



## Dr. Mary Jo Cody Joins Waupun Vet Clinic

Dr. Mary Jo Cody will be joining the WVS staff this month. Mary grew up on her parents' dairy farm in Eastman, Wisconsin. This little town is located in Southwestern Wisconsin in a region known as the Driftless area. Within the rolling hills and bluffs of the Driftless area, her family farm specializes in rotational grazing. Although Mary grew up on a small dairy, she enjoys working with all sizes of dairies.

Mary stayed within Wisconsin for all of her education. She completed a bachelor's of Dairy Science from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. She then continued on to complete her veterinary medicine degree from the University of Wisconsin Madison Veterinary School graduating in May of 2024. For the past year she has been working for a dairy practice in the Green Bay area. Mary recently moved to the Waupun area and is very happy to no longer be in Green Bay to deal with the NFL draft traffic.

Mary's favorite part of veterinary medicine is calf and heifer health and management. In her first year of practice, she has enjoyed working alongside producers to improve their youngstock programs through lung ultrasound, data analysis, and protocol reviews. She is excited to continue helping producers as she begins working here at Waupun Veterinary Services.

She's pictured above with one of the first set of twins she had in a calving. Please welcome her as you see her on the farm in the upcoming month.

## IBR Can Still Wreak Havoc on Your Herd

IBR is still out there.

Infectious Bovine

Rhinotracheitis, known as IBR, is a highly contagious respiratory disease in cattle caused by the bovine herpesvirus 1. It affects the upper respiratory tract, eyes, and reproductive system leading to symptoms like fever, nasal discharge, conjunctivitis, and in some cases abortion.

Infected cattle can be carriers, shedding virus even without showing symptoms. Transmission occurs through contact with infected animals, contaminated environments.

We recently had an outbreak at a farm that aborted half the cows in a herd.

When vaccines work, especially across a population, the disease we targeted over years isn't something we pay a lot of attention to.

Forty-five years ago, IBR outbreaks were common in our practice area. I've seen entire dairy herds abort every calf.

Just like the measles outbreak in Texas with three unvaccinated kids dying, people get complacent because the disease just doesn't occur as often.

It's important for every producer to realize IBR is still present in the population and like a serial killer hiding in the shadows, it can wreak havoc on cattle.

# Wart Vaccine, Warts and Show Animals

Warts in cattle are caused by a virus. The virus is shielded by skin cells from the immune system, so the immune response is slow and variable. In normal well-fed animals, warts may occur when animals are young, the immune system eventually kicks in, the warts disappear, and warts rarely re-occur. Most show animals are young and susceptible to the virus, so warts are a common issue leading up to fairs and shows.

One treatment I used for years was to take a pliers, and crush several of the warts, attempting to leave some of the wart on the animal. I wanted to see some bleeding. This allows the immune system exposure to the virus, and ideally the warts disappear. Just removing the wart does not expose the immune system to the virus hidden in the skin cells. This may have been another bull s#@% treatment, we will never know.

A new vaccine has been introduced by Medgene that may be a solution. It is expensive, it requires two doses and on an individual animal treatment protocol it will cost \$15 per dose unless the client takes an entire bottle, then it is \$115.15 for 10 doses, or 5 animals.

We are keeping a small amount of the vaccine in the clinic for people with show animals. It is important that the vaccine is used well before the fair.

## *Dr. Al Reminisces of Years Ago...*

One of the many experiences I miss from my rookie years is treating milk fevers. Not just any milk fever. A lot of them were not fun, but on a spring morning, at 5:30 in the morning, out on a pasture, with the drone of a milker pump in the background, birds chirping (I could still hear back then), the sun just cresting the horizon, nothing was better. Sometimes I ran the calcium so slow, the cow would get up before I finished the first bottle. I often didn't use a halter, if the cow was really out of it, I'd just lean into her curved neck and keep one hand monitoring her heart. Life would just slow down and almost stop.



*Waupun Vet Services*

## MILK QUALITY SERVICES

- ☑ Milk Culturing
- ☑ Milk Records Analysis
- ☑ Mastitis Treatment Protocols
- ☑ Milking Procedure Evaluation

www.waupunvet.com  
920-324-3831



WVS  
Est. 1958  
Waupun Veterinary Services



*Dr. Mark Sosalla and  
Dr. Molly Rogus*

## IMPORTANT NOTICES:

**The Milk Lab  
will be closed on  
Friday, May 16th.**

**To have routine  
labs done with  
results, samples  
must be brought in  
by Wednesday,  
May 14<sup>th</sup> by 2 p.m.**

**The clinic will be  
closed on Monday,  
May 26<sup>th</sup>,  
Memorial Day.**

**Our on-call  
doctors will be  
available for  
emergencies.**