

IN THIS ISSUE

- Quarterly Teleconference
- AHL data
- OAHN Project Project
- Rabies

Quarterly Teleconference

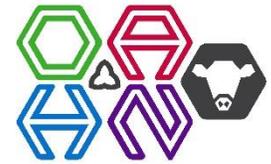
Participants on the call noted that as fall was fairly normal, there was increased movement of animals and increased pneumonia as a result. Some noted there were fewer hoof issues than expected this fall and milk production was good. The veal industry continues to struggle with *Salmonella* Dublin infections causing sudden death in calves. Non-ambulatory cattle continue to be a dairy challenge and protocols are being developed with DFO provincially as well as nationally for handling these animals.

Animal Health Lab Data

Dr. Andrew Brooks presented a summary of 197 bovine submissions through the AHL with associated data from May 1st to August 31st 2018. Submissions were grouped as under 2 months, 2 months to 2 years, greater than 2 years and abortions.

Age Group	No. of Cases	Top Diagnoses
<2 months	66	Sudden death, enteritis, pneumonia, septicemia
2 months-<2 years	40	Sudden death, pneumonia
>=2 years	35	Pneumonia, trauma, sudden death
Abortions	26	Bacterial abortion, no diagnosis

Animal Health Laboratory Submission Data May 1st - August 31st 2018



Animal Health Lab Data - Continued

Common causes of sudden death, enteritis, septicemia and pneumonia in young calves were similar to previous quarters. About half of all cases of calf enteritis had mixed infections of rotavirus, coronavirus and *Cryptosporidium parvum* which suggested there may be some underlying failure of passive transfer.

Pneumonia was the predominant diagnosis in older calves (up to 2 years of age) and was also common in adult cattle (> 2 years of age). The most common causes of pneumonia in these age groups included common viral and bacterial respiratory pathogens. In the older calves up to 2 years of age, the most common pathological diagnosis for sudden death was rumenitis or enteritis. Adult cattle with sudden death were most frequently diagnosed with mastitis, clostridial myositis and enteritis. Adult cattle were also frequently diagnosed with traumatic injuries on post mortem.

In bovine abortion submissions where an etiology was confirmed (or suspected), bacterial abortions were the most common. No *Ureaplasma* sp. abortions were detected this quarter.

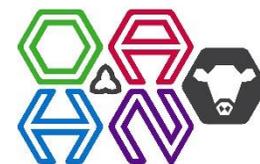
As always, promptly discuss any concerns with your herd health veterinarian. Submitting good lab samples is critical to diagnoses.

Q2 Notable AHL diagnoses

- One bison calf was diagnosed with obstructive intestinal roundworms, determined to be *Toxocara (Neoascaris) vitulorum*. This parasite is more common in tropical and subtropical parts of the world and may infect a variety of domestic and wild cattle and related animals. It follows a fairly typical ascarid lifestyle with infective larvae ingested through milk and colostrum. It was previously reported in a bison in Manitoba in 2011.
- In a black angus calf with a head tilt, a *Mycoplasma bovis* abscess was found to affect the cranial nerves
- Increased mortality rate was seen in a group of Charolais calves. Symptoms have rapid onset, calves were breathing rapidly and shaking prior to death. No diagnosis was made but the practitioner suspected yew toxicosis

Ureaplasma in Quebec

MAPAQ shared data from their labs regarding *Ureaplasma* in abortions in QC, as cases have been occasionally found at the AHL as well. As MAPAQ noted an increase in 2015 and 2016 they sent a questionnaire to all farms with a *Ureaplasma* abortion to identify any risk factors. First calf heifers were 68% of *Ureaplasma* abortions and the mean abortion date in gestation was 204 days. Reproductive technology was flagged as a risk factor because 68% of abortions had undergone AI and 32% embryo transfer. Please discuss any concerns with your herd health veterinarian, as testing is available in Ontario.



OAHN Project Proposal

The OAHN bovine network discussed a proposed project by Dr. Dan Shock of ACER consulting. The proposed project involves understanding how antimicrobial use potentially impacts antimicrobial resistance. Very little sector specific data exists, only global reporting by pharmaceutical companies about sales. The updates to CVMA's *Pan-Canadian Framework of Professionals Standards for Veterinarians* will place a greater scrutiny on Ontario veterinarians. If the Ontario bovine veterinarians understood how much antimicrobial use actually occurs in Ontario, particularly levels of medically important antibiotics, and where opportunities lie to promote non-antibiotic interventions for health. The project proposes to use a Quebec veterinarian-made online package called Vet Expert that helps veterinary professionals create and deliver prescriptions quickly. Participating clinics will be able to report overall use of antimicrobials for specific clients (the project proposes a dairy focus initially, but will not identify clients by name). The knowledge gained will be used to teach other veterinarians about overall antimicrobial use in the industry based on the benchmarks created within the regulatory environment, as well as any advantages of prescription monitoring. This proposal was put forward and approved.

Rabies in a Beef Steer

In June 2018, a beef steer being treated for pneumonia and continuing to deteriorate was positive for rabies virus, arctic fox variant. This was an unusual finding in the rabies program, although the northern incursion of fox rabies in skunks has been identified for the last few years. The affected steer was from Perth County and displayed a more protracted course of disease than was typical, and was quite concerning given the producer was actively involved in administering treatment to this animal. While the veterinarian made the correct diagnosis, it is a timely reminder that for large animals the wounds from a skunk or raccoon are generally unnoticed and to exercise extra caution within the two rabies zones in Ontario.

This is also a timely reminder that the new rabies vaccination rules are in effect as of July 1st 2018 and all livestock “for which a rabies vaccine licenced for use in Canada is available” shall be immunized against rabies with the exception being made for only livestock “that is accessible only to the person or persons who are responsible for the care and control of such animal.” This could apply to animals exhibited at fairs this fall.

Rabies in livestock:

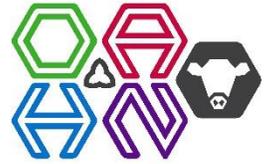
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/rabies-livestock>

Rabies Map:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/rabies-cases>

Ministry of Health and Long Term Care FAQ about livestock rabies vaccination requirements:

https://healthunit.org/wp-content/uploads/Rabies_Immunization_FAQs.pdf



Ontario Slaughter and Community Sales

Barn data:

No notable changes to slaughter condemnation conditions was noted this quarter although condemnations may be slightly elevated.

Condemnation data is found at

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/stats/livestock/index.html>

At community sales barns, increased numbers of calves and stockers were noted coming to sales and combined with the weather this fall subsequently more pneumonia was diagnosed. There was also increased mortality noted in animals transported from Western Canada (mostly small ruminants). Due to the very low price for bob calves, 70 were euthanized.

Meet your OAHN Bovine Network Team:

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