



Word from the Herd

Louisa Veterinary Service

Summer 2023



Livestock Show Season Is Upon Us

Please check your entry requirements. Some shows require health papers and others have requirements for testing or vaccinations that must be listed on the health papers. If you need health papers, please let us know as soon as you enter. We will need a minimum of a week's notice to be able to get you on the schedule and complete whatever testing may be required before you travel. We have created a fillable form for you to complete that has the information we need for the certificate. You can find the form at

https://www.louisavetservice.com/files/ugd/9d6edd_152c8e024eea4a4fa3e96f49e37236c9.pdf You can email the completed form back to us at louisavet@gmail.com.





This is just a friendly reminder from LVS that the new FDA guidance regarding over-the-counter medications officially started on June 11th.

How will this affect you?

- You will likely not be able to get any more OTC products at your local Co-op or feed store unless they are selling out their inventory.
- If you are using an online pharmacy to get prescription meds you need to list us as the veterinarian. If we haven't been to your farm in the past year, we will not be able to fill the prescription and will call you to schedule a visit.
- If you'd like to order the medication from us, please call or email the office. We can drop ship to you for convenience, but it does add \$10 to the cost if the order is less than \$100.
- Penicillin is still on back order, but we do have some at the office. If you need it please call us and we'll help you decide if it is what you need and if we can dispense you some.

Listeria vs. Polio

It's spring or even early summer and you have a goat that's acting differently. Could it be **listeriosis** or **polioencephalomalacia** (PEM)? It can be tricky deciding which is happening. Rapid diagnosis and treatment are the key to your animal's survival in either case. This is not a "watch, and see" situation!

Clinical signs in both listeriosis and PEM include mild to severe neurological changes, such as:

<u>Listeria</u>	<u>Polio</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• decreased appetite• fever• one-sided facial paralysis• drooling/inability to swallow effectively• turned neck and head	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• head pressing• stargazing (repetitive eye movement)• seizures
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• dullness/depression• blindness• incoordination• circling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• dullness/depression• blindness• incoordination• circling

As you can see, they can differ slightly in their presentation. They also can share common symptoms.

Treatment involves multiple injections everyday for a minimum of one week in either case. Injections include:

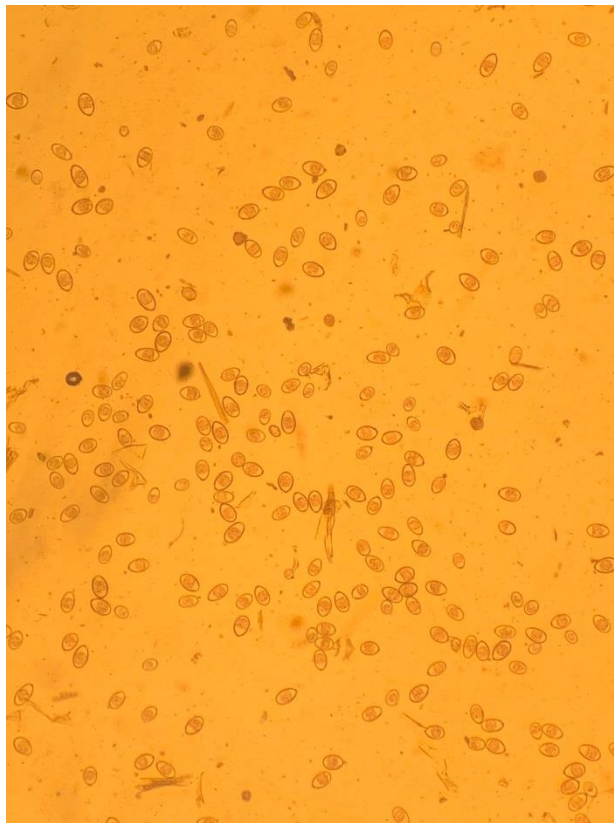
<u>Listeria</u>	<u>Polio</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Penicillin• Oxytetracycline (LA200)• Banamine• Vitamin B	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dexamethasone• Vitamin B• Supportive Care (fluids, etc)

The success of treatment is on your ability to complete these injections consistently for at least a week, as well as early diagnosis and intervention.

