



DR. MURRAY RUNSTEDLER DR. PAUL SOSTAR DR. ANDREW MACLEOD
DR. JOHN TOKARZ DR. KELLY HAELZLE DR. AMANDA TOPP DR. DAVE LAMB
Linwood Veterinary Services
3860 Manser Road, Linwood, ON N0B 2A0 (519) 698-2610
& Hwy 89 Veterinary Services, 7434 Hwy 89 Mount Forest, ON N0G 2L0
1-800-663-2941 Fax (519) 698-2081
linwoodvet@linwoodvet.ca

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: **call by 9:30 am at the latest** for same day local delivery Monday to Friday

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

**** HWY 89 CLINIC HOURS FOR FEBRUARY 20TH WILL BE 7AM TO 11 AM DUE TO PRODUCER MEETING ****

FEBRUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER

2015 Producers Meeting

Interactive Presentation focusing on Animal Welfare

"If calves could talk: What would they say about your farm?"

Nathalie Newby graduated from the University of Guelph with a PhD in Epidemiology in 2013. The main focus of her PhD research was the assessment and management of pain following abdominal surgery and assisted calvings in dairy cattle. Nathalie has been continuing her research in dairy cattle during her Post-Doctoral Fellow sponsored by Mitacs and in collaboration with the University of Guelph and Boehringer Ingelheim (Canada) Ltd. Her focus remains the assessment and management of pain in cattle in order to contribute to our understanding of their pain processes and how to best manage it. The end goal is to improve cattle health and well-being as well as helping producers and veterinarians to find sensible on-farm solutions.

"What do milk drinkers expect to see on your farm?"

Rob Tremblay is a Technical Services veterinarian with Boehringer Ingelheim (Canada) Ltd. He graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in 1982 then practised in New Brunswick. He was a faculty member in the large animal clinic of OVC until 1992. He is a specialist in internal medicine and has a special interest in diseases of horses and cattle. He is a member of the technical committees of both Canadian Quality Milk (CQM) and Verified Beef Production (VBP).

The meeting will be at the Linwood Community Centre 5279 Ament Line, Linwood on **Friday February 20th**. Doors will open at 9:30 am with coffee and muffins with presentations beginning at 10am. A hot lunch will be served about noon. Meeting will conclude by 3pm.

Reservations: Please call the office **by TUESDAY** February 17th with the names and phone numbers of those planning to attend so we can plan adequately for lunch.

There will be door prizes! Please fill out a ballot when you arrive.

There will be a bus to Linwood and back, from the Mount Forest Sports Complex at 850 Princess St at 8:45 am, and also stopping at Liquidation World parking lot on Hwy 6 in Arthur at about 9:15 am. Please let us know when reserving, if you are planning to be picked up so we can let the driver know.

1-800-663-2941

Disbudding/dehorning the proper way

It is important to remove horns from dairy cattle as a farm safety practice because it prevents injuries to people and cattle. Removal of the horn or horn bud is a painful procedure and can be minimized by disbudding/dehorning cattle at a young age with proper pain management. If at all possible, disbudding/dehorning should occur prior to six weeks of age. After this age the horn bud attaches to the skull, and the procedure is much more invasive.

Hot iron disbudding is safe for calves up to six weeks of age, and local anesthesia and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs are highly recommended for every animal.

In terms of pain management, polled genetics is the best method because there is no pain associated with genetically preventing horns in animals.

Steps for Hot Iron Disbudding/Dehorning:

1. Properly restrain the calf's head using a halter or head restraint. Meanwhile, preheat the butane or electric calf dehorner. As the dehorner is preheating, keep it away from all flammable material.

2. Clipping the hair around the base of the horn results in the best visualization of the horn bud.

3. Local anesthesia utilizing a cornual nerve block is highly recommended to reduce the acute pain and discomfort associated with hot iron disbudding. Reduce pain and discomfort by providing a nerve block of the cornual nerve on each side of the head. This nerve is located half-way between the lateral aspect of the eye and the base of the horn just below the bony ridge formed by the frontal bone. Palpate the ridge between the eye and the horn. Slide an 18 gauge, ½-1" needle straight in under the ridge halfway between the eye and the horn, injecting 2% lidocaine subcutaneously. Older calves will need additional pain measures. Using lidocaine results in a 4-day meat withhold. To ensure proper protocol and dosage, CONSULT YOUR VETERINARIAN. Talk to us about what is best for your calves. We are more than willing to help you improve your animal management.

4. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAID) are recommended in addition to local anesthesia to reduce the inflammation and associated pain following disbudding/dehorning.

* Metacam is a subcutaneous injection is given before, at, or after disbudding/dehorning to minimize pain. Using Metacam results in a 20-day meat withhold. Metacam for use associated with pain is prescribed extra-labelled through the Veterinarian-Client-Patient-Relationship (VCPR). CONSULT VETERINARIAN for proper dosage.

5. When disbudding/dehorning calves with heat, use a device with a diameter just larger than the horn base, so as to cauterize the skin immediately surrounding the horn bud. Apply pressure and rotate back and forth until a copper-colored ring forms, approximately 5-20 seconds. Do not leave the dehorner in place for much longer, especially in young calves. There is little chance of regrowth when the cauterized skin is loose or movable when touched following the procedure. The horn bud or button will slough off in 4-6 weeks.

Would you like to review material in a previous newsletter?

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE www.linwoodvet.ca and go to the Producer Education Tab