

A MEMBERSHIP
NEWSLETTER THAT IS
DISTRIBUTED TO EVERY
JERSEY OWNER IN
ONTARIO

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The Jersey Component

December 2016

A Step Towards Genetic Improvement for Hoof Health

What are the major health issues in your lactating herd? Chances are good your answer includes some or all of the following: mastitis, reproductive issues and lameness. Great strides have been made in terms of genetic selection for reduced somatic cell, improved resistance to clinical mastitis and higher daughter fertility. But when it comes to genetic improvement for hoof health, progress has been minimal. In fact, research has shown that decades of selection for feet and leg type traits have not resulted in any decrease in the frequency of hoof lesions. Fortunately, things are about to change. Starting in 2018, genetic selection for hoof health should be possible. Read about the research project that will bring us this highly sought-after selection tool.

The Cost and Impact of Lameness

Lameness is prevalent and expensive. It is a significant economic issue in the Canadian dairy industry. It has a negative impact on animal well-being and lameness is often easily visible compared to most other diseases. Costs associated with lameness include treatment, decreased milk production, decreased reproductive performance and increased premature culling. Combined, these factors mean a single case of lameness can cost a producer upwards of \$350. Nationally, it is estimated that one-quarter of all dairy cows have at least one lesion, and while not all lesions result in lameness, they are a clear precursor. Industry recognized the need for more research in this area, particularly from a genetic standpoint.

The Project: Improving Hoof Health in Canadian Dairy Herds

In 2014, the four-year project called "Improving Hoof Health in Canadian Dairy Herds" began. The project is one of several that were funded within the Dairy Research Cluster 2, which includes monies from Canadian Dairy Network (CDN), Dairy Farmers of Canada, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Canadian Dairy Commission. The project is led by Dr. Filippo Miglior of CDN, who is also an Adjunct Professor at the University of Guelph. Other key contributors include the Project Manager, Anne-Marie Christen of Valacta, and Research Associate, Dr. Francesca Malchiodi of the University of Guelph. The project has four major objectives including:

1. Standardization of hoof lesion data collected by hoof trimmers across Canada
2. Develop a data flow process from hoof trimmers to Canadian DHI and onto CDN
3. Develop a DHI management report for dairy producers
4. Develop genetic and genomic evaluations for hoof health

Objectives one and two are completed, while three and four remain in progress. Standardization of hoof health data has been achieved by collecting data from hoof trimmers equipped with Hoof Supervisor software. This tablet-based program, used by certain hoof trimmers, specifies the type, severity, claw and zone for each lesion.

An interface between Canadian DHI and the Hoof Supervisor System has been developed, which allows trimmers to download some DHI information (cow identification, days in milk, dates of calving, breeding and pregnancy, etc.) directly into Hoof Supervisor prior to a herd visit. This enables herd and animal identification data to be attached to the Hoof Supervisor records. Following herd visits, trimmers routinely transfer Hoof Supervisor data (lesions, severity, actions) back to Canadian DHI, which then sends the data to CDN. There are presently 28 hoof trimmers contrib-

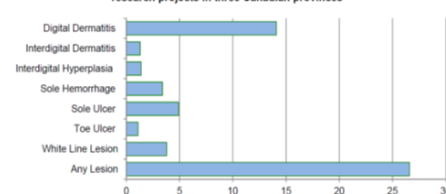
uting data in this manner and another group of 8 to 10 trimmers are expected to start shortly.

The current focus of the project is the development of a new DHI herd management report for hoof health. A small working group of hoof trimmers, veterinarians, producers and a dairy advisor are working together to create this report, which will allow herds to benchmark themselves against other herds provincially and nationally for major economic hoof lesions.

Preliminary Results

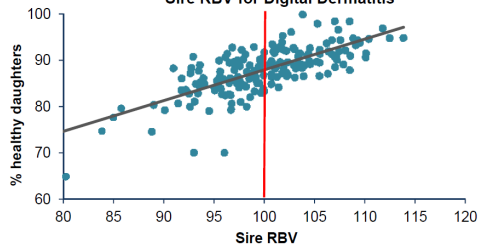
Figure 1 shows results from herds involved in provincial hoof health projects in Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario between 2009 and 2012. Results indicate that digital dermatitis is clearly the most important hoof health issue to be addressed with an estimated average incidence of nearly 15% among all cows. Three other hoof lesions, namely sole ulcer, white line disease and sole hemorrhage also affect the herd profitability, with average incidence rates approaching 5% of all cows, and would therefore benefit from genetic selection and herd management information available to producers.

Figure 1: Prevalence of hoof lesions based on herds included in research projects in three Canadian provinces



Heritabilities for hoof lesion traits are low and range from 1% to 7%. However, there is enough variability between bulls to select them for enhanced resistance to hoof lesions. Initial work has been done on calculating genetic evaluations for hoof health traits. As an example, Figure 2 compares Sire Relative Breeding Values (RBV) for digital dermatitis to the percentage of healthy daughters. When ranked genetically, the top 10% of sires have less than 7% of their daughters with digital dermatitis while, on the other hand, the bottom 10% of sires have over 24% daughters with digital dermatitis.

