

## Dr. Wade Weber joins WVS



Please welcome Dr. Wade Weber to your farm in the upcoming weeks! Many may already know Wade, as he joins us from the Markesan area where he grew up on his family's farm.

Wade is a new graduate, receiving his veterinary medicine degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Veterinary School. He graduated from Markesan High School and from Marian University in Fond du Lac prior to entering vet school.

Veterinary medicine wasn't Wade's first choice after high school and he never imagined going to school for eight years, but encouragement from his neighbors, the Boelters of Pride View Dairy, started him down this path. He's hauled silage for the farm for years and has always been around cows.

"The entire Boelter family has always been supportive and encouraging. They connected me with Dr. Monty and I've been riding with him for the past few years," Wade said.

Wade focused on dairy cattle while in vet school and has an interest in working with producers on nutrition, calf health and fresh cow work.

"I chose to be a vet because I love working with farmers. They're noble, down to Earth people who are really smart. I also really enjoy working with cows," Wade said. "I'm most excited about building trust and relationships with producers to help them with challenges they're facing now and in the future."

When Wade's not working with cows, you'll find him outdoors on his farm working on his food plots for his hunting land. He's an avid hunter and enjoys deer, turkey and duck hunting. Wade loves fishing in the summer and winter and also hopes to make it out west someday soon for an elk hunt. Welcome Wade!

## New Blood Lab Technician at WVS

Alexis Starr has joined the staff at WVS as a technician in the blood lab. She comes to WVS with a lot of previous lab experience and a degree in biology from UW-Oshkosh.

Alexis and her husband, Chris, live in Oakfield, with their three children Evelyn, 8, Wesley, 4, and Preston, 2. She grew up in the Laconia area on a small hobby farm where her family raised rabbits and goats that she showed at the county fair through Laconia High School FFA. When not in the lab at the clinic, she loves to read, crochet and garden.

Alexis runs the BioPRYN lab testing for pregnancies in cattle, sheep and goats at WVS. She also does the testing for Johnes, BVD, CAE and ELISA. Any blood lab questions will be directed to her.

"I really enjoy doing the pregnancy testing and seeing all the new babies that are on the way," she said. Welcome Alexis!



# WVS Drop-off Product Policy Defined for Clients

We are happy to drop off product when we will be going by your farm. During the last year the requests have multiplied, and the expectations increased to the point that our policy has to be spelled out.

If you would like a product dropped off at our convenience, we will do this, but it may be a week or more before we are close enough with available time to accommodate your request. If we are headed for an emergency or late for a herd check, we're sorry, but even if we are driving by your driveway, your drop-off is not convenient. If you want the product the same day or the next, we will make it happen but will add a call charge for the drive. This will add substantial expense and will probably mean stopping at the clinic is a much more reasonable total cost option. The office staff can set you up as a drop ship client. Drop ship product prices are discounted compared to office prices. On orders under \$200 there is a delivery fee, but it is reasonable and Speedee will usually deliver the next day. Speedee is more reliable than a busy veterinarian trying to service sick animals. Once the information is entered into AH International's computers, you can call AH direct, or our staff can relay a message for drop ship.

We have great friendly office help that can get product ready in advance and you can pick it up on the way through town taking your spouse out for lunch.

## Keep Dead Animals out of Your Feed

Hiking along my fence line in late May, I noticed three buzzards circling the windrows of the neighbor's field. I crossed over, and I had my dogs along, and within a minute they found a dead fawn.

I buried it, mostly because otherwise my dogs would eat it, but also dead animals are a risk in ensiled feed. The toxin makes a cow go down, it looks almost like milk fever, and then it usually dies.

It is extremely difficult to diagnose, one must request specific tests or test the feed which is gone when you realize that your cattle are affected. Because it usually involves just a couple head, it is rarely diagnosed, but it does occur. The spores are in your field dirt for decades, so the risk is ever present.

If you notice a doe standing out in your alfalfa field the day or two after cutting, try to find the fawn that got killed and keep it out of your feed.

## Recruiting New Vets: Starts with Students

There is a shortage of veterinarians throughout the industry, but large animal and particularly food animal veterinarians are hard to find. With close to half the veterinary clinics in the country corporate owned, students are wined and dined from their first day of veterinary school about the benefits of working for a big corporation.

For the last couple of years, we have had open veterinary positions that we have been unable to fill. In response to the crisis, Waupun Veterinary Services is implementing programs to give our practice more exposure to veterinary students. Last month, Emma, Nick, and Al went down to UW-Madison and spoke to the Bovine Club about all the positive attributes of working in a large practice with lots of support and experience, and lots of great farm clients. We had 26 students show up with questions and interactions.

WVS has always entertained veterinary students during their senior year in what is called an externship program. This is usually for 2-week blocks of time. Nick oversees the program, and he screens resumes for students that we feel we could possibly hire in the future.

A year from this summer we hope to start a 4-week program that brings first- and second-year veterinary students into the clinic to give them exposure to the behind-the-scenes aspects of the practice. Remember these students can choose to spend their lives as small animal vets, have less pressure and less work hours each week. We are selling them on our practice and on food animal veterinary medicine. Interact with them, be encouraging and positive, it is important.

## On-the-Farm Reminders for the Summer Season

*\* Remember to get the water-cooling system working and make sure every spray nozzle is functioning.*

*\* Get your fly control system up and running. The mosquitoes are out and the flies are soon to follow. We have products and we can point you towards great sprayer systems. Talk to your herd vet or Dr. Monty.*

*\* We all think of our generators as being important during severe thunderstorms and winter ice storms, but in the coming decade, the electric power grid overloads will come between 5 and 10 p.m. when the sun is shining, it's hot and there's very little wind. Everyone comes home from work plugs in their electric car and cranks up the air-conditioning while they cook dinner and take a hot shower. It's not going to work. Make sure your generators are ready to go in the summer.*