It is important to note that PEM is caused by a nutritional imbalance which will need to be addressed. Meanwhile, listeria is caused by an environmental bacteria which can be transmitted to humans through raw milk consumption. Also, keep in mind, this form of listeria is the neurological listeriosis and not the abortive listeriosis.

Coccidia Alert

It's the season for coccidia in young lambs, kids, and calves. Coccidia are an internal parasite, **different than stomach worms**, that invade the small intestines. They are tiny, but dangerous in large numbers because they can damage the intestines so much that the affected animal can't absorb protein. This can cause the animal to develop a **pot-bellied appearance** and to be **slow-moving/weak**. Animals are often affected between the **ages of 2-8 months**. Below is a microscopic picture of a heavy load of coccidia. There are limited treatments available for coccidia. One is Corid (amprolium), the labeled dose is appropriate for cattle, but must be increased for goats and sheep. It's given once a day for 5 days and has a very bitter taste. It's usually helpful to dilute it slightly with Gatorade or Koolaid. The other treatment is Ponazuril, a compounded substance that taste like vanilla. It must be purchased from a veterinarian and kept refrigerated. It is given once by mouth and repeated in 21 days. If you want to know if your animal is ailing from a heavy coccidia load you can bring a fecal sample to your veterinarian for testing.



Pinkeye Vaccine Update

As many of you know, our practice, and several of the surrounding veterinary practices, use a regional pinkeye vaccine made from culturing the eyes of cattle from Central Virginia. Currently this vaccine has two strains of Mycoplasma and 5 strains of Moraxella in it.

We really need to update the Moraxella bovis cultures (the most common cause of pinkeye in cattle). In order to do this, we will need some of you to swab the eyes of 1-2 cattle affected with pinkeye. Swabbing is very easy. You secure the animal's head and swab ONLY the tear portion of the affected eye, once with a plain swab and once with a Mycoplasma swab. Then you put the swabs in a cooler and bring them to us here at the office. We will send them off and have them typed and compared to the current strains in the vaccine. If they are different, we will let you know and likely add them to next year's vaccine.

We ALL want to keep improving our product to keep improving the health of the cattle we care for. Please let us know if you are having a pinkeye problem this year and are willing to take some swabs. We will also be asking for feedback on the single dose pinkeye vaccine and how well it is working. If you have any thoughts on this, please share them at louisavet@gmail.com.



Need Your Syringes Tuned UP?



Bring your pistol grip syringes into the office for the following:

- Thorough cleaning and disinfecting.
- Lubricating O-rings with a safe oil.
- Ordering replacement parts for parts beyond repair.

Why is it important to keep syringes in good working order?

1. Reduces vaccination site reactions.
2. Increases the efficacy of the vaccine if the syringes are cleaned correctly.
3. Helps prevent arthritis in your hands by operating more smoothly.

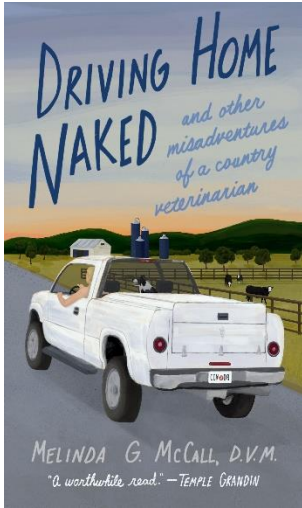
This service will be billed at \$25 for every 1-3 syringes, and we will call you when your syringes are ready.



So You Want To Go To Vet School

Hi everyone! Anna here. This past year, I've had the honor of riding along with the amazing, Dr. Melinda McCall. My first day shadowing at Louisa Vet, I was deep in the process of Vet School applications. I put a lot of pressure on myself to be the "perfect" applicant. Flash forward to now - I start vet school at Michigan State in August. In my blog post I've highlighted some tips I found helpful when applying to vet school. Feel free to share the post with any aspiring vet student in your life!

See Anna's Blog post at <https://www.louisavetservice.com/blog>



Don't forget to pre-order your copy of Dr. McCall's book.

Publication Date August 2023

Available at <https://www.drmelindaauthor.com/>

NEED BOOSTER VACCINES?

If you will need booster vaccines for your cattle this summer, please let us know ahead of time so we can be sure we have the vaccines you need on hand. We can also drop ship directly to you to save you the time of the trip to the office.