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NEWS RELEASE

Immediate Release

November 27, 2012

Housing expert to speak at upcoming calf care conference

Keynote speaker addresses housing, ventilation impacts on calf health

Guelph, ON, November 27, 2012 – A leading expert in calf housing is the keynote speaker at the upcoming *Healthy Calf Care* conference. Dr. Ken Nordlund of University of Wisconsin-Madison will discuss how improving housing and ventilation can improve calf health at the one-day event.

“Dr. Nordlund is a leading expert in calf housing and barn ventilation and we’re really excited that we’re able to have him speak at our conference,” says Kendra Keels, Industry Development Manager with the Ontario Veal Association. “Housing can be critical to getting calves off to a good start, which can contribute to lower mortality rates and production costs, as well as help you produce a good quality calf.”

Dr. Nordlund will address key features of preferred calf barns and of individual calf pens, and how to supplement natural ventilation. In particular, he will focus on calf barns with the new positive tube ventilation system, which have shown significant reductions in respiratory disease and scours. Another leading conference speaker is Dr. Steve Blezinger, a U.S. food animal nutrition consultant, who will speak about fetal programming, a new area of research in dairy cattle focused on the impact a cow’s health at conception can have on her calf.

“We’re going to look back a little further into a calf’s life to when it was conceived and how the condition of the cow affects the health of the calf when it’s born,” says Keels. “Fetal programming is a new area of research and one we feel will be of great benefit to calf health in the future. We’re looking forward to having Dr. Blezinger share the latest develops in this area with conference participants.”

The conference will be hosted at the Stratford Rotary Complex on December 5th and at the Chesterville Legion on December 7th from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. The registration cost of \$85 per person includes the educational program as well as a trade show, event proceedings book and lunch. Participants will also receive a free copy of the OVA’s Calf Rearing Guide, a \$50 value.

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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