

MARIA STEIN ANIMAL CLINIC, INC.

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Maria Stein Office 8155 St. Rt. 119 Maria Stein, OH 45860 419-925-4212 (pets) 419-925-4212 (farm animal) 419-925-7200 (fax)	Heartland Veterinary Care 315 East Main St. Versailles, OH 45380 937-526-5599 msac@bright.net (Pig & Pets)	Heartland Animal Clinic 1018 B West Auglaize St. Wapakoneta, OH 45895 419-738-7257 hvcow@bright.net (Cattle)	Minster Veterinary Services 29 South Main St. Minster, OH 45865 419-628-3532
<i>Michelle M. Michalak, DVM</i> <i>Mark E. Hardesty, DVM MS</i>	<i>Laura A. Nusbaum, DVM</i> <i>Andrew H. Lefeld, DVM</i>	<i>Brandy A. Liles, DVM</i> <i>Emily L. Stayduhar, DVM</i>	<i>Angela M. King, DVM</i> <i>Paul J. Hunter, DVM</i>

Ken Recovering Ken Thobe, our Route Truck driver is recovering from surgery and arguing with the home health nurse that he needs to go back to work. That will be soon enough, but probably not soon enough for Ken. We thank Marvin Krieg for taking the wheel and keeping the routes rolling.

Floors in Back Done We had some disruption as we resurfaced the floors in the back section of the Maria Stein Clinic. Things are back to as normal as they get now.

Yes, We'll Need Cooling Spring was long and cool but that usually means that summer comes quickly and cows are not shed out yet making them hotter than usual at the same temperature. So, when you get rained out of the fields, clean fans and get sprinklers working. You may decide to clip the backs of fresh cows especially those wooly heifers to help them dissipate heat. It will soon be time to put cooling packs in the TMR. We have Bovine Bluelite on hand.

Tri-State Nutrition Conference Dr. Hardesty was able to attend the Tri-State Dairy Nutrition Conference in Fort Wayne. The Vet Dinner was sponsored by Arm & Hammer and featured their regional/autogenous clostridial inhibitor, Bacciflex. Other topics included Environmental Sustainability, Physically Adjusted NDF, Amino Acid Nutrition for Transition Cows, Vitamin Supplementation, Energy Cost of Inflammation, Trace Mineral Supplementation for Immunity, Mastitis Treatments, Calf & Heifer Growers Gold Standard, Body Condition and Repro Efficiency, Milk Fat Synthesis, and Maximizing Milk Components. This meeting is attended by most of our local nutritionists and is a great forum for networking and quick side meetings to communicate opportunities on the farm.

Vaccine Updates We've had further discussions with Dr. Corteze to clarify the dominant antigen theory. The first dose of IBR vaccine blocks responses to bacterial vaccines at the same time. So if Inforce is given at birth by itself, that concern is gone. Other vaccines Like C & D Toxoid and Once PMH IN can be given at days 4 to 7. If calves don't get Inforce at birth, their first IBR cannot be VistaOnce and you would rather not give a Clostridial at the same time as their first IBR.

Our discussion continued with understanding that fresh cows less than 30 days in milk have decreased responses to all systemic vaccines with J-5 being the possible exception.

Milk Quality is what we strive for in order to have less mastitis and so processors want our milk over other options in the marketplace, and then consumers have a, "Yes, that was good" experience. As we work with many producers on Quality milk, patterns develop. There are machine adjustments and parlor procedures that improve "Milkability," Milkability is the opportunity to harvest milk cleanly, completely, and without discomfort.

The three procedures that allow milkability to happen include stimulation, clean teat ends, and alignment. Our measurements show that four strips from each teat stimulate letdown better than just three. When cleaning the teat ends, the first pass cleans the barrel of the teat with a circular motion and passes over the teat end. The second pass focuses specifically on the teat end. The last step of attachment is to align the unit so the unit is parallel with the midline of the cow and the base of the udder. Many parlors are equipped with alignment devices, but many are not. We can share our experience of how to improve milkability to harvest and sell all the milk you produce.