

# Building the Foundation

Dairy and Veal Healthy Calf Conference

2020



NEW this year!

HCC goes virtual!

Organized and hosted by:



*Your calf care partners*

Title sponsor:



Supported and sponsored by:



**Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
10:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. EST.**





# Building the Foundation

## Dairy and Veal Healthy Calf Conference

Healthy calves are the building blocks of a successful dairy, veal, or dairy-beef operation. Investing in the health of **ALL** calves born on the farm can translate into lower mortality rates, higher market prices, reduced use of livestock medicines, lower costs of production and, ultimately, less stress for you, the calf-raiser.

This year's interactive, virtual conference will feature a dynamic line-up of expert speakers creating an impressive program with some of the most respected professionals in the field of calf management focusing on health, nutrition, welfare, and housing.

As always, it is the hope when the conference is over participants will have learned something to take back to their operations improving the well-being and performance

of the calves, providing a solid foundation for the production of healthy, stronger, and more resilient animals.

With a new format this year we will be hosting two live presentations and four pre-recorded, providing the flexibility to attend the conference live or at a convenient time. Included in the registration package is access to additional calf care resources and a digital copy of the proceedings.

With the support of our sponsors we are able to offer a special 2020 rate of \$25/person + HST making this virtual conference affordable for all producers.

Thank you to our sponsors – this event would not be possible without their generous support!

### Virtual Conference FAQ

Here are some commonly asked questions regarding virtual conferences. If you have any additional questions, please call the VFO office at 519-824-2942 or email [projects@livestockalliance.ca](mailto:projects@livestockalliance.ca).

#### *What does a virtual conference look like?*

The virtual Healthy Calf Conference will continue to feature dynamic speakers who are experts in all fields of calf management. The live, interactive presentations will feel very similar to an in-person conference and be followed by Q&A sessions where you can have your questions responded to in real time. As well, the recorded presentations and online resources will allow you to gain additional skills and knowledge at a time that fits your schedule.

#### *How do I join the virtual conference?*

After registering each participant will be emailed a unique link with instructions that will allow them to access the Healthy Calf Conference. On Tuesday, November 24th, 2020 simply open your registration email, click on the link and you will be automatically entered into the conference. We recommend logging 15-20 minutes early to ensure there are no technical issues. Participating in the virtual conference is very straightforward and there will be live technical support available throughout the conference.

#### *Does my device need a camera or microphone to access the conference?*

No, only the speakers and hosts require a camera and microphone. Participants will be able to interact through polling questions, chat, and Q&A sessions.

#### *Can I join the conference with my cell phone?*

While the webinar platform is compatible with most cell phones, for a better participant experience and stronger internet connection we recommend using a laptop or desktop.

#### *Do I need to listen to the HCC live?*

No. While we encourage all participants to attend the Healthy Calf Conference live for the full experience, all participants will be able to access all the conference resources at their own convenience including recordings of the live talks.

#### *How do I register?*

This is a virtual event only; all registrations will be completed through the Eventbrite platform.

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2020-healthy-calf-conference-virtual-zoom-event-tickets-113378375774>

Conference registration will close at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!**



# Agenda

## Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Speakers and Topics

**9:30 a.m. Virtual conference link opens**

**10:00 a.m. Welcome and opening remarks**

**10:05 a.m. Attributes of effective calf electrolytes**



**Aaron Keunen, Mapleview Agri Ltd.**

Aaron is a graduate of Ridgetown College, University of Guelph and is a part owner at Mapleview Agri Ltd., a family owned business specializing in the manufacturing of milk replacer. Aaron is also a part of Keunen Cattle Ltd and TruVital Animal

Health, a new venture that focuses on the development and distribution of scientifically validated animal health products across Canada. Through TruVital Animal Health their goal is to develop a brand of effective and innovative health products that encourage antibiotic stewardship and effective on farm management protocols.

**10:20 a.m. Bioactives in colostrum: understanding the science**



**Dr. Michael Nagorske, Saskatoon Colostrum Company**

Bioactives has become an industry buzzword and new research is demonstrating the importance of bioactives in colostrum in fighting pathogens and increasing immunity. However, many producers still

struggle to understand the practical importance of bioactives that can be lost in the research's scientific jargon. Dr. Nagorske will break down the latest research and re-inforce the importance of colostrum in calf health and disease resistance.

Michael grew up on a grain and cattle farm in Southwestern Minnesota. He attended the University of Minnesota where he received his DVM and B.S. in Veterinary Science. He also served a lead role on the Veterinary Services Team which was responsible for the animal health, surgeries and husbandry procedures for the cattle involved in the Elite Calf Program, Viagen Cloning Program, Genetic Advancement

Center's Heifer Program, and Recipient Cow Program. He had a strong passion for the continuous improvement of maximizing genetic potential in young calves through nutrition and disease mitigation, and that passion is still with him today. He enjoys challenges as it relates to calf health and nutrition in beef and dairy operations. As Director of Research for SCCL, it has been a standard of his to utilize evidence-based approaches for solutions, as well as challenge and influence research to provide the best answers for the problem's producers endure. Michael has enjoyed consulting on many beef cow/calf and dairy herds throughout the world.

