



Ontario Animal Health Network (OAHN) Bovine Expert Network Industry-Producer Report

July 2016

Report #4

In This Issue

- Quarterly Teleconference
- Calf Health Surveillance Project
- Premises Identification Update
- Welcome to Dr. Jessica Gordon

Contact Us

Web:
www.oahn.ca

email:
oahn@uoguelph.ca

Twitter:
[@OntAnHealthNet](https://twitter.com/OntAnHealthNet)

Facebook:
Ontario Animal Health Network

Podcasts:
www.oahn.podbean.com

Quarterly Teleconference

Every quarter, the OAHN Bovine Network conducts a survey to determine disease trends seen by practicing veterinarians. A total of 40 veterinarians responded to this quarter's survey.

Beef

In beef cattle, there was an increase in diarrhea and lameness reported by veterinarians responding to our quarterly survey. Submissions to the Animal Health Laboratory (AHL) involving diarrhea and lameness also increased. Veterinarians also reported several cases of cows that were down or had neurological signs; in some of these cases the veterinarians were unable to reach a diagnosis although polio and liver disease were suspected in 2 of the cases.

Dairy

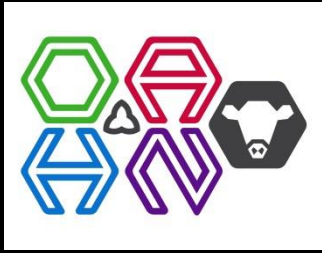
Veterinarians in dairy practice reported an increased number of cases of diarrhea, while the number of reports of pneumonia remained the same as last quarter. One veterinarian reported an outbreak of pneumonia in 2 herds not vaccinated for bovine respiratory syncytial virus, highlighting the importance of regular vaccination in a herd health program. Another veterinarian reported a dairy herd with decreased appetite and low milk production that was suspected to be caused by copper toxicity.

Veal

For veterinarians working with veal producers, the number of reports of pneumonia and diarrhea increased since the last quarter.

Laboratory

The majority of abortion cases submitted to the AHL were due to stillbirth or were of an unknown cause. Most gastrointestinal cases were calves submitted for diarrhea and the majority of these submissions tested positive for rotavirus or cryptosporidium. *Mannheimia haemolytica* was the most common cause of pneumonia.



OAHN Bovine Network

Southern ON
Dr. Sherri Christie

Eastern ON
Dr. Dave Douglas

Northern ON
Dr. Crystal Throop

Animal Health Lab
Dr. Andy Brooks
Dr. Jim Fairles

Ontario Vet College
Dr. Todd Duffield
Dr. Jessica Gordon
Dr. Dave Kelton
Dr. Dan Kenney
Dr. Steve Leblanc

OMAFRA
Dr. Ann Godkin
Dr. Tim Pasma

Network coordinator
Dr. Melanie Barham

Calf Health Surveillance Project

The OAHN Bovine Network has started a surveillance project to determine what diseases are affecting beef, dairy and veal calves and to determine how much *Salmonella* Dublin is present in the province. *Salmonella* Dublin was first identified in Ontario in 2012 and so far has affected about 10 farms in the province. Through this project, testing will be subsidized and veterinarians will:

- conduct post mortems on up to 2 calves
- complete a questionnaire on farm practices
- request testing of bulk tank milk samples for antibodies to *Salmonella* Dublin.

Premises Identification Update

The OAHN Bovine Network has started a working group to help increase the use of Premises Identification Numbers (PIDs) on laboratory submission forms. The AHL has hired a summer student to visit clinics in order to help increase the use of PIDs for dairy, beef and veal. PIDs will help improve disease surveillance and responses to outbreaks of serious animal diseases.

Welcome to Dr. Jessica Gordon

Dr. Jessica Gordon is the newest member of the OAHN Bovine Network. She is an assistant professor of ruminant health management in the Department of Population Medicine at Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) since 2013. Jessica graduated with a degree in veterinary medicine from Michigan State University and completed a Doctor of Veterinary Science at OVC researching ketosis in dairy cattle. Jessica also has an interest in beef cattle and will be a great resource for veterinarians. Welcome Jessica!

