

Alberta Johne's Disease Initiative Update

Source: Emily McDonald, Industry Development Coordinator

For those farms who have completed a risk assessment within the last year- happy anniversary! It's now time to complete this year's Johne's Disease Risk Assessment (RA) and management plan (MP) with your veterinarian. Both you and your veterinarian should have received a letter from University of Calgary's Faculty of Veterinarian Medicine reminding you to complete the RA and MP, at your earliest convenience.

For those of you that have not yet completed your first RA- now is your time!! Now that the crops are off and winter weather is here, it will be much easier to spend some extra time with your veterinarian to complete your on-farm RA. The RA only takes about one hour to complete and a rebate is available to cover your veterinarian's time in completing it. The RA also includes your veterinarian collecting six manure samples to test for the Johne's bacteria at no extra charge to you. So at your next herd health visit, notify your veterinarian that you would like your Johne's RA done at the same time!

Act Now- call your herd veterinarian to have your risk assessment done at your next herd health visit!

Western Canadian Dairy Seminar

Source: Karlee Conway, Corporate Communications Coordinator

The 2012 Western Canadian Dairy Seminar will be hosted at the Capri Centre in Red Deer on March 6-9, 2012.

This annual event is where you can gather the latest information in dairy production and technology advances. It is designed for people who want to improve their knowledge and decision-making abilities in dairy production and management. Dairy producers, extension specialists, researchers, and dairy service and supply representatives will find this seminar extremely valuable. Each year a wide variety of topics are presented ranging from nutrition and reproduction to dairy policy and challenges facing the dairy industry.

The dairy industry looks to this seminar for solutions to emerging issues, and for information about recent research results. The design of the conference is such that timely and relevant issues are the focus of the presentations. In addition to the formal program, there is ample opportunity for one-on-one discussions between the speakers and participants.

This year, experts from across the world will be addressing reproduction; finance, management, and economics; management: calves to cows; dairy production and the environment; and nutrition. Speakers include: Pamela Ruegg, University of Wisconsin; Herman Barkema, University of Calgary, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine; and Marcia Endres, University of Minnesota.

The early registration date is February 6. You can register at wcds.ca or call Joanne Morrison 780-492-3236 for more information.



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