



# BUILDING THE FOUNDATION

2018 Dairy and Veal  
Healthy Calf Conference

*Tuesday, November 27  
Stratford, ON*

*Thursday, November 29  
Maxville, ON*

The first  
90 producers  
to register  
receive a  
**FREE 3.7 LITRE  
CALF BOTTLE!**



# BUILDING THE FOUNDATION

2018 Dairy and Veal Healthy Calf Conference

# AGENDA

Tuesday, November 27 & Thursday, November 29, 2018

Healthy calves are the building blocks of a successful dairy, veal, or dairy-beef operation. Getting calves off to a good start can translate into lower mortality rates, higher market prices, decreased use of livestock medicines, lower costs of production and, ultimately, less stress for you, the calf-raiser.



The Healthy Calf Conference focuses on practical ways you can improve the health and welfare of your calves. After leaving the conference, you will have the knowledge needed to go back to your farm and make simple changes to your management to improve the lifelong well-being and performance of your calves.

Registration includes a full day of talks from expert speakers, a large tradeshow, hot lunch, electronic conference proceedings, and Calf Care resources.

## EARLY BIRD RATE

\$90/person +hst  
(before November 1st, 2018)

## REGULAR RATE

\$100/person +hst  
(after November 1st, 2018)

## STUDENT RATE

\$40/person +hst  
(student ID required)

We've worked hard to bring you the same registration rate as 2016. Thank you to our sponsors – we could not offer this rate without their generous support.

## DATE AND LOCATION:

**Tuesday, November 27th, 2018**

The Arden Park Hotel  
552 Ontario Street  
Stratford, ON N5A 3J3

**Thursday, November 29th, 2018**

Maxville & District Sports Complex  
25 Fair Street  
Maxville, ON K0C 1T0

**TIME:** 9:30 am – 3:00 pm

## 8:30 AM REGISTRATION OPENS

## 9:30 AM WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

## 9:45 AM GROUP HOUSING OF CALVES: WHY, WHEN, AND HOW?



**Dr. Trevor DeVries**  
*University of Guelph*

Ready to make the transition to group-housed calves? Already grouping your calves but seeing some health or behaviour problems? Group housing calves isn't as simple as putting all your calves into one pen. Trevor will share top tips on grouping calves, why grouping calves can be beneficial, when calves should be grouped, and how to introduce calves to groups.

Dr. Trevor DeVries is a Canada Research Chair in Dairy Cattle Behavior and Welfare and Professor in the Department of Animal Biosciences at the University of Guelph. Trevor received his B.Sc. in Agriculture from the University of British Columbia (UBC) in 2001. Immediately following he began graduate studies at UBC, where he received his Ph.D. in 2006. Following that, he spent one year as a post-doctoral fellow with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. In 2007 he was appointed as faculty with the University of Guelph in the Department of Animal Biosciences. In this position Trevor leads a highly productive research program focused on dairy cattle nutrition, management, behavior, and welfare.

## 10:30 AM THE ART OF CALF NUTRITION



**Dr. Michael Ballou**  
*Texas Tech University*

What if reducing the risk of respiratory disease and scours in your calves was as easy as feeding them the right diet? It can be! Dr. Ballou will share the secrets to feeding calves to prevent these common calffood diseases by developing calf immunity through nutrition.

Dr. Michael Ballou is an Associate Dean for Research and a Professor of Nutritional Immunology in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at Texas Tech University. He completed a Bachelor's degree in Animal Science from the University of California, Davis (UC Davis) in 2002. Michael remained at UC Davis and completed a Ph.D. in Nutritional Biology with an emphasis in Immunology in 2007. Michael's research is primarily focused on how nutrition and management influence the health and performance of dairy calves, heifers, and transition cows. He has authored or co-authored over 60 peer-reviewed articles, one book chapter, and 120 scientific meeting abstracts. Michael has received research support from private foundations, industry, the USDA, and the US State Department.

## 11:30 AM LUNCH AND TRADESHOW

## 1:00 PM HOW YOUR VETERINARIAN CAN HELP YOU REACH YOUR CALF-RAISING GOALS



**Dr. Dave Renaud**  
*University of Guelph/ACER Consulting*

Are calves included in your regular herd health visits, or are they overshadowed by milking herd health concerns? By including calves in your herd health visit, you are able to ensure the future of your herd will be as profitable as possible. Calves who receive the highest quality care will provide a high return on investment once they enter the milking herd. Your veterinarian is an extra set of eyes in the calf barn and can be key to overcoming common calf health challenges. Calffood disease is common, but it shouldn't be normal! Working closely with your veterinarian can help calves avoid the common roadblocks to success.

Dr. Dave Renaud is an Assistant Professor at the University of Guelph and Consultant at ACER Consulting. His research focus is on identifying factors associated with calf health, specifically in the veal sector. Dave developed an interest

in the health and welfare of dairy calves during his time working with a large veal operation and through the development of the *Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Veal Cattle*. As a practicing veterinarian, he focuses on preventative medicine to improve the health and welfare of dairy cows and calves.

**1:45 PM AIMING FOR ZERO MORTALITY  
- A CALF CARE PANEL**

The old saying, “Where you have livestock, you have deadstock,” can seem especially true among unweaned calves. What if it was possible to not only reduce your mortality rate, but have zero mortality in your calf barn? These progressive calf managers are proof that you can have extremely low, or even zero mortality in your calf herd. They will share the tips and tricks they use to help their calves thrive. Come prepared with your questions to get the most out of this interactive panel.