**11:15 a.m. The success of a dairy calf starts at birth: effects of early socialization and proper nutrition**



**Dr. Joao Costa, University of Kentucky**

Ready to make the transition to group-housed calves? Early paring has been shown to increase weight gain in calves. Already grouping your calves but seeing some health or behaviour problems?

Group housing calves is not as simple as putting all your calves into one pen. Dr. Costa will give insight into grouping calves, why grouping calves can be beneficial, when calves should be grouped, and the long-term health benefits of group housing.

Dr. Costa is an assistant professor in the department of animal and food sciences at the University of Kentucky. He holds a PhD of philosophy in animal science from the University of British Columbia. His work and research focuses on animal science, with emphasis on applied animal behavior, nutrition, and precision technologies.

He has a deep interest in the understanding and design of animal production systems, sustainable approaches to animal production, nutrition and the behavior of farm animals.

**12:15 p.m. Closing remarks and adjournment**



# Pre-recorded presentations

Available to all conference participants to watch at their convenience

## Team management & motivating change: working effectively with staff and advisors



### Steve Roche, ACER Consulting

Are calves included in your regular herd health visits, or are they overshadowed by milking herd health concerns? By ensuring your veterinarian includes calves in the herd health visit, you are able to ensure the future of your herd will be as profitable

as possible by building a solid foundation. Calves who receive the highest quality care will provide a high return on investment. Your veterinarian is an extra set of eyes in the calf barn and can be key to overcoming common calf health challenges. Working closely with your veterinarian and staff can help calves avoid the common roadblocks to success.

Steve is the Director and Principal Consultant for ACER Consulting and has a vision for improving animal health through applied research and creative communication. His mission is to develop and deliver evidence-based solutions to motivate on-farm change and improve animal health and welfare. Steve earned his PhD in epidemiology from the Department of Population Medicine at the Ontario Veterinary College. He also holds a MSc in epidemiology and BSc in zoology from the University of Guelph.

## Zero-zero Calf Care: zero treatments, zero loss



### Dr. Jodi Wallace, Ormstown Veterinary Hospital

Nobody likes having sick calves on the farm. It is time consuming, costly, emotionally draining, and stressful. The closer we get to zero-zero, the more enjoyable and profitable calf raising can be. In her talk

Dr. Wallace shares her vision of how producers can bring their operations closer to zero mortality.

Dr. Jodi Wallace grew up on a dairy farm in Herdman, Quebec. In 2002, she obtained her degree in Veterinary Medicine from the University of Guelph. She completed a Masters of Veterinary Science from the University of Montreal in 2009. Dr. Wallace is a veterinarian and associate owner at the Ormstown Veterinary Hospital. As well as everyday veterinary practice, Dr. Wallace does calf health and milk quality consultations, conferences and seminars for dairy producers and veterinarians throughout Canada and abroad. Dr. Wallace is also a dairy producer.

She lives with her husband and four kids on their dairy farm, Anderson Farms/Silverstream Holsteins, in Howick, Quebec. Anderson Farms are focused on Zero-Zero calf health.

## Nutrition and nutritional management of calves through weaning



### Dr. Mike Van Amburgh, Cornell University

At weaning, calves face significant stress due to changes in their diets, housing, and environments. As a result, calves may lose weight, eat less, and become more susceptible to infection. The key to limiting this post-weaning slump is to minimize

stress. Dr. Van Amburgh will share ways to reduce weaning stress, the impacts of starter mixes, and how manure can be a good indication of weaning success.

Mike Van Amburgh is a Professor in the Department of Animal Science and a Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellow at Cornell University where he has a dual appointment in teaching and research. His undergraduate degree is from The Ohio State University and his Ph.D. is from Cornell University. He teaches multiple courses and leads the Cornell Dairy Fellows Program, advises approximately 50 undergraduate students and is the advisor for the Cornell University Dairy Science Club. He has authored and co-authored over 70 journal articles and many conference proceedings and is the recipient of several awards.

## Maximizing the value of male dairy calves



### Kendra Keels, Veal Farmers of Ontario

Is this calf fit to ship? What practices can be implemented on farm in the first nine days to ensure the health and marketability of male dairy calves? In her talk, Kendra will highlight some of the key aspects to improving the value of male

dairy calves, maximizing returns.

Kendra has close to thirty years working in the veal and dairy industries. Since joining Veal Farmers of Ontario in 2006 as the Industry Development Director, she has been involved with many aspects of improving calf care and veal production, with a focus on welfare. Kendra is married with two adult daughters.





<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2020-healthy-calf-conference-virtual-zoom-event-tickets-113378375774>

**Conference registration will close at  
4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020.**



*Your calf care partners*

449 Laird Road, Unit 12  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4W1  
Tel: 519-824-2942 Fax: 519-824-2534  
Email: [projects@livestockalliance.ca](mailto:projects@livestockalliance.ca)  
[www.calfcare.ca](http://www.calfcare.ca) [www.ontarioveal.on.ca](http://www.ontarioveal.on.ca)

**#HCC2020**

Proudly sponsored by:

## TITLE SPONSOR



## PLATINUM



## GOLD



## SILVER



## BRONZE