Figure 2: Percent healthy daughters versus Sire RBV for Digital Dermatitis



A genome-wide association study has also been performed for digital dermatitis and sole ulcers. Results indicate the presence of certain genes that have significant effects on these hoof lesions, which is promising for selection of increased resistance. Another major benefit of centralizing hoof health data at CDN for genetic

President's Message

First I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you, the members of Jersey Ontario, for your time and financial support. Without you Jersey Ontario would not exist. Secondly, I need to thank the 10 other directors who sit on the board and give this organization a purpose. Last but not least I would like to thank our Secretary-Manager, Beverley Spriel, who makes everything come to fruition.

This past year I have been fortunate to serve with the most proactive, forward thinking board since I started in 2008. With the help of Bev we secured over \$18,000 in federal government grant funding from Growing Forward 2 to advance the organization. We have developed and launched a new and much improved website that is more user-friendly and can be updated regularly by our Secretary-Manager. We have created and distributed a survey asking members what is important to them in the dairy world. From these results we can determine the relevance of each service we offer and better serve our members by expanding our platform. To date we have received responses from more than 20% of our membership. Currently results are showing that Research/Milk Marketing and Promotion/Communications are two areas that respondents feel are most important. The future board will take these results into account as they plan for the future of the organization and the breed.

Finally, I would like to invite you to Jersey Ontario's Annual General Meeting on Saturday, February 4th, 2017 at the Delta Hotel in Guelph. Also be sure not to miss our open barn tour on Friday, February 3rd, 2017 where we will visit 7 barns, seeing all three brands of robot, Lely, DeLaval and GEA, tie stall, and mixed herd barns. There will also be a family friendly Friday night and a silent and live auction during the Saturday evening banquet. Registration papers will be coming out soon so be sure to register before January 3rd, 2017. I look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you again for your support of Jersey Ontario and the breed. Safe travels and kind regards,

Simone Kent.

Secretary-Manager's Report

The summer and fall have been a busy time for everyone, members, Directors and the Association. It has been an exciting and successful year. Three calf rallies were held, one each in Eastern Ontario, Central Ontario and Western Ontario. All the rallies were very well attended with more than 22 to 30 young Jersey enthusiasts in attendance. At each rally a Jersey Princess was named to assist with the Jersey events in their respective regions. I would like to take this opportunity to thank these dedicated ladies, in Eastern Ontario, Janine Spichtig, Central Ontario, Courtney Orser and in Western Ontario, Emily DeKlein. Thank you!

As Secretary, I was able to lend assistance to each of the five Championship Shows; Ontario Spring Discovery Show, Summer Show, Eastern Ontario/Western Quebec Championship Show, Quinte Championship Show and Stratford Championship Show. I was also able to attend four of the Parish Shows, Quinte, Brant-Norfolk, Oxford and Grand River. It is my plan to make it to Perth-Huron, Grey-Bruce and the St. Lawrence Parish Show in 2017. A great deal of recognition should be given to all the Committees who work endlessly to undertake these shows in promotion and support of the breed. The breed is growing, more Jerseys were shown by youth in 4H and Junior Shows across Ontario in 2016 and this trend continues to build momentum.

Additionally, we have been working on development of the Sustainability project. Thank you to the more than 20% who have currently participated in the survey, without your input we would not have the necessary information to move forward. Results are now being tabulated and analyzed and strategic planning will take place early in January 2017.

At this time we are working towards the Annual General Meeting, scheduled for February 3 and 4, 2017 in Guelph. The AGM Committee has developed a wonderful program for the two days. I hope many of you will find the time to participate in some or all of the events.

Finally, it has been an honour to work with the dedicated Board and with the membership in the promotion and development of our beloved "little brown cow". Wishing you a wonderful Christmas Season,

Beverley Spriel.

January at Jersey Canada

Submitted by Kathryn Roxburgh, Jersey Canada General Manager

There's nothing quite like Maritime hospitality

What better way to get through the snowy winter months that are forecasted for Ontario this year, than planning a trip to the beautiful East Coast of Canada?

On behalf of the Jersey Canada Board of Directors, and the members of Jersey Atlantic, it is my pleasure to invite you to the Jersey Canada Annual General Meeting in Saint John New Brunswick, in early April 2017. It has been a long time since the Jersey Canada AGM was held in the Atlantic Provinces, and we hope you will make the trip to celebrate the progress of the Jersey breed, and the achievements of Jersey breeders from across the country. Not to mention the incredible sights, sounds and tastes that you can find only in the Maritimes!

You will have the option of beginning your trip on Thursday, April 6, 2017, in Nova Scotia. Tour participants will be welcomed at three Nova Scotia Jersey herds, including Musqie Valley Farms (the Dillman family), Wynt Farm Ltd (Dave, Helena and Kyle Cole), and Pine Haven Farm Ltd (RJ & Jennifer Dillman). From there, Nova Scotia tour participants will join up with the rest of the Jersey Canada crowd in Saint John, New Brunswick.

Friday, April 7, 2017 will include a tour of New Brunswick Jerseys, with stops at Samorah Farms (Frances Freeze), Green Acres Farm Inc. (Mike O'Brien), and JayRon Farm Ltd. (Jamie MacLeod & Rhonda Hulan). Also included in the tour will be a visit to Huntsman Ocean Sciences, and the day will end with a Maritime Kitchen Party.

Saturday, April 8, 2017 will begin with the Jersey Canada Annual General Meeting. This is your opportunity as a Jersey Canada member to vote on important issues, and to learn more about Jersey Canada activities. Saturday's events will conclude with an Awards Banquet, celebrating great Canadian cows and breeders, and more of that infamous Maritime hospitality.