**Aaron Keunen**

Aaron is a graduate of Ridgetown College, University of Guelph. As a part owner, he works with Mapleview Agri Ltd in Palmerston, Ontario. Mapleview Agri is a family owned business specializing in the manufacturing of milk replacer. He started with Mapleview Agri in 2013 as their Cattle Division Manager, where he manages 18 contract cattle feeders in southwestern Ontario. This includes cattle procurement, marketing and protocol implementation. Since then, his role has evolved to include Research Coordinator, as well as Sales Support in Western Canada. In 2016, Mapleview Agri built a research facility that houses 320 calves and completes milk replacer and feed additive trials. As Research Coordinator, he connects with industry partners and academic institutions to arrange and conduct research projects. Aaron believes implementing validated calf protocols through research is an important pillar in reducing calf mortality on any operation.



**Jayne Dietrich**

Jayne is a graduate of Centralia College, where she was a class nine participant of the Advanced Agricultural Leadership program. She is an alumni of Outstanding Young Farmers (representing Ontario), and past president of Bruce County Federation of Agriculture. Jayne, along with her husband Ralph, son Greg, and son-in-law Andrew Bennett own Character Dairy Genetics in Mildmay, Ontario. They are responsible for the birth of 80–100 calves

per month and raise up to 350 bottle fed calves at a time in Wisconsin-style barns. Like the title of this panel, “Aiming for zero mortality” is certainly a goal of their operation.



**Laura Schuurman**

Laura grew up on a dairy farm in central Alberta where her parents and brother continue dairy farming today. She moved to Ontario to attend the University of Guelph and after obtaining a degree in biology in 2006, she began working as a herdsman for Joe Loewith & Sons. At that point they were milking around 250 cows. Since then, the herd has expanded to approximately 450 milking. Laura’s responsibilities have diversified within the herd, but she remains the primary calf manager. By working with the progressive owners at Joe Loewith & Sons, Laura has been able to implement a calf program that has reduced calf mortality to nearly zero.



**Emily De Benetti**

Emily is a graduate from the University of Guelph with a degree in Animal Biology. She started her calf-career with Grober Nutrition after graduating in 2013 where she worked as Project Manager internally and Account Manager for Shur-gain Ontario and Landmark West. Emily then joined Oxford Cattle Company where she has been the Calf Manager for the past few years. Oxford Cattle Company is a vertically integrated, family owned and operated business in Burgessville, Ontario that has found great success in raising cattle from calf to finished steer. The company has integrated animal transport, dry feed and CFIA regulation milk replacer manufacturing as well as bio fuel production into its plumage as the company has grown. Emily’s role as Calf Manager in the changing landscape of a growing business has prompted her to be creative and dynamic in the development of employee and calf protocols.

**3:15 PM CONFERENCE ADJOURNS**

**This agenda is subject to change.**  
For more information on the conference, please visit [www.calfcare.ca](http://www.calfcare.ca); call the office at (519) 824-2942 or email [projects@livestockalliance.ca](mailto:projects@livestockalliance.ca)  
  
Get connected with the Healthy Calf Conference and join the conversation using hashtag #HCC2018

# REGISTRATION

The first 90 producers receive a free 3.7 litre calf bottle!

Please complete all sections on both sides of this form and carefully tear out along the perforated lines.

Your full 2018 Healthy Calf Conference Program Package includes: all seminars, tradeshow, luncheon, conference proceedings, and Calf Care resources.

Please note that space is limited and registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment must be received by Veal Farmers of Ontario to reserve your spot.

**Cancellations after November 16th and no-shows at the conference will not be refunded.**

For further information, please call the VFO office at (519) 824-2942 or by email [projects@livestockalliance.ca](mailto:projects@livestockalliance.ca)

**To register online please visit:  
(Additional fees may apply)**

**Stratford:** [hcc2018stratford.eventbrite.ca](http://hcc2018stratford.eventbrite.ca)  
**Maxville:** [hcc2018maxville.eventbrite.ca](http://hcc2018maxville.eventbrite.ca)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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City: \_\_\_\_\_

Province: \_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Please indicate the names of others you would like to register at the same time:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Which location?**     Stratford     Maxville     Proceedings only

**Would you like to be included in our Calf Care Corner e-newsletter list?**     Yes     No

*Calf Care Corner delivers the latest information and ideas to help producers improve the way calves are raised on farm. For more information, visit [www.calfcare.ca](http://www.calfcare.ca).*

Please help us better understand the composition of our delegates by checking all that apply:

- I am a dairy producer  
 I sell my bull calves  I finish my bull calves for the veal market  I finish my bull calves for the beef market  
 I am a veal producer  I am an industry partner  I am dairy-beef producer  I am a student

In order to receive student pricing, a valid student ID must be presented at entry:

Name of school: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any special dietary requirements or other needs we need to be aware of: \_\_\_\_\_

	EARLY BIRD PRICING <i>(Register before November 1st, 2018)</i>				REGULAR PRICING <i>(If registering after November 1st, 2018)</i>		
	Indicate # Required	EARLY BIRD PRICE	Indicate # Required	STUDENT PRICE	Indicate # Required	REGULAR PRICE	Total Amount
Full 2018 HCC Program Package		\$90/person		\$40/person		\$100/person	
Proceedings Only		-		-		\$30/person	
						Plus hst (13%)	
						<b>Total</b>	

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!  
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!**

Your registration is not complete without full payment. Please indicate your payment method below:

- Cheque (payable to Veal Farmers of Ontario)  Visa  MasterCard

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 3 Digit Security Code (located on back of card): \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**SEND YOUR COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM BY:**

**Mail:** Veal Farmers of Ontario  
449 Laird Road, Unit 12, Guelph, ON, N1G 4W1  
**Email:** info@livestockalliance.ca  
**Fax:** (519) 824-2534

**QUESTIONS?**

Please contact the Veal Farmers of Ontario:  
**Phone:** (519) 824-2942  
**Email:** projects@livestockalliance.ca

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## TRADESHOW





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