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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 – 5pm Open Saturday beginning Sat. June 22, 7am-12pm

Hwy 89 Clinic: Mon-Sat 7am-1 pm

NOTE: 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

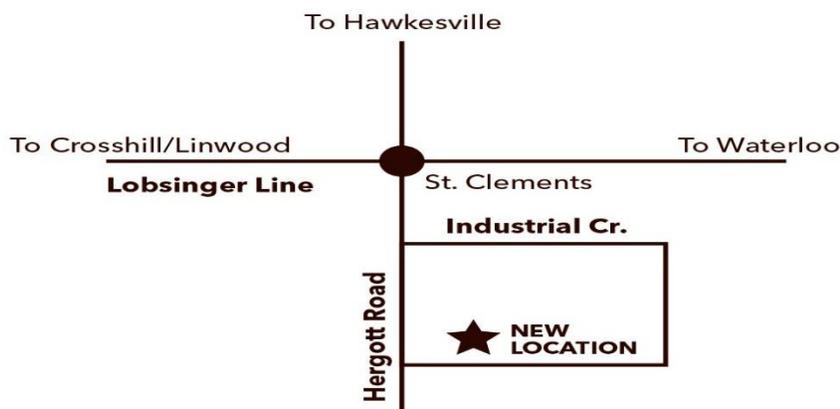
SEPTEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

Clinic News

Monday October 14th, there will be no delivery service on the **Thanksgiving** holiday. Mount Forest and St. Clements clinics will be open only in the morning. Veterinarians will be on call for emergency services.

SAVE THE DATE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

FOR OUR **ST. CLEMENTS GRAND OPENING BBQ LUNCH** AT 1010 INDUSTRIAL CRESCENT



Draxxin® Producer Offer for purchases Aug. 12th, 2019 - Feb. 29th, 2020

Eligible formats:	100ml	\$35/bottle
	250ml	\$80/bottle
	500ml	\$160/bottle

To claim your rebate please forward the registration form along with copies of eligible invoices to one of the means listed below by March 31, 2020. Please call the clinic if you have any questions.

Email: info@zoetisprograms.ca

Mail: Zoetis Programs

Fax: 1-877-714-5957

4020 St-Ambroise, Suite 399
Montreal, QC, H4C 2C7

Feed Toxins

Moldy feeds are often less palatable to cattle so a decrease in intake is often noted when mold levels creep too high. The decreased intake often results in decreased production and an increased incidence of health problems. As molds grow and reproduce, they siphon energy from the feed's fat, protein and carbohydrate stores – they can reduce the energy content in feeds by 10%. Not all moldy feeds contain harmful levels of mycotoxins, but the mold itself can create many issues.

Mycotoxins are produced by molds growing on your crops, and require certain conditions to flourish. Mold growth and mycotoxin production is associated with extreme weather, drought, insect damage, or anything resulting in plant stress. Mycotoxins can be produced both in the field or during storage and they can survive in the feed, even after being ensiled or processed, for years. Short exposure to mycotoxins often has a small effect on performance, but no lasting damage. The continued exposure over time causes more significant issues. Production stress, such as heavy milking cows or fast growing feedlot cattle, makes an animal more susceptible to the negative effects of mycotoxins.

Aflatoxins are a concerning type of mycotoxin for ruminants that often occur on starch rich crops such as corn and cotton seed. Aflatoxin B1 is considered one of the most toxic and carcinogenic aflatoxins. Aflatoxins cause liver damage, immunosuppression, and cancer, hence why their levels are often regulated. Clinical signs of toxins are often vague and nonspecific such as poor performance, poor immunity, higher abortions, sudden death, and liver problems (prolonged clotting time, jaundice, neurologic behaviour).

Ruminants are generally resistant to the effects of DON/vomitoxin, zearalanone, and fumonisin as they are able to degrade the toxins in their rumen. With high enough levels in the feed, we may still see feed refusal, decreased production, gastrointestinal upset, and decreased immunity. Young animals, pre-ruminants, are most susceptible to mycotoxins as they do not have a functional rumen to protect them.

Prevention: Since mold growth and mycotoxin production can happen at any point in the feedstuffs lifetime (from field to feed bunk), we can target several areas for prevention. The first step is to minimize plant stress - through proper selection of crop types for soil quality, irrigation, timely field management, etc. The next area to target is harvest - damaged grains have the highest level of mycotoxins so well maintained harvest equipment (cleaning machinery is key!!) can go a long way to reducing toxin levels in your feed. After harvest, we must store the feedstuff carefully:

Grain: moisture levels should remain below 15%, aeration of long term storage, and prevent moisture accumulation/condensation and excess heat.

Hay: bale as dry as possible, create ventilation spaces for stacked bales, reduce stack number, etc. *Don't forget, as molds and bacteria grow, they can produce enough heat to spontaneously combust hay bales!*

Silage: uniform chop length, fill silo/bunk quickly, pack tightly and evenly, cover bunks well, lower pH of feedstuff and utilize fermentation aids if necessary.

Binders are used to reduce the absorption of mycotoxins in the gastrointestinal tract of the animal. Most products are not licensed as a true binding agents and research is not conclusive on their claims. No single product can protect against all mycotoxins, so testing your feeds is very important. Your nutritionist should be able to test the feedstuffs for the presence of multiple mycotoxins, and help select a product that best suits your needs. Although there are many positive results seen both on farm and in research, relying on binders alone is not recommended. Prevention through crop management, and proper storage is much more reliable!