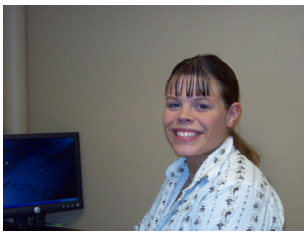
Deckerville Veterinary Clinic, P.C.

May 1, 2008

We've upgraded our phone system!

You may have already reached our main phone directory at Deckerville. In an attempt to streamline our phone calls to become more efficient, we have added a directory. When you call during the day the directory is #1 for Large Animal, #2 for Small Animal and #3 for the Drop Ship program. You can press #1 as soon as you connect and it will ring into Deckerville for all large animal services. Small animal calls are being directed to Sandusky, if you need to speak to the Sandusky clinic press #2. Please be patient as we make these changes. Our night phone menu has not changed.

Product Updates: Pfizer is discontinuing manufacture of ***Adspec***. ***Spectam*** is an acceptable substitute for off label use. Spectam is available intermittently at this time. Some Adspec is back in stock at distribution, when it is gone Adspec will no longer be available. ***Prostamate*** is currently on back order in all sizes. At this time we do not know of a release date. ***Lutalyse*** is available in both a 6ds and a 20ds, please be aware that Lutalyse is a 5CC dose. ***Baytril*** now has a dairy heifer label and can legally be used in dairy cattle up to 20 months. ***CMPK*** is available intermittently. Fluids continue to be an issue, please watch your inventory.



We would like to welcome Kelsey Wehner to our Deckerville Staff. Kelsey will be assisting in Large Animal Dispatch and Billing.

Kelsey is a 2005 graduate of Harbor Beach High School. In 2007 she graduated from Davenport University with a degree in Medical Assisting and Phlebotomy. Kelsey lives in the Minden area.

From the Dr's desk……

May is here! Planting season is upon us. We wish you a successful and safe planting season this year! Many of you attended our "winter" meetings and we thank you for your interest and support of these meetings. If you missed them, you really missed some valuable information and some terrific speakers.

Previous monthly newsletters have covered two of the meeting topics. This month we'll address the last one: quality milk production. Doctor Andy Johnson brought humor and bluntness and simple logic to the audience. He said, "You all choose exactly where you want your somatic cell counts to be" by the actions and attitudes you allow on your farm. Simply put, if you collect milk from clean, dry teats on clean, dry cows your somatic cell counts can easily be lowered. Avoid environmental overload, including moisture, manure contamination, and bacterial counts in the bedding. Sand is still the best option for freestall bedding! Dr. Johnson spent quite a bit of time on milking routine and udder prep. He recommends at least 90 seconds from teat stimulation until unit attachment. Thorough massage of the teat involves wiping off the debris, dipping, then complete drying of the teat with DRY cloths while not forgetting the teat end itself. Proper teat stimulation alone can greatly increase milk letdown and flow rates, while decreasing total unit on-time. Check out "theudderdoctor.com" for more info.

On a different note, there is a producer survey available on-line regarding Johne's disease. Visit https://online.survey.psu.edu/johnesdisease/ or www.vetextension.psu.edu and click on "Dairy Producer Johne's Survey." The information you provide will greatly help the national Johne's disease committees bring us the most helpful programs possible. Thanks for your input. There are also some educational on-line modules that you can take, some of which pay you for your efforts. Check them out at www.vetmedce.org/index.pl?id=110337. Click on "Johne's Disease Course for Dairy Producers" and scroll down to see your survey options and requirements.

Another item of importance for you to be aware of….. if you are currently "on test," could you please e-mail your "RAC" number to deckvets@yahoo.com so we can evaluate your records. Our computer got a virus and we had to totally erase all this information. Thank you very much!

Best wishes for a successful Spring and a Happy Hay Harvest!