



Building the Foundation

Healthy Calf Conference 2024

Celebrating
20 YEARS OF
CalfCare

“From science to practical solutions”

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. ET

In-person or online

Organized and hosted by:



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Celebrating 20 YEARS OF CalfCare

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Healthy Calf Conference. For two decades, we've brought together dairy, veal and dairy-beef calf raisers to a single event dedicated to boosting calf health – which in turn means healthier animals, lower production costs and higher market prices.

We appreciate the many producers, industry partners, researchers, government representatives and others who've joined us on the journey to healthier calves over the last 20 years, whether by attending, presenting or sponsoring this event. The entire industry is to be congratulated on its ongoing commitment to encouraging positive change and taking action to raise the bar on healthy calf management.

How we've changed calf management

Twenty years ago, various research studies and what we were hearing from frustrated producers showed us that calf health in North America wasn't going in the right direction – and it was time to make a change.

We began bringing together experts with this conference, we developed the calfcare.ca website and popular Calf Care Corner e-newsletter, and eventually also added social media channels to help get the word out. Today, we've seen a vast improvement in calf mortality and serum total protein levels, proving that what we're doing is working.

Information you can use, right now

We know producers are busy people, looking for practical information that will make a difference in the barn. And that's what the Healthy Calf Conference has always delivered. Our focus is on actionable information grounded in science that anyone raising calves can take home and start implementing right away.

This year's event, available both in-person and online, will be no different, offering every participant:

- Dynamic speakers
- Online portal of presentation recordings and calf care resources
- Exclusive bonus talk available only online

And for those attending in-person:

- Free calf manual and laminated guides
- Trade show and hot lunch
- Calf pail, sponsored in part by Farmers Depot
- A chance to win a refractometer – ask us how!

Join us at Ontario's premier calf event

DATE AND LOCATION:

20

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

IN-PERSON

The Arden Park Hotel
552 Ontario Street
Stratford, ON N5A 3J3

10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Registration opens at 9:30 a.m.
Livestream will be available by Zoom.

RATES:

PRODUCER \$100/person

INDUSTRY
PARTNER \$130/person

ONLINE \$75/person

All prices are in Canadian dollars. Applicable taxes and fees are extra.



How to register:

Scan this QR code or visit
<https://hcc2024.eventbrite.ca>
to register for the conference.

Questions?

Visit calfcare.ca
Email events@vealfarmers.ca



Get connected with the Healthy Calf Conference on social and join the conversation using **#HCC2024**.

 **CalfCareCorner
OntarioVeal**

 **CalfCareCorner**

 **calfcare.ca
vealfarmers.ca**

Registration deadline for in-person participation: November 6 or earlier if space sells out.

Registration deadline for online participation: November 18.

Cancellations and no-shows will not be refunded.

In the event the in-person event cannot take place, the conference will proceed in the online format only.

Agenda

10:00 a.m. **Welcome**

10:15 a.m. **The skinny on fat**

Christine Murray-Kerr, Ph.D., Grober Nutrition



Ever wonder where the fat in your milk replacer comes from? Get the skinny on each type of fat that can be used and the benefits and disadvantages of each for digestion, growth and health.

10:35 a.m. **University of Guelph calf research spotlight**



Colostrum feeding strategies and colostrum supplementation beyond day one

Hannah McCarthy, M.Sc., University of Guelph

Colostrum feeding strategies for Holstein and crossbreed calves to ensure successful transfer of passive immunity in calves, and colostrum supplementation beyond day one, and its impacts on calf health.



Impact of colostrum consumption at birth and marketing feeding strategies in the recovery of dairy-beef calves after transportation

Lucia Pisoni, DVM, Ph.D., University of Guelph

How insufficient colostrum consumption at birth and nutrient restriction during marketing and transportation influence the recovery of calves during the first week after arrival at rearing farms, and the effects they have on performance, energy status, and gut functionality.



When should we treat a diarrheic calf with antimicrobial drugs?

Luiza Stachewski Zakia, DVM, University of Guelph

Based on research identifying criteria and evaluating an evidence-based treatment algorithm, learn which calves with diarrhea should be treated and when.

11:10 a.m. **Pain management for calves**

Charlotte Winder, DVM, DVSc., University of Guelph



The science behind using pain management for various conditions and procedures in calves, including scours, respiratory disease, navel infections, extra teat removal, disbudding and castration.

11:50 a.m. **Taking the challenge out of weaning**

Kathleen Shore, M.Sc., Grand Valley Fortifiers



Connecting research demonstrating the link between gut health and calf health status to on-farm practices is important to maintain calf growth through weaning and ensure the animals remain profitable members of the herd.

12:30 p.m. **Lunch**

1:40 p.m. **Impacts on calf health and performance**

Aaron Keunen, Mapleview Agri Ltd.



Highlights of research conducted at Mapleview Agri Ltd., focusing on the economic impact of various factors associated with calf health and nutrition.

2:00 p.m. **Ontario cattle health update and current biosecurity recommendations**

Cynthia Miltenburg, DVM, DVSc., Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness



Learn about the current calf health risks for Ontario calves from both existing and emerging diseases and what measures producers can take to protect their herds.

2:35 p.m. **KEYNOTE PRESENTATION:**

Preconditioning and early disease detection to rationalize antimicrobial use for respiratory disease

Bart Pardon, DVM, Associate Professor, Ghent University (Belgium)



High disease pressure and rapid spread of respiratory disease has made group antimicrobial treatments a cornerstone of calf health. How efficacious are those treatments actually? And how practical and effective could individual treatment be? What alternatives are there, such as vaccination or preconditioning, that can reduce the number of required dosages? Dr. Pardon will address these questions using the results of recent research, including lung ultrasound.

3:30 p.m. **Wrap-up**

Agenda is subject to change.

Visit calfcare.ca for the latest information and more details.

Bonus talk
available exclusively online -

sponsored by:



Optimizing phase feeding in the postnatal period to prevent scours

Dr. Mike Nagorske, Saskatoon Colostrum Company Ltd.

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