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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

AUGUST 2018 NEWSLETTER

Monday Sept. 3, there will be no delivery service on the Labour Day holiday. Both clinics will be open only in the morning. Veterinarians will be on call for emergency services.

ProAction Corner

Animal Care Reminders:

- Always use pain control (lidocaine, rompun, metacam, etc.) when dehorning calves
- Burning horns at a young age is much preferable over gouging. Calves who are disbudded or dehorned when young suffer less trauma and grow better immediately after dehorning.
- Don't forget to write down treatment records when dehorning as all pain control products have a meat withdrawal.

Common Foot Health Diseases

A look into common foot problems in dairy cattle, what they look like, how to treat them and how to prevent them.

Digital Dermatitis (Strawberry)

- An infectious bacterial infection of the bovine foot caused by bacteria caused treponemes. There is both an acute (early) version and a chronic version. The key for controlling digital dermatitis is early treatment and prevention as chronic versions are impossible to cure.
- Signs of digital dermatitis include, cattle walking on toes, shaking feet and visual lesions (redness, swelling, 'strawberry' type lesions, and hairy lesions on the heel area)



Heel Lesion



'Strawberry' lesion



Hairy Heel Wart

- Treatment includes application of tetracycline (powder or liquid form) on the lesion. For dosage amounts and withdrawal recommendations please discuss with your herd veterinarian. Be sure to have a script signed for CQM
- Prevention & Control: Footbath containing copper sulphate or formaldehyde. Early preventative trimming and finding lesions early before they go chronic is VERY important for control. Success in controlling digital dermatitis lies in early detection, often starting in the breeding heifer pen.

White Line

- White line lesions are the second most common hoof lesion in dairy cattle.
- Risk factors for white line lesions include dietary imbalances such as rumen acidosis and environmental surfaces leading to trauma, bruising and twisting.
- Treatment is achieved by finding the white line lesions, often an abscess and paring out and allowing drainage of pus and removing any affected tissue. Often applying a block to the other claw to relieve pressure and pain.



Sole Ulcer

- Sole ulcers are caused by the sinking of the pedal bone, with concussive trauma around a hooked process on the pedal bone, producing inflammation.
- Treatment of white line, includes paring out abscess and blocking opposing claw to relieve pain and pressure during the healing process. Improving cow comfort can aid in the healing process.
- Sole ulcers are caused by various risk factors, often with multiple risk factors interacting and causing sole ulcers. Risk factors include:
 - o Nutrition
 - o Calving (can cause slackening of the ligaments in the foot)
 - o Underdeveloped heel/cushion
 - o Poor foot angle and overgrown claws (changes foot angle)
 - o Standing on concrete
 - o Wet conditions



Overall, frequent maintenance trimming, preventative footbaths and early treatment of lesions is the key to controlling many hoof lesions common in cattle. Keeping lameness levels to the minimum not only improves animal welfare but directly affects your farm's bottom line and the volume of milk in the tank.