

Newsletter of White Oak Veterinary Clinic, PC

Topic of the Month Parasite Control Program

This month, we will be operating a parasite control program (see practice news sidebar). Parasites are a very old topic, but there are a few things that make it very timely.

First, parasites rob your herd or flock of valuable production. Adult cows housed inside that do not see pasture are at low risk for parasites, but any youngstock, all small ruminants, and cattle that spend any time on pasture are well worth testing.

Second, there is good research to suggest the best treatment protocols. Because dewormer resistance is a constant concern, especially in small ruminants, the best strategy is to use these protocols in conjunction with fecal egg counts to effectively decrease the parasite load without encouraging the growth of resistant worms.

Third, using a quantitative technique (one that gives a parasite load in eggs per gram) allows us to evaluate the efficacy of those treatment protocols to make sure we have dewormed a herd or flock effectively.

Finally, this month is a good time to check fecal egg counts, even if you have already dewormed. A hatch of parasitic eggs typically occurs 5-6 weeks following spring turnout onto pasture. It would be an opportune time to reevaluate your herd's parasite load.

Practice News

- Our intern, Curtis Patton, will be running a parasite control program through the month of June. Curtis is currently completing his Master's Degree in parasite immunology. He will be conducting McMaster's Fecal Egg Counts, a quantitative technique that will allow for follow-up testing to evaluate treatment efficacy, when indicated. The program will offer reduced fee manure testing and dewormer purchases. Call the office for details or information, including which cows to test and how to collect samples.
- Farm Vitality Planning Grants are available through the Center for Dairy Excellence. These grants provide \$7,500 that can be used for an expansion or to plan a management or ownership transfer for current or prospective farmers. The application period is now open and will continue until funding runs out.

Social Media

- June is Dairy Month, so be sure to seek out opportunities to be a positive voice for the dairy industry. If you are on social media, be sure to follow the Center for Dairy Excellence to hear other farmers sharing their stories and for fun dairy facts to share.

Commodity Futures Prices

As of May 31, 2021

Corn	\$6.57/bu
Soybean Meal	\$395.50/ton
Milk (Class III)	\$17.24/cwt
Beef (Live cattle)	\$115.88/cwt

Rebate Opportunity

- Zoetis is running a rebate program on purchases of Draxxin. The program is retroactive to 1/1/2021 and extends until 12/31/2021. Producers can earn a rebate of \$50 on 50mL size and \$100 on 100mL size bottles of Draxxin. Call the office for details on the program.