

NAVAN VETERINARY SERVICES – AUGUST 2015 NEWSLETTER

A few changes are happening at Navan Vet!

As many of you already know, Dr. Jennifer Hubbard has taken a six month leave of absence. She has travelled to New Zealand, where she plans on working and helping during their calving season, which is about to begin. Dr. Hubbard plans on working for four months, travelling for two months and then returning to Navan in January of 2016. We wish her luck and lots of adventure!!

We have just hired a new veterinarian! Dr. Chelsea Allen is starting with us this month. Many of you will remember Dr. Allen as she completed her externship program with us last year. Chelsea comes from Manotick and we are really happy to have her join our team.

Summer Time Mastitis

Summer time, with its high humidity and temperatures usually brings with it seasonal increases in new mastitis cases and spikes in SCC. This year is no different. In fact, in discussion with many producers, it would appear that this summer is being an especially bad one for individual cow and bulk tank SCC's.

We know that environmental temperature and condition really do effect the numbers of bacteria that grow and survive in stalls. Research has shown that bacterial counts from bedding increase markedly during summer months. Extra attention needs to be paid to these cow's environment (stalls). Making sure bedding is clean and as dry as possible is critical. Adding extra bedding, be it straw, shavings, peat or other organic material might be a good idea to keep the cows clean and dry.

Extra passes during the day to clean stalls of manure will also help. Keep the udders clipped or flamed and wear gloves when milking. Don't forget, it is bacteria and other microbes that cause mastitis. Milking equipment and milking technique play a huge role in keeping teats healthy, but keep bacteria load low and you will have a better chance of avoiding or reducing the summertime spike!

Change in Saturday Hours for the Office

**We are changing our Saturday hours to 7:30 – 12:00 instead of 1:00 pm
So please keep in mind when coming in to pick up medications!!**