



*Our vision is to deliver superior animal health management solutions for our patients while providing value to our clients, a rewarding working experience for our practice team and support for our community*

*Our team is committed to delivering the highest quality of veterinary medicine and exceptional customer service with integrity, compassion and accountability. We strive to keep up to date with advances in veterinary medicine that will enable us to stay leaders in the deliverance of high quality veterinary services to our clients and their animals.*

## Ontario Goat Gazette - May is Fly Control Month!

From May to October, flies can be a problem for your livestock operation, with peak levels occurring from mid-July to mid-September. Flies are an irritant to livestock, farm workers, and neighbours.

The two most common fly species in livestock operations are house flies and stable flies. Bites can be painful and cause restlessness in animals. Further, animals are less likely to consume feed with flies on it, and flies can be a source of disease spread. Some pathogens that can be spread by flies include bacteria that cause mastitis and pinkeye. In order to prevent flies from negatively impacting productivity and becoming a food safety hazard, fly control in livestock operations is essential. Preventing a population build up is easier than controlling established populations. Take proactive steps control flies before your facility is heavily infested.

Controlling and eliminating flies at early life stages (eggs or larvae) is most effective. Flies can move up to one kilometer, so ensure your fly control program targets all potential breeding sources within this radius.

### Fly control in dairy operations

It is extremely important to control fly populations in the milk parlour and milk house, as flies can pose a food safety risk. These areas are especially attractive to flies if they are wet or milk residue is left on any surface. Screens and well fitted doors can prevent flies from entering the milk house, and doors should be closed as much as possible. You may need a separate pest control plan for your milk parlour and milk house, as some pest control measures or chemicals may be prohibited. For tips on fly control visit: <http://www.ontariogoat.ca/goat-gazette/>



### Inside

**Small Ruminant** *Fly control – time to review your protocols?*

**Equine** *Caring for your older companion*

**Bovine** *Protect. Restore. Defend.*

## Caring for Your Older Companion



Advances in nutrition, management and health care are helping, horses are living longer, more useful lives. It's not uncommon to find horses and ponies living well into their 20s and 30s. While genetics play a role in determining life span, you too, can have an impact.

You may think that turning your old-timer out to pasture is the kindest form of retirement. But horses are individuals. Some enjoy being idle; others prefer to be a part of the action. Whatever you do, don't ignore the horse. Proper nutrition, care and exercise will help the animal thrive. Follow these guidelines to develop a total management plan for your older horse:

1. Observe your horse on a regular basis. Watch for changes in body condition, behavior and attitude. Address problems, even seemingly minor ones, right away.
2. Feed a high-quality diet. Avoid dusty and moldy feeds.
3. Feed your older horse away from younger, more aggressive ones so it won't have to compete for feed.
4. Feed at more frequent intervals so as not to upset the digestive system. Two to three times daily is best.
5. Provide plenty of fresh, clean, tepid water. Excessively cold water reduces consumption, which can lead to colic and other problems.
6. Adjust and balance rations to maintain proper body conditions. A good rule of thumb is to be able to feel the ribs but not see them.
7. Provide adequate, appropriate exercise to maintain muscle tone, flexibility and mobility.
8. Groom your horse frequently to promote circulation and skin health.
9. Be aware that older horses are prone to tumors. Look for any unusual lumps or growths from head to tail as well as beneath the tail (especially on gray horses).
10. Schedule routine checkups with your equine veterinarian. Call immediately if you suspect a problem.

A quick response to ailments, injuries or a decline in fitness can keep your older horse from having a serious or prolonged setback. That means less worry for you and a better quality of life for your old friend. Do not hesitate to contact your veterinarian for more information about caring for your older horse.

[www.aaep.org](http://www.aaep.org)

# Protect. Restore. Defend.



Elanco Animal Health, a division of Eli Lilly and Company (NYSE: LLY), announced the approval of Imrestor™ in Canada – the first product of its kind for the dairy industry.

Available only by veterinary prescription, Imrestor is approved by the Veterinary Drugs Directorate, Health Canada for the reduction in the incidence of clinical mastitis in the first 30 days of lactation in periparturient dairy cows and periparturient replacement dairy heifers. Imrestor is a protein that helps support the natural function of a dairy cow’s immune system during the critical time around calving, when she is most vulnerable to mastitis.

“Imrestor is an innovative new approach for reducing clinical mastitis by proactively helping to restore the function of a cow’s immune system,” explained Paul Rapnicki, DVM, MBA, Associate Technical Advisor, Elanco Animal Health. Pivotal efficacy studies conducted for Health Canada approval showed a 31.9 percent reduction in clinical mastitis incidence in the first 30 days of lactation among cows and heifers that received Imrestor compared with control animals<sup>1</sup>. Mastitis is the most common disease among dairy cows, affecting as many as 1 in 4 cows<sup>2</sup>. Clinical mastitis affects each cow’s potential leading to reduced conception rates<sup>3</sup>, an increased risk for another case of mastitis<sup>4</sup>, and lost milk production potential throughout the lactations.

## Dairy Cows Experience Immune Suppression At