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NEWS RELEASE

Immediate Release

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Education day targets strategies for raising healthy dairy and veal calves

Healthy Calf Conference being hosted in southwestern and eastern Ontario locations

Guelph ON, November 8, 2012 – New strategies for raising healthy calves are the focus of an education event being hosted in Stratford and Chesterville for veal and dairy calf producers next month. Leading industry experts will deliver presentations at the bi-annual *Healthy Calf Conference* on a range of topics related to calf health that can lead to increased profitability for dairy and veal operations.

“Maximizing calf health through effective management is fundamental to building healthy and productive herds for both dairy and veal producers,” says Kendra Keels, Industry Development Manager with the Ontario Veal Association (OVA). “Getting calves off to a good start can translate into lower mortality rates, higher market prices for calves, decreased use of livestock medicines, lower production costs and, ultimately, less stress for producers.”

Keynote speaker Dr. Ken Nordlund from the University of Wisconsin-Madison will address the topic of penning and how it affects calf health. Other speakers from both Canada and the United States will discuss health topics ranging from diagnosing respiratory diseases through ultrasonography and managing respiratory disease in group housing to the impact of calving difficulties and early calf management.

The conference will be hosted twice this year— on December 5th at the Stratford Rotary Complex and on December 7th at the Chesterville Legion. Both events will run from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm and will include an educational program, trade show, event proceedings and lunch. Participants will also receive a free copy of the OVA’s Calf Rearing Guide, a \$50 value. Registration fees before November 16 are \$50 per person for members and \$75 per person for non-members. Cost for anyone registering after November 16 or at the door is \$85 per person.

“We’re pleased to be able to offer the Calf Rearing Guide as an additional resource for producers attending the conference this year,” says Keels. “This is our fifth conference, marking 10 years of continued healthy calf promotion in Ontario and we encourage all producers to consider attending the event in either of our locations.”

For more information or to register for the event, please contact the OVA office at 519-824-2942 or 1-866-311-6422 or info@livestockalliance.ca. Space is limited and registrations are being accepted on a first come, first served basis. Conference updates are available at www.calfcare.ca.

The Ontario Veal Association (OVA) is a producer run organization that is dedicated to representing the interests of both grain-fed and milk-fed veal producers in Ontario.

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For more information:

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