Please watch for more details about the 2017 Jersey Canada Annual General Meeting in your Jersey Canada Membership Renewal mailing, which you will find in your mailbox in early- to mid-January.

We hope to see you in New Brunswick next April. As Tourism New Brunswick says, "Your adventure awaits!"

Kathryn Roxburgh

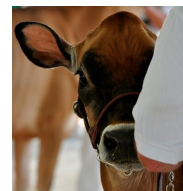


Breaking News!

As we go print, Jersey Canada is poised to break the **10,000 mark** on registrations in 2016. As of November 30th, 9010 registration had been received. Based on monthly average registration levels JC will be just short of the 10,000 registration goal. Please help break the record. If you, or anyone you know, have pending registrations please submit them to the office before December 30th, 2016.

All Ontario Contest Nominees

Jersey Ontario is pleased to announce the nominees for the 2017 All Canadian Contest, sponsored by Quality Seeds, Select Sires/Generations and Shur-Gain/Nutreco. Judging will take place over the next few weeks, The All Ontario winners will be announced later in December 2016.



4-H Jr-Int Calf

ALEXVALE VIVITAR GOODIELICIOUS, Exhibited by Mary Brander
CEDARVILLA JADE TIDDLYWINKS, Exhibited by Liam Bullock
GOLDEN GETAWAY EXOTICA, Exhibited by Tiffany Lenselink
GOLDEN MEADOW DAVID KIGGER, Exhibited by Alicia Bastiaansen
PAULLYN FIREPOWER RABECKA, Exhibited by Jaden Hill
SLEEGERHOLM GUNMAN NATASHA, Exhibited by Kyla Lewis

4-H Senior Calf (5 nominees)

AVONLEA CF BREEZE'S BRISTOL ET, Exhibited by Will Vander Meulen
AYRPORTE VALENTINO CERISE, Exhibited by Bruce Porteous
BRIDON TIMBER PEACH, Exhibited by Denise Sayles
CHARLYN TEQUILA BELLA, Exhibited by Micaela Hill
GLENHOLME IMPRESSION JORGIE, Exhibited by Keeton Jones

4-H Summer Yearling

ALEXVALE GLORIBEA'S GEZUNDHEIT, Exhibited by Hanna Dellaire
ENNISKILLEN PREMIER SUZETTE, Exhibited by Benjamin Sargent
GLENIL TEQUILA VEGGIE, Exhibited by Pierre-Luc Hurtubise
GLENHOLME TOUCH OF BRANDY, Exhibited by Curtis Ruta
PAULLOR AUSTEN JAYCEE, Exhibited by Emily Franken
RIVIEW PREMIER SOPHASTAR, Exhibited by Kristian McDonald

4-H Junior Yearling

BRENBE HG GORGEOUS, Exhibited by Courtney Ray
JONE'S V DROP IT LIKE ITS HOT, Exhibited by Erica Sayles
PAULLOR AUSTEN ROULETTE, Exhibited by Ali Underwood
PURPLE FEVER PREMIER JODIE ET, Exhibited by Taylor Vander Meulen
SLEEGERHOLM EXCITEMENT NUGYLEE, Exhibited by Laura DeKlein
STRATHALLAN TYLER GILLIAN, Exhibited by Tanner Bromley

Junior Calf

AVONLEA KEEPSAKES KLIMAX ET, Exhibited by Riview Jerseys & Avonlea Genetics
CEDARVILLA JADE TIDDLYWINKS, Exhibited by Randy & Tara Bullock
DRENTX C BABY COLT, Exhibited by Michael & Monique Bols & Jenna James
GLENHOLME EXCITATION TIFFANY, Exhibited by Trent Jones & Ronbeth Holsteins
GOLDEN MEADOW DAVID KIGGER, Exhibited by Ken Hutcheson
LIBERTY GEN TEQUILA POPCORN ET, Exhibited by Allison Lethbridge & Yann Bossel

Intermediate Calf

ALAND PERFECT RYKER, Exhibited by Alan & Julie Cunningham
ALEXVALE VIVITAR GOODIELICIOUS, Exhibited by Mark McPhedran & James Alexander
AVONLEA KRANBERRY KOCKTAIL, Exhibited by Avonlea Genetics Inc.
GOLDEN GETAWAY EXOTICA, Exhibited by Glen & Sheila Burgess
PAULLYN FIREPOWER RABECKA, Exhibited by Paullyn Farms
SLEEGERHOLM GUNMAN NATASHA, Exhibited by Mike Slegers & Jeff Smith

Senior Calf

AVONLEA CF BREEZE'S BRISTOL ET, Exhibited by Avonlea & Cybil Fisher
CHARLYN TEQUILA BELLA, Exhibited by Trevor & Tammy Hill
CHARLYN TEQUILA EMMIE, Exhibited by Charlyn Jerseys
EDGELEA GLENHOLME TQ VACATION, Exhibited by Carol Ruta & Joel Bagg
EDGELEA TEQUILA ROXANNE, Exhibited by Joel Bagg
GLENHOLME EXCITATION CHARLIE, Exhibited by Robert & Bruce Mellow

Summer Yearling

ALEXVALE GLORIBEA'S GEZUNDHEIT, Exhibited by Pleasant Nook Jerseys & James Alexander
CHARLYN PREMIER SALSA, Exhibited by Charlyn Jerseys
ENNISKILLEN PREMIER SUZETTE, Exhibited by Enniskillen Jerseys
GLENIL TEQUILA VANITY, Exhibited by Jeff Stephens, Pierre Boulet & Yvon Sicard
PAULLOR AUSTEN JAYCEE, Exhibited by Paul & Lorraine Franken
PERENNIAL MEGAPOWER NINA, Exhibited by Randy & Tara Bullock

