



# Ontario Animal Health Network (OAHN) Bovine Expert Network Industry - Producer Report

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Report #5

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## Quarterly Teleconference

Trends typical of summer were noted in this quarter's survey of bovine veterinarians, including decreased pneumonia and lameness and increased mastitis. Several veterinarians reported that this summer's hot temperatures resulted in very dry pastures and heat stress in cattle.

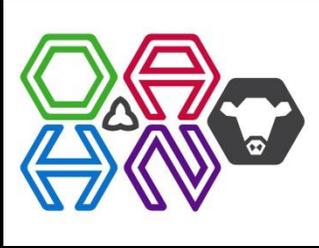
A total of 34 veterinarians completed the survey, a decrease of seven from last quarter. Respondents working with beef cattle reported decreases in abortion, respiratory disease, neurological disease and diarrhea since last quarter. The number reporting sudden deaths increased since last quarter. One practitioner reporting an increase in sudden death suspected clostridial infection or possible allergic reaction in one case. Two practitioners reported cases of pink eye.

The number of dairy practitioners reporting pneumonia and diarrhea decreased since last quarter, while the number reporting cases of mastitis and infertility increased since last quarter. Four veterinarians reported heat stress in dairy cows and two mentioned possible associations of heat stress with abortions, early embryonic death and fatty liver in cattle. Two interesting cases of anemia were reported; one in a calf with umbilical hemorrhage and another in a heifer associated with inflammation of the heart muscle and blood-borne infection.

Veterinarians attending veal calves reported decreases in cases of pneumonia and diarrhea since last quarter. One practitioner noted a case of septic arthritis caused by *Helcococcus ovis*.

In a review of data provided by the Animal Health Laboratory (AHL), there were two notable cases with high mortality in calves; in one case *Salmonella* Dublin was identified while in the other case several gastrointestinal pathogens, rumenitis and abomasitis were diagnosed. No unusual trends were noted in cases submitted for work up of abortion, gastrointestinal and respiratory problems. There were seven submissions where *Salmonella* Dublin was identified this quarter; these cases came from four premises.

# Calf Health Surveillance Project Update



Twenty calves (beef, dairy and veal) have had postmortems conducted at the AHL or on farm by the attending veterinarian. Thirty-five questionnaires have been received as of September 1st. Testing of samples from 140 bulk tanks for antibodies to *Salmonella* Dublin will be conducted shortly.

## OAHN Bovine Network

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## Annual OAHN Workshop

The fourth annual OAHN Workshop was held in Guelph on October 5th. This year's meeting was an opportunity for all the networks to recognize their accomplishments to date. Highlights for the OAHN Bovine Network include the Calf Health Surveillance Project (summarized above) and the podcast series on bovine respiratory disease. This series was released in the fall of 2015 and featured four podcasts on the clinical aspects and diagnosis of the disease. Each of the four podcasts was downloaded more than 500 times, making this the most popular series across all of the networks. These podcasts are available at [www.oahn.podbean.com](http://www.oahn.podbean.com)

Thanks to Katherine Fox of Beef Farmers of Ontario, Jennifer Bullock of Veal Farmers of Ontario, and Gord Coukell of the Ontario Livestock and Poultry Council for attending the workshop on behalf of the cattle industry.

