



From the desk of Dr. Tom Michalek
October 1st, 2016

As I write this newsletter, the calendar shows only three more days of summer remain. The good news is that the cooler, colorful fall season is right around the corner. It's hard to not like fall. I also write with a few random topics on my mind rather than one lengthy discussion on one topic. Thank you in advance for your patience as I ramble....

Random Topic #1

The end of summer means schools are back in session and our "student season" is done for another year. Let me explain. Although MSU Senior Veterinary Students are assigned to us, anytime throughout the year, many younger high school or early college pre-vet students ride with us only during summer recess. It is not uncommon to have 2-3 students waiting to ride along during the summer. I thank-you for your kindness and patience as they seek experience in the veterinary field. Keep in mind that we will not let any student try to perform a task beyond their ability. The welfare of our patients is our #1 priority....again, I say Thank-You!!!

Random Topic #2

Is it just me or has the heat and humidity prompted more discussions about mastitis and high SCC? I think this is a general summer trend but this year seems worse. We all need to work to maintain quality milk and receive premiums especially in this time of depressed milk price. So if your dairy is having problems with this, please let us know at our next visit. We can talk about reversing these trends. Usually the 1st step in finding some answers and solutions is to do milk cultures to determine what organism/s we are dealing with. Knowing the "bug" gives us clues to sources of infection and solutions that can be implemented. The solutions on your dairy may also include milker training of employees or collecting milk-out information during milking using the new "Vadia Recorder". Please ask and we will explain.

Random Topic #3

Speaking of employee training our small group sessions are set to begin September 21st. These training sessions are held in the conference room at Thumb Vet Services. Sessions held on the 1st Wednesday of each month (with the exception of October, it will be on the 2nd Wednesday of the month) will focus on herd health and herdsman training and sessions held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month will focus on calf health. Those of you that have previously participated should receive an email or text reminder of upcoming events. While those of you who haven't previously participated but are interested in upcoming topics can check our web

site under upcoming events or call the clinic for information. We do appreciate a RSVP for meal head count.

Random Topic #4

As the calendar rolls along the clock is ticking on the Veterinary Feed Directive becoming the law effective 1/1/2017. This will affect the use of feed additive antibiotics as these products will require a prescription to be used. We still need these products but we do need to be more proactive in regulating and monitoring their use. This is going to be a learning process for everyone and may take some time to work out the kinks in the system. We will all have to be patient as we learn this new procedure.

Well that's enough rambling. Enjoy the cooler weather and have a SAFE and bountiful harvest season.

Dr. Tom

VFD. HELP US HELP YOU!

At TVS we are establishing our protocols as we near the January 1st deadline for implementation of the Veterinary Feed Directive. One item that will be needed from our clients is the contact information of your feed mill/distributor. (name, address, phone, fax, email). We will also need an email address for you to send your copy of the VFD to. Those that do not have an email address will either have to pick up the VFD or wait for it to arrive in the mail. If we have this information in place prior to 1/1/17 it will speed up the requests for a VFD.

If you received an tax exempt form with your statement it is because we do not currently have one on file. It is very important that we have this completed and returned to us as soon as possible. You will not be able to place drop ship orders or purchase pharmaceuticals or supplies until we have this on file. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

October group sessions at TVS
10/12/16 5pm Herd Health "Cost of Lameness, Practical tools for prevention and treatment". Presented by Mark Gerber Zinpro Performance Minerals
10/19/16 1:30pm OR 5pm Calf Health "Ventilation Traps and Tools" presented by Dr. Chuck Roberts

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