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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

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

JULY 2013 NEWSLETTER

Clinic News: Note that there will be no delivery service Monday August 5 on the Civic holiday. Clinics will be open in the morning and vets on call for emergency services.

Beginning August 6th, the Region of Waterloo will increase pick up frequency of private well water samples at the Linwood clinic to once a week for bacteria testing (Total coliforms and *E. Coli*). This change aims to make it more convenient for well owners to get their water tested three times per year. Water dropped off on Tuesdays will be picked up by a courier on Wednesday mornings for testing.

Weather impacts somatic cell counts

Elevated SCC is an indication that an inflammation process is occurring in the udder. If you need to address a sudden increase in somatic cells during wet weather they should consider two main areas:

1. Make sure an adequate milking protocol is followed.

- Particular emphasis on stripping (at least three squirts) to eliminate the most contaminated milk first.
- Make sure that teat dip coverage is thorough and that it remains in contact with the skin for at least 20 seconds.
- Using clean, dry towels to wipe the teats clean is critical. Make sure cloth towels are washed properly with detergent and bleach and the temperature setting in the machine is set at hot (not just warm!). Do not overload the washing machine or dryer.

2. Cow comfort/cleanliness.

- Bedding is replaced as often as possible, that it is clean and dry.
- Manure-soiled water from alleys is more likely to splash on udders in barns that are not cleaned regularly.
- Consider using dryStart as a bedding addition to dry up stalls.
 - **Spread drySTART on wet or damp areas at the rate of 150 g/m² (1 oz = 28.35 g; 10 ft² = 1 m²), as needed, to help improve the overall environment. The amount and frequency of use may be increased or decreased as required without risk.**

Dairy Cattle Medications – Read the Label

Beware of the “DO NOT USE ON LACTATING DAIRY CATTLE” warning.

An accidental treatment of a dairy herd with a product not intended for use in dairy cattle can result in several days of lost milk production and significant expenses but also the potential for DFO penalties. This type of situation prompts us to think about what we are doing to prevent it from happening both from a clinic and on farm point of view. It is important to read labels and be aware of which products are specifically intended (or not intended as the case may be) for dairy animals.

In order to reduce the risk of this mistake the following steps should be taken:

- When ordering medication, have staff check the label for you to confirm the product is for use on Dairy Cattle if you are unsure.
- Remember that Staff or Vets helping with your drug order may not be aware of your particular operation and you need to be vigilant in confirming that you have received the correct products.
- ALWAYS Read the labels on product kept on farm and new product coming in.
- If you have both Dairy and Beef, consider extra in house notes on product and keeping product in different locations. Make sure everyone who uses medications is aware of the importance of reading the label.
- Talk to your vet about what type of medications are most suitable for your particular herd needs and what you should keep on hand.
- Your veterinarian is **THE** source for your medicine/treatment answers, all other advice, no matter how good it may sound is not valid nor does it comply with CQM rules.
- All non-dairy specific products can only be used with a script from your vet for CQM compliance.

In the case of Non-Lactating drugs, there is zero tolerance for residues in milk, which means any detectable level is a violation and the milk withdrawal to a zero level is significantly longer than to a residue test detection maximum.

Bottom line: The more sensitive a test is, the more critical it becomes to strictly follow withdrawal times. Always adhere to label and veterinarian approved routes of administration, drug dose and treatment duration. Failure to do so can affect the rate of elimination of a drug and result in costly residue violations.

Control fly hot spots - reduce the stress caused by flies

Most dairies have “hot spots” of fly breeding around calves, cattle feeding areas, feed storage areas and manure storage areas.

Calf pens and hutches provide an ideal environment for flies. Not only do flies spread disease to calves, but they also cause the calf discomfort and stress by reducing feed intake and affecting the health and growth of your calves.

Sanitation is the No. 1 key to controlling flies. Here are some suggestions:

- Clean up leftover hay and manure after moving a round-bale feeder to a new location. Spread out the material so it can dry.
- Prevent spilled or old feed from accumulating in feed storage areas.
- Pay particular attention to any place where manure is allowed to stay moist and undisturbed, like corners in free-stall barns or just off concrete pads.
- Remove soiled bedding and spilled feed around calf pens at least weekly.
- Clean up spilled and leftover feed in feeding areas, paying special attention to hard-to-reach areas.

Also Remember:

- Cleaning up spilled feed and milk, eliminating standing water, clipping grass, and storing manure and soiled bedding away from the calf facilities.
- Use scatter baits when you see adult flies around calves. If and when fly populations really get out of control, use pesticides that kill flies on contact.