BRENBE HG GORGEOUS, Exhibited by Brenbe & Hollylane

Junior Yearling

PAULLOR AUSTEN ROULETTE, Exhibited by Paul & Lorraine Franken
PLEASANT NOOK GONNA GETCHA, Exhibited by Pleasant Nook Jerseys
SLEEGERHOLM EXCITEMENT NUGYLEE, Exhibited by Mike Slegers & Ari Ekstein
STARCREST THROWBACK TEQUILA, Exhibited by Casee & Frank Robinson
STRATHALLAN TYLER GILLIAN, Exhibited by Tanner Bromley

Intermediate Yearling (4 Nominees)

AVONLEA CF STARSTRUCK ET, Exhibited by Avonlea & Cybil Fisher
CHARLYN JK SHIMMER, Exhibited by Charlyn Jerseys
KELLOGG-BAY SALVATION RESPONSE, Exhibited by Vogue Cattle Co/P. Jones/C. Fisher
RJF UNIQUE ONTIME MEMOIR ET, Exhibited by Robert Jarrell

Uncalved Senior Yearling (3 Nominees)

AUDIBEL HOT MONEY NICKIE, Exhibited by Starcrest & Oasis Jerseys
EDGELEA TEQUILA SHERATON, Exhibited by Joel Bagg
AVONLEA HIRED GUN RAVEN, Exhibited by Avonlea Genetics Inc.

Junior Breeder's Herd

ALEXVALE GORIBEA'S GEZUNDHEIT, ALEXVALE VIVITAR GOODIELICIOUS,
ALEXVALE GAZINGA'S GAZOWIE, Exhibited by Alexvale Farms
AVONLEA KEEPSAKES KLIMAX ET, AVONLEA CF BREEZE'S BRISTOL ET, AVONLEA CF
STARSTRUCK ET, Exhibited by Avonlea Genetics Inc.
CHARLYN JK SHIMMER, CHARLYN TEQUILA EMMIE, CHARLYN KEEPER SATISFIED,
Exhibited by Charlyn Jerseys

Milking Yearling

AVONLEA HIRED GUN RAVEN, Exhibited by Avonlea Genetics Inc.
BRIDON BRC ZELDA, Exhibited by Bridon Farms Inc.
GEORDAWN LEGAL CLARITY, Exhibited by George & Dawn Van Kampen
LOOKOUT ITS GLO TIME ET, Exhibited by Kristie, Kyle, Chelsea & Jaclyn Rivington
RATLIFF IMPRESSION ARIES-ET, Exhibited by Adrian Franken & Megan Kraus
RJF GAMEDAY SURPRISE, Exhibited by Robert Jarrell

Junior Two Year Old

CHARLYN IMPRESSION BINDY, Exhibited by Charlyn Jerseys
GOLDEN TEQUILA KASHONDRA, Exhibited by Glen & Sheila Burgess
PLEASANT NOOK PREMIER MISS ME, Exhibited by Pleasant Nook Jerseys
RAPID BAY G GATSBY, Exhibited by Cory Dickson/Riview Jerseys/Rapid Bay J. F. Inc.
RJF TEQUILA JINGLE, Exhibited by Robert Jarrell
TOP GENE IMP CASTALIE, Exhibited by Cybil Fisher, Patty Jones & Avonlea Genetics

Senior Two Year Old (4 Nominees)

CEDARVILLA REMAKE EVA, Exhibited by Randy & Tara Bullock
GENESIS VELOCITY'S VEXXI, Exhibited by Neil & Melanie Hunter
GOLDEN IRWIN DAZZLE, Exhibited by Glen & Sheila Burgess
KARLIES GILLER KYLIE ET, Exhibited by Avonlea Genetics Inc.

Junior Three Year Old

BRIDON T TIME, Exhibited by Bridon Farms Inc.
BRI-LIN KARBALLA SALVIA ET, Exhibited by Brian & Linda Raymer
DRENTX GOLD GLAMOROUS, Exhibited by Michael & Monique Bols & Jenna James
GLENHOLME IMPRESSIONABLE TRAIT, Exhibited by Robert & Bruce Mellow
HOMETOWN IMPRESSION BUTTERFLY, Exhibited by Neil & Melanie Hunter
PENINSULA VERBATIM MISS MINNIE, Exhibited by Jacob and Annie Vander Meulen

Senior Three Year Old (4 Nominees)

BRIDON ROCKET AMUSE, Exhibited by Bridon Farms
ENNISKILLEN REWARD SC MAMIE, Exhibited by Enniskillen Jerseys; Rivendale Farms
KENTVILLE CANDY TEQUILA, Exhibited by Kentville Farms, Rancho Teresita Dairy
LIBERTY GEN SSM POP-A-SQUAT, Exhibited by Allison Lethbridge & Yann Bossel

All Ontario Contest Nominees (cont'd)

Four Year Old

LOOKOUT GIVE ME A TRY ET, Exhibited by Casee and Frank Robinson
MARLAU SULTAN TITE, Exhibited by Laurent Lambert & John Weaver
PAULLOR VIVITAR RAMBLE, Exhibited by Paul & Lorraine Franken
PLEASANT NOOK ACTION POSH, Exhibited by Pleasant Nook Jerseys
PLEASANT NOOK TEQUILA DAIQUIRI, Exhibited by Pleasant Nook Jerseys
PLEASANT NOOK VINCENT CUPCAKE, Exhibited by Pleasant Nook Jerseys

