

Dr. Kelsey Meyer Joins WVS



Please welcome Dr. Kelsey Meyer to your farm in the upcoming weeks. Dr. Kelsey is joining Waupun Veterinary Services from northwest Iowa where she grew up on a farm raising feedlot steers, calves, and horses.

She is a new graduate, receiving her veterinary medicine degree from Iowa State University. Dr. Kelsey spent the past 7 years milking at the university's 400 cow dairy. She enjoys working with producers in the parlor to troubleshoot problems and is also working on a master's degree researching pain management for dehorning calves.

Small ruminants also intrigue her, as she believes no two cases are the same and enjoys the challenge.

"I really enjoy working with producers and helping them meet their needs and goals. I'm not afraid to go outside of my comfort zone to tackle any challenge that comes my way," Dr. Kelsey said. "I am excited to get out there and meet all the clients at WVS."

Outside of her recent veterinary studies and work, she enjoys hiking, boating and occasionally fishing. Her large dog, which happens to be the size of a calf, is a Pyrenees mix named Libby. Don't dare confuse her as an Iowa Hawkeye, as she is a proud Iowa State Cyclone.

Perhaps one of the most key facts about Dr. Kelsey is that she comes to us already a diehard Packer's fan and despises the Vikings.

Dr. Molly Rogus Joins WVS

Dr. Molly Rogus is joining WVS from her hometown of Doylestown, Pennsylvania. Although she grew up in suburbia Pennsylvania, she has a full background of dairy and equine experience from the past 8 years.

Dr. Molly is a new graduate receiving her veterinary medicine degree from Cornell University. She received her bachelor of animal science degree from Penn State and spent a summer at a 70-cow tie-stall barn involved in every aspect of working on the dairy, which led her to study veterinary medicine.

In vet school, Dr. Molly spent three years working in the large animal hospital as a student technician learning what drugs and treatments to use for all large animals. She was also a student milker at the school's 150 cow dairy. Researching bovine reproduction took up a lot of her time at school and she even had a cow named after her.

"I really find milk quality and parlor maintenance interesting and hope to eventually get more involved with that," she said.

Working with equine is also an interest of hers as she grew up riding horse and working on horse farms. In college she spent a summer with an equine vet specializing in reproduction. She's looking forward to the variety at WVS between dairy, equine, and small ruminant.

When she's not focused on her veterinary work, Dr. Molly enjoys running, cooking, and baking. She is a proud owner of a small flock of chickens that traveled 913 miles in the car with her all the way from out east to her home by Ripon. One interesting fact is that she has a twin brother named, Dan, who lives in Virginia and helps build ships for the Navy.

Most importantly she does plan to cheer for the Packers but will change her loyalty when they play against the Eagles, even though we all know the Eagles will likely lose. Please welcome her to your farm in the upcoming weeks.



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Or visit: www.waupunvet.com

Dirty Pasteurizer Valves Can Cause Sick Calves

One of the vets has had a couple of interesting sick calf investigations with pasteurizer cleanup as the cause.

In one case, the post pasteurization culture had acceptable levels of coliforms, but the milk was cultured out of the pasteurizer, not out of the spigot or out of an actual calf bottle at the time of feeding, which is what the calf actually drinks.

The two lessons are first, that every surface that milk touches has the potential to contaminate the milk your calf is going to drink. Second, it's not always obvious where the problem resides. Pasteurizer cultures are important for calf health monitoring.



Pictured above is a valve from a pasteurizer that was causing high bacterial counts in the milk fed to the calves.

Reminder:

Call before 10 a.m. for your non-emergency or routine work.

Foreign Bodies: What You Feed Your Cow Could Kill It

Cattle eating hardware was the big issue 40 years ago with chopped feed and with pasture. But there's little pasture used today, and choppers have magnets to pick up metal.

Plastic is the big risk to cattle today, particularly net wrap and plastic twine. There are numerous reports of conditions in which several animals are affected.

The symptoms are vague, so it's hard to know without an extensive necropsy and because the rumen and reticulum have to be opened (which we typically don't do) even on a necropsy, unless we spent an hour doing it we would miss it. Cows lose weight, they may have diarrhea, and in cases are found dead.

In dogs and cats with intestinal blockage we can do radiographs to help diagnose, but in cattle that's not even possible let alone practical.

Prevention is simple but requires effort. Get the plastic off the bales and out of the feed. Even black and white bale wrap torn to an odd size can kill a cow. Don't let plastic twine or net wrap get to a chopper or TMR.



Pictured at left is a net wrap that was removed from a cow. Photo by Dr. James Stangle, DVM

The Public Loo in France

If your wife is on your case about traveling to France, the trip can be enjoyable. But warn her about the public restrooms. Seriously, pictured at right is a gender-neutral public restroom and it was the only choice.

There wasn't even a tree to lean up against. Practice squats to build up your legs before you go.



Photo by Dr. Al