria and viruses such as e. coli can also travel through these gut openings. Don't give your newborn calf a dose of bacteria at birth.
3. Feed good quality colostrum.
  - a. You can measure antibody levels on farm in seconds with a refractometer (we have them in stock at the clinic)
4. If the cow doesn't have any colostrum or it isn't good quality, then use a replacement.
  - a. Thaw frozen colostrum saved from a previous cow or mix up a package of Calf's Choice powdered colostrum.

### **Scour Prevention**

There are two types of options for helping prevent scours in calves. Vaccines like Scour Guard 4KC or Scour Bos which are given to dry cows pre-calving. These vaccines work by stimulating an immune response and subsequent antibody production in the cow. She then puts these specific antibodies in the colostrum. When you feed good quality colostrum to a newborn calf you feed these specific antibodies which protect the calf from scours. The other option is a product called First Defense. First Defense is given within 6 hours of birth immediately before or after feeding colostrum and provide protection against E. coli scours. Be sure to talk to your vet at next herd health about how to use these products effectively in your herd.

### **Pneumonia Prevention**

We are very fortunate in the cattle industry to have two intranasal (in the nose) vaccines available to us that help protect newborn calves against pneumonia.

- Inforce 3 IN
  - o Vaccinates against IBR, BRSV, PI3 (3 main viruses which cause pneumonia)
- Once PMH IN
  - o Vaccinates against *M. haemolytica* and *P. multocida*. (2 types of bacteria which cause pneumonia)

A common protocol we recommend on farm for the prevention and pneumonia in newborn and young calves is as follows:

- 3-7 days old:
  - o Inforce 3 IN in one nostril
  - o Once PMH IN in the other nostril
- 6-8 weeks old (pre-weaning):
  - o Inforce 3 IN in one nostril
  - o Once PMH IN in the other nostril
- Continue with your normal post weaning vaccinations such as Bovi Gold as per your herd vet.

The idea behind using these two intranasal vaccines is to protect our young calves from pneumonia. Preventing pneumonia and subsequent lung damage results in healthier, well grown calves that calve in sooner and milk better as cows.