Five Year Old

ENNISKILLEN TEQUILA R DAISY, Exhibited by Enniskillen Jerseys
LONE PINE ON TIME BELIEVE, Exhibited by Ancelmo Vasconcellos & Avonlea Genetics Inc.
MARLAU SOCRATES ARCADIOS ET, Exhibited by Cybil Fisher, Patty Jones & Avonlea Genetics
PLEASANT NOOK ACTION FRISKY, Exhibited by Pleasant Nook Jerseys
PLEASANT NOOK TVT MISS EMMA, Exhibited by Pleasant Nook Jerseys
RJF GRAND BATTLE, Exhibited by Robert Jarrell

Mature Cow

BRIDON IATOLA POLISH ET, Exhibited by Bridon Farms Inc.
ENNISKILLEN BV SUZY, Exhibited by Enniskillen Jerseys
LORIVALE EXCITATION KAYLA, Avonlea Genetics, Cybil Fisher, Patty Jones, Jacob & Annie Vander Meulen
MEADOW LYNN LEGACY LORRAINE, Exhibited by Jenny Butcher & Wes Kuntz
PAULLOR GILLER RILEE, Exhibited by Paul & Lorraine Franken
PLEASANT NOOK HAPPY BIRTHDAY, Exhibited by Pleasant Nook Jerseys

Breeder's Herd

BRIDON T TIME, BRIDON ROCKET AMUSE, BRIDON IATOLA POLISH ET, Exhibited by Bridon Farms Inc.
ENNISKILLEN TEQUILA R DAISY, ENNISKILLEN BV SUZY, ENNISKILLEN GENTRY J MAMIE, Exhibited by Enniskillen Jerseys
PAULLOR GILLER RILEE, PAULLOR VIVITAR RAMBLE, PAULLOR RETURN JACINTA, Exhibited by Paul & Lorraine Franken
PLEASANT NOOK TEQUILA DAIQUIRI, PLEASANT NOOK TVT MISS EMMA, PLEASANT NOOK ACTION POSH, Exhibited by Pleasant Nook Jerseys

Thank You to Our Sponsors



An Open Letter to Jersey Breeders from Ann Godkin, Lead Veterinarian, Disease Prevention (Cattle), OMAFRA, Elora

Re: Anaplasmosis

In November, a pure-bred Holstein cow that became sick after coming to an Ontario farm from a breed show was diagnosed with anaplasmosis. Anaplasmosis is rarely seen in Ontario.

To date, anaplasmosis has only been found in Ontario cattle whose history suggests they became infected while living or traveling in areas of the United States where the disease is present. The range of anaplasmosis in the US is expanding due to the movement of anaplasmosis carrier cattle.

Introduction of anaplasmosis to a dairy or beef herd is highly undesirable as the infection is highly contagious, infected cattle can become sick and die, subclinically infected cattle have markedly reduced productivity and carrier cattle (those carrying infection but not showing signs) occur as a result of infection. While anaplasmosis spread by ticks is possible, in regions where tick exposure is unlikely due to climate or housing, needle transfer of infected red blood cells from carriers to uninfected cattle is more likely.

Prevention of the spread of anaplasmosis among Ontario cattle is critical for maintaining an individual herd's health status and the provincial reputation for high health. Investigations of recent incursions of anaplasmosis into Canada and the north-eastern US have highlighted specific risk factors, such as injections, for infection spread within herds in these areas. Spread by contaminated injection equipment is both likely and readily preventable.

Prevention of spread by needles is readily accomplished by the use of a new, clean needle for every injection. The rate of infection spread will be much faster if a needle used for injecting an infected animal is used in an injection bottle to withdraw medication such as oxytocin or other veterinary drugs. Use of contaminated medications to inject multiple animals can rapidly spread infection to a high proportion of the herd. A new, clean needle should be used to withdraw all medications from containers to prevent contamination.

Testing cattle for anaplasmosis infection prior to entry to Canada from infected regions is not required by regulation. Producers should consider incorporating testing for anaplasmosis into biosecurity programs to prevent disease introduction when new cattle are added to their herds, when cattle return from shows or fairs, or re-enter from co-mingled locations such as heifer raising operations. Carrier cattle cannot be visually identified. Note that cattle from other regions or countries may be co-mingled with domestic cattle at events such as shows and fairs within the province. Cattle may not have to leave the province to become infected.

Discuss your herd's situation and risk level with your herd veterinarian. Develop and implement a biosecurity program that incorporates actions and testing to prevent anaplasmosis introduction and spread in your herd.

Hydro One announces Farm Rapid Response Team for Farming Customers

Hydro One announced the Farm Rapid Response Team is ready to assist farming customers to help identify, assess and mitigate on-farm electrical issues. The announcement was made at the International Plowing March and Rural Expo on Sept. 20, 2017. This approach has been established to better serve the needs of Hydro One's 13,000 farming customers and was developed in partnership with the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA). This approach provides Hydro One's farming customers with a single point of contact to manage their specific on-farm concerns.

