

# News Letter Winter 2012

**Office Hours :** Mon, Tues, Thurs - 8:30-5:00 211 McQuay Rd., RR#3 Yarker, On. K0K

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Wed - 8:30-7:00, Fri - 8:30-4:00, Sat - 10-1:00

**(613) 358-2833 or 1-888-832-1904** (toll free)

**Farm Emergency Service by App't.**

## ***Dental Disease Hurts! Does your pet have bad breath?***

About 75% of dogs and cats develop dental disease by the age of 3 years. The two most common forms are **gingivitis** and **periodontal disease**. Symptoms of dental disease are: lack of interest in food or water, drooling excessively, bad odour coming from the mouth and weight loss from a poor appetite. Lack of eating can also be the result of an abscessed tooth, which is seen as swelling on one side of the face. This would require immediate veterinary attention.

**Gingivitis:** The **plaque** accumulates on the teeth and gum line forming **tartar**. The tartar then builds-up above or below the gum line which causes irritation to the gums. The resulting inflammation and bleeding of the gums is called **gingivitis**. Now a cleaning would be needed. **Periodontal Disease:** Occurs when gingivitis is not treated. It is inflammation or infection of the tissues surrounding the tooth. The gums tend to recede allowing the jawbone and root of the tooth to be exposed. This can result in **loose teeth** or more severe health problems; such as liver, kidney and heart diseases. This is a **severe dental disease** - don't wait - call us today. **February is Dental Health Month! We are offering 5% off on**

**Dental Work!** This includes dental cleaning, polishing and tooth extractions under general anesthetic.

**Daily Tooth Care:** The best way to **prevent** tartar build-up is by brushing your dogs / cats teeth daily. (It could give them 5 more years!) There are also pet foods / treats and toys that can help.

### **Steps to follow when brushing the teeth:**

- 1) Make sure you have dog/cat toothpaste. Human toothpaste can be harmful to your pet.
- 2) Use a toothbrush that is recommended for your pet.
- 3) Spread the toothpaste around the teeth, making sure all teeth and gums are covered.
- 4) Take the toothbrush and very gently brush with a front to back motion.
- 5) Start doing this on puppies / kittens and their teeth will be sparkling clean! NB: Puppies/kittens have 26 baby teeth - after 6 months: dogs have 42 / cats have 30 adult teeth.

**Microchips! Our survey revealed a great interest in microchips for your pets!** Each year, thousands of pets go missing and are picked up by Human Societies or other organizations with no way of finding who their owners are. Microchips can help solve this issue! Animal microchips are the size of a tiny grain of rice and are implanted beneath the surface of the skin between the shoulder blades by veterinarians or animal shelters. A wand reader scans the microchip in the animal and reads a 15 digit number. The numbers are tracked by Petwatch or other organizations. They have the owners name, phone number and emergency contact number. It is important to keep your information updated, especially if you move or change phone number.

**Pet Health Insurance** is available for most veterinary services; however, it is best to learn about what pet insurance covers before an unexpected emergency happens. Here are two websites for more information: [www.ospcainsurance.com](http://www.ospcainsurance.com) and [www.petsecure.com](http://www.petsecure.com).

**Did you know:** The tongue of a blue whale is as long as an elephant?

Explore our website: the new articles may be of interest to you [www.lanevetservices.ca](http://www.lanevetservices.ca). Email us at [info@lanevetservices.ca](mailto:info@lanevetservices.ca) to get newsletters, reminders, surveys, etc online. **“Prevention is the best medicine!”** **Cattle News:** **Calving Tips - When to call for help:** Once the water bag breaks, the calf should be delivered within 4 – 6 hours, usually within 1 hour. A cow straining for 1 hour with no progress or a cow with nothing showing 4 hours after the water bag breaks needs to be checked. Heifers with persistent hymens (a cord or ring in the vagina) will not calve on their own. A colicky cow or heifer could have a twisted uterus. She will get up and down frequently, as well as kick at her belly. **Guidelines to determine if there is enough room:** **Normal Presentation** – the head must be resting on the knees and both feet are present in the birth canal. One foot is first pulled 15 cm (one hand’s length) outside the vulva, then holding that foot in position, the second foot is pulled out an equal distance. At these distances both shoulders of the calf will have passed the bony entrance of the pelvis. **Backwards Presentation** – both hocks present past the vulva or there is a tail only.

**Artificial Respiration for the Calf:**

For the calf with a heartbeat that is not breathing, here is a newer technique to try:

1. Place the calf on it side and clear the mouth and nostrils of mucus.
2. Have an assistant hold the mouth open and pull the tongue out to help open the airway
3. While kneeling behind the chest of the calf, use 1 hand to grasp the upper part of the front leg while the fingers of the other hand are hooked underneath the last rib.
4. The chest wall is elevated by lifting the top leg and the edge of the rib cage until the calf is almost lifted off the ground thus expanding the chest. Pause in this position.
5. Next, the chest walls are firmly compressed with flat hands.
6. Repeat approximately once every 5 seconds until spontaneous breathing occurs

**Equine News:**

Horses are prone to injury and those **wounds** that are deep or large, take a long time to heal over – resulting in the development of proud flesh. **Laser Therapy** is used to improve the circulation in the damaged tissues, which greatly speeds healing. Any horse can get Tetanus from a wound and therefore require an annual Tetanus shot as well as Rabies vaccine. **Blanketing:** Many horses are blanketed to protect them for the cold weather, rain, ice or snow. Damp or wet blankets can freeze and lower the body temperature giving a chill. Check for holes or loose straps on the blanket that your horse could get caught in. It is best to have an extra blanket!

**Sheep News: Pre-lambing Tips:**

Cobalt iodized blue salt and sheep mineral should be available throughout the gestation to grow healthy lambs. Start feeding extra grain (for energy) 5 to 6 wks before lambing to the thinner, wider (possibly 2 to 3 lambs) & older ewes to prevent pregnancy disease. Inject the ewes 14 days before lambing with a 7-way Clostridial vaccine. Deworming the ewes shortly before lambing will reduce the worm population. Colostrum to each lamb is crucial for their survival (i.e. tube feeding). Provide a heat lamp for newborns; they can get hypothermia very fast when they are still wet. \_\_\_\_\_

**“Congrat**

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**ulations to the winners!”** **New Patients of the Month...** Sept - “Stormy” Kellogg, Yarker  
 Oct - “Duncan” Craig, Yarker Nov - “Felix” Smith, Odessa Dec  
 - “Ebony” Sitt, Yarker **Birthing of the Month...** Sept - (no  
 births) Oct - Willis Morgan, Roblin  
 Nov - (no births) Dec - (no births)

**Announcement:** We were one of the Top 3 Veterinary Clinics in Ontario recognized for exceptional client communication skills at the AAHA Convention, 2011.

**Did you know:** Pigs can cover a mile in 7.5 minutes running at top speed?

**“Prevention is the best medicine!”**