

## Topic of the Month

### What's in a name?

This month, Dr. John McCormack joined our practice. You may notice that his veterinary degree is noted as MVB, while Dr. Croushore and Dr. Pickett have DVM degrees, and Dr. Welch and Dr. Zawisza have VMD degrees. Perhaps you are wondering what that means.

There are a number of veterinary degree options available. In addition to DVM, VMD, and MVB, there are BVM, BVMS, BVSc, DMV, and numerous others. Mostly, the degree given has to do with the school it was received from or the country where it was awarded. DVM stands for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and is what most of the schools in the US offer. VMD means the same thing but in Latin, which is how that school chooses to confer its degree. MVB is for Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine. The programs may be structured a little bit differently but there is also some oversight to ensure consistency.

In order to practice in the US, a degree must be earned at a school recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association or the veterinarian must pass rigorous testing to demonstrate proficiency in veterinary practice. After that, veterinarians must be licensed by the state board in any state where they wish to practice. So the particular set of letters behind a veterinarian's name mostly just give a little hint about where they went to school.

## Practice News

- Dr. John McCormack has officially joined the staff of White Oak Veterinary Clinic. Dr. McCormack's background includes veterinary school in Ireland, with several years of intensive clinical experience there following his graduation. He will spend a few weeks riding with the other vets in the practice until he is more familiar with our area. Please join us in making Dr. McCormack feel welcome here.
- We are in the initial stages of planning a winter producer's meeting. The focus will be, at least in part, on protocol development and making rational treatment decisions. Given the current environment in dairy production and marketing, this is sure to be a relevant topic whether you need to develop protocols from scratch or dust off your existing set for a review. Stay tuned for more information.

## In The News

- Millionaire eBay founder, Pierre Omidyar, has proposed building a 700 cow dairy farm in Hawaii. The dairy could potentially be expanded to 2000 cows in the future. Permits for the dairy were revoked earlier this year pending an environmental review after opponents complained about pollution and smells impacting tourism.

## Commodity Futures

### Prices

As of August 31, 2017

Corn	\$3.42/bu
Soybean Meal	\$294.30/ton
Milk (September)	\$16.20/cwt
Beef (Live cattle)	\$104.53/cwt

## Upcoming Events

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- The All-American Dairy Show will be held September 16-21, 2017 at the Harrisburg Farm Show Complex.
- The Somerset County Beef Producers Club Calf Sale will be held September 23, 2017 in Meyersdale.