"The creation of the Farm Rapid Response Team shows Hydro One's commitment to finding a fast and effective solution to on-farm electrical issues our customers may experience," said Mayo Schmidt, president and CEO, Hydro One. "Uncontrolled electricity has plagued rural livestock farms for a very longtime. Farmers and the animals they care for deserve our hardest efforts to resolve this issue. This customer-friendly process will improve outcomes for Ontario farmers and provide access to technical experts to help troubleshoot and find solutions."

The Farm Rapid Response Team is an outcome of a working group comprised of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture and Hydro One. The team will:

- Manage and investigate all stray voltage and related on-farm electrical issues;
- Do a full technical audit of all testing conducted;
- Have testing specialists in zones across the province;
- Conduct larger root cause investigations when needed;
- Run alternative testing and-or trouble-shoot on more complex issues and complaints;
- Collect data centrally for further work and-or study.
-

Most important, it will help improve outcomes for Hydro One's farming customers and provide them with an easy, transparent customer-friendly process with a clear escalation path. Customers can call 1-888-405-3778 or email farmresponse@hydroone.com to connect with a member of the team.

A Step Towards Genetic Improvement for Hoof Health

(continued from page 1)

and genomic evaluations is the fact that DHI will also have information of hoof lesions to help producers improve their herd management and to advance the research on risk factors associated with hoof lesions..

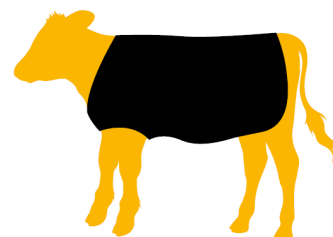
Next Steps

The next major part of the project involves the development of a genomic evaluation system for hoof health. This system may use methodology called "single-step", whereby genotyped cows from herds with hoof health data serve as the reference population as opposed to progeny proven sires. Canadian hoof trimmers and Canadian DHI have been essential to successful data collection so far. Nevertheless, more hoof trimmer participation is needed in order to sustain evaluations for hoof health beyond the project. The goal is to have routine hoof health records from 10-20% of cows in herds across Canada. With this quantity of data, selection for hoof health will be possible well into the future.

Source: 

Considerations When Purchasing Calf Jackets

- **Breathable material** that allows moisture on the calf's coat to pass through
- **Water resistant or waterproof**
- **Machine Washable.** Jackets must be washed after each use to reduce the risk of spreading diseases
- **Straps and fasteners.** Different types of adjustable straps and fasteners are available. Velcro will clog and requires additional cleaning and maintenance. Simple, clunky plastic clips are preferable. Check with the supplier that replacements are available



EastGen

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Guimo Journey

0200JE01070



TEXAS x SPECTACULAR



December Release

- #5 GPA LPI sire
- #7 Pro\$ sire
- Outcross option
- High production sire (+1356 Milk, +115 Combined Fat & Protein)
- +13 for Type
- +10 Angularity
- +13 Mammary System
- Matriarch of JOURNEY's family is his world-famous 2nd dam Fermar Paramount Joy EX-94 2E 7* (Lifetime Cheese Production Cow at the 2014 WDE)
- JOURNEY's dam Guimo Spectacular Joelle VG-87-2YR is #13 GLPI, #4 Pro\$ and was Nominated All Quebec as a Jr. 2-YR-Old



ANNOUNCING SEMEX AND RIVER VALLEY FARM PARTNERSHIP



SEMEX
Genetics for Life®

As the fastest growing AI company in the world, Semex and genetic powerhouse, River Valley Farm, are thrilled to announce an exciting new partnership and the stud code series... 0200JE10000! Semex is now home to the River Valley Farm Bull Program and it's star-studded lineup including Change-Up and Racer all available from Semex in 2017.

EastGen JERSEY MEETINGS FEATURING SEMEX AND RIVER VALLEY PRODUCT LINES

Tuesday, February 14 - Guelph • Wednesday, February 15 - Belleville • Thursday, February 16 - Chesterville

Full details available at www.eastgen.ca

Happy Cows Make More Nutritious Milk

Recent findings from the lab of Dr. Laura Hernandez

Daily infusions with a chemical commonly associated with feelings of happiness were shown to increase **calcium** levels in the blood of Holstein cows and the milk of **Jersey cows** that had just given birth. The results, published in the *Journal of Endocrinology*, could lead to a better understanding of how to improve the health of dairy cows, and keep the milk flowing.

Demand is high for milk rich in calcium: there is more calcium in the human body than any other mineral, and in the West dairy products such as milk, cheese and yoghurt are primary sources of calcium. But this demand can take its toll on milk-producing cows: roughly 5-10% of the North American dairy cow population suffers from hypocalcaemia – in which calcium levels are low. The risk of this disease is particularly high immediately before and after cows give birth.

Hypocalcaemia is considered a major health event in the life of a cow. It is associated with immunological and digestive problems, decreased pregnancy rates and longer intervals between pregnancies. These all pose a problem for dairy farmers, whose profitability depends upon regular pregnancies and a high-yield of calcium-rich milk.

Whilst there has been research into the treatment of hypocalcaemia, little research has focused on prevention. In rodents it has been shown that **serotonin** (a naturally-occurring chemical commonly associated with feelings of happiness) plays a role in maintaining calcium levels; based on this, a team from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, led by Dr Laura Hernandez, investigated the potential for serotonin to increase calcium levels in both the milk and blood of dairy cows. The team infused a chemical that converts to serotonin into 24 dairy cows, in the run up to giving birth. Half the cows were **Jersey** and half were Holstein – two of the most common breeds. Calcium levels in both the milk and circulating blood were measured throughout the experiment.



Whilst serotonin improved the overall calcium status in both breeds, this was brought about in opposite ways. Treated Holstein cows had higher levels of calcium in their blood, but lower calcium in their milk (compared to controls). The reverse was true in treated Jersey cows and the higher milk calcium levels were particularly obvious in Jerseys at day 30 of lactation – suggesting a role for serotonin in maintaining levels throughout lactation.

“By studying two breeds we were able to see that regulation of calcium levels is different between the two,” says Laura Hernandez. “Serotonin raised blood calcium in the Holsteins, and milk calcium in the **Jerseys**. We should also note that serotonin treatment had no effect on milk yield, feed intake or on levels of hormones required for lactation.”

The next steps are to investigate the molecular mechanism by which serotonin regulates calcium levels, and how this varies between breeds.

“We would also like to work on the possibility of using serotonin as a preventative measure for hypocalcaemia in dairy cows,” continues Laura Hernandez, “That would allow dairy farmers to maintain the profitability of their businesses, whilst making sure their cows stay healthy and produce nutritious milk.”

Article: [Elevation of circulating serotonin improves calcium dynamics in the peripartum dairy cow](#), *Journal of Endocrinology*, doi: 10.1530/JOE-16-0038, published 1 July 2017. Printed with permissions; Dr. Laura Hernandez, Dept. of Dairy Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and *Journal of Endocrinology*



Minimizing Calf Stress in Winter Months

Source: Penn State Extension Dairy News

How Cold is Too Cold?



Calves have a zone in which they are comfortable, not too warm or too cold. This thermoneutral zone is the range of temperature in which a calf uses no additional energy to maintain its body temperature. For a newborn Holstein calf, this zone is between 10 to 25°C (50 and 78°F). Any temperature higher or lower will mean that the calf is burning reserve energy to maintain core body temperature, all of this at the expense of growth. As an example, a one-month-old calf's thermoneutral zone ranges from 0 to 25°C (32 to 78°F.)

Feed

When it gets cold, calves need more energy to stay healthy and gain weight. Adjust the milk replacer and calf starter feeding programs to cover the increasing energy needs of calves in cold weather. Research shows that calves housed at -4°C (25°F) require approximately 30% more energy for maintenance. This number will increase as the temperature decreases.

A best management practice is to feed liquids (milk and water) at body temperature, for a calf that would be about 39°C (102°F). For example, if the milk replacer you fed was at 18°C (65°F) the calf will warm it up to her body temperature of 39°C (102°F). That energy used to heat up

the milk came from the calf's body resources. Don't forget that water improves feed intake and helps develop the rumen in your calves. Observe drinking patterns and feed volume to match the calf's desire to water.

Dry, Clean, Draft free Housing

Calf housing has to be clean, dry and free of draft. Proper bedding increases insulation from the earth or concrete underneath the calf. Bedding when added to a hutch or pen has to be clean—free of soil, pathogens and mold. This easily can be assessed visually. Bedding materials which include sand, straw, corn stalks, paper, wood shavings and sawdust have to be dry. Once the bedding is already placed in the hutch or pen, use the “knee-drop” to test for dampness. You should be able to remain on your knees for 15 seconds or longer without having damp knees. Calves can lose heat rapidly if bedding is wet. Don't forget, as more energy is used for maintenance, less will be available for growth and immune functions. Provide calves a place to lie down away from drafts. Dry plentiful bedding provides an insulating stable air environment and will encourage calves to lie down decreasing body heat loss in the cold environment.

Calf Coats

In colder winters, waterproof calf coats can also help decrease cold weather stress. The Canadian Journal of Veterinary research (1989; 53:275-278) reported a 52% increase of overall animal insulation on calves that wore coats and that were housed in -30 to -17°C (-22 to 0°F). Calf coats should be dry and cleaned regularly. Don't forget that a calf's coat should be dry and clean as it is its barrier to the environment and insulation. Newborn calves should have ample time to dry before being moved in a hutch and these have to be located in dry areas.

Calves are the future of your herd and taking care of them at a young age will decrease costs throughout the animal's lifetime, allowing for more profitability in your operation.

2017 Events



January 2017

- 10-12 Dairy Farmers of Ontario Annual General Meeting
- 11 CanWest DHI Management Conference, Chesterville/Tavistock/Drayton
- 16 Jersey Canada Award Nomination Deadline
- 16 Jersey Canada Youth of Distinction Application Deadline

February 2017

- 3-4 Jersey Ontario Annual General Meeting, Guelph, ON
- 8-9 London Dairy Congress, London, ON
- 14 EastGen Jersey Meeting/River Valley Product Lines, Guelph, ON
- 15 EastGen Jersey Meeting/River Valley Product Lines Belleville area
- 16 EastGen Jersey Meeting/River Valley Product Lines Chesterville area
- 16 Canada's Agricultural Day
- 23 Southwestern Ontario Dairy Symposium, Woodstock ON

March 2017

- 8-9 East Central Farm Show, Lindsay Fairgrounds, ON
- 14-16 Ottawa Valley Farm Show, Ottawa, ON
- TBA Northwest Spring Showcase, Everson, Washington, USA
- TBA Midwest Spring Special, Rochester, MN, USA
- 30-1 April Jersey Ontario Youth Seminar – Southwestern Ontario

April 2017

- 1 Jersey Ontario Invitational Sale, Woodstock, ON
- 5 Ontario Spring Discovery Show, Ancaster, ON
- 4 CDN Official Genetic Evaluation Release
- 5-6 Canadian Dairy XPO (CDX), Stratford, ON
- 6-8 Jersey Canada Annual General Meeting, St. John, NB
- TBD New York Spring Dairy Carousel, Syracuse, NY
- TBD Quebec Spring Sale / Vente Foundation Sale, Victoriaville, QC
- 11-13 Quebec Spring Show / Salon International Laitier (SIL), Victoriaville, QC

May, 2017

- TBD Dairy Sense Workshop, University of Guelph, Guelph, ON

June 2017

- 10-25 World Jersey Cattle Bureau - Annual Meeting & Tour, Costa Rica & Ecuador
- 21-24 Annual Meeting of the American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA-NAJ), Gettysburg, PA
- TBA West/West-Central Dairy Cattle Evaluation Clinic (Judging school), ON
- TBA Grand River Jersey Club Sale, Carsons Sale Arena, Listowel, ON

July 2017

- 8 Central Ontario Calf Rally, Shannonville, ON
- 15 Avonlea "Coming Home" Summer Splash V, Avonlea Genetics Inc., Brighton, ON
- TBA Quinte Trent Parish, Jersey Picnic
- TBA EastGen Showcase - Spencerville, ON
- TBA EastGen Challenge West, Stratford, ON
- TBA Perth-Huron Jersey Club Sale @ Carsons in Listowel, ON (
- TBA Eastern Dairy Cattle Evaluation Clinic (Judging school),
- TBA Eastern Ontario Calf Rally, Russell, ON
- 24 Leeds-Grenville Parish, Jersey Picnic
- TBA EastGen Challenge East, Markham, ON
- 27-28 Ontario Summer Show, Lindsay, ON TBA - Western Ontario
- TBA Calf Rally, Drumbo, ON
- TBA Intercounty Dairy Cattle Judging Competition

August 2017

- 8 CDN Official Genetic Evaluation Release
- 12 Quinte Trent Parish Show, Campbellford, ON
- TBA Eastern Ontario/Western Quebec Show - Navan, ON
- 12 Grey-Bruce Parish Show, Hanover Fair, Hanover, ON
- TBA 400 Parish Show, Barrie, ON
- 25 Oxford Parish Show, Woodstock, ON

September 2017

- TBA Quinte Championship Show, Belleville, ON
- 4 Brant Norfolk Parish Show, Paris, ON
- TBA St. Lawrence Parish Show, Russell, ON
- 12-14 Canada's Outdoor Farm Show, Woodstock, ON
- TBD Jersey Canada deadline for Youth Scholarships, Awards & Programs
- TBD Stratford Championship Show, ON
- TBD Earl Vander Meulen Award deadline
- TBA Perth Huron Parish Show, Seaforth, ON

October 2017

- 3-12 World Dairy Expo, Madison, WI, USA
- TBA Norfolk County Fair Jersey Show, Simcoe, ON
- TBA Grand River Parish Show, Erin, ON
- TBA Kawartha Invitational Parish Jersey Show, Norwood, ON
- TBA Westerner Championship Dairy Showcase, Red Deer, AB

November 2017

- 3-12 Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, Toronto, ON
- TBA Supreme Dairy Show, Saint Hyacinthe, QC
- TBA All American Jersey Show, North American International Livestock Expo, Louisville, KY, USA

December 2017

- 5 CDN Genetic Evaluation Release



Jersey Ontario AGM Schedule February 3rd & 4th, 2017

Monday, January 9th:

Deadline for Special \$129 Jersey Ontario Rate, Delta Hotel & Conference Centre, 50 Stone Rd., Guelph, ON

Telephone: 519-780-3700 Please quote Group Booking Code: Jersey Ontario Conference

Friday, February 3rd:

Tour Schedule – Approx 40 min visit at each farm, except Creek Edge which will be 70 min for lunch

08:30 a.m.	Bus Departs Delta Hotel & Conference Centre, 50 Stone Rd W, Guelph for Farm Visits
08:45 a.m.	Rosalea Jerseys – 5309 Fourth Line, Guelph/Eramosa
09:40 a.m.	Maker Farms – 5956 Fourth Line, Centre Wellington
10:30 a.m.	Kentonvale Farms – 5956 Jones Baseline, Centre Wellington
11:30 a.m.	Creek Edge Farms – 7143 Wellington Road 18, Centre Wellington (lunch)
01:20 p.m.	El Dorado Dairy – 244253 Sideroad 5, Amaranth
02:10 p.m.	Geordawn Farms – 394276 Dufferin Road 12, Amaranth
03:10 p.m.	Swissbell Farms – 321238 Concession 6-7, Grand Valley
04:50 p.m.	Return to Hotel
	Hospitality Room Open
07:00 p.m.	Buffet Dinner, Production Award Presentation, Family Game Night
	Hospitality Room Open

Saturday, February 4th:

07:30 a.m.	Breakfast in Hospitality Room
09:00 a.m.	Annual General Meeting
09:00 a.m.	Alternate Program
12:00 p.m.	Lunch Buffet & Presentation from Industry Partners

The Producer, Processor Perspective (George MacNaughton, DFO Director of Operations and Michael Barrett, Gay Lea President & CEO)

	Hospitality Room Open
06:30 p.m.	Social
07:00 p.m.	President's Banquet & All Ontario Presentation
	Hospitality Room Open

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Wishing you all, a wonderful Christmas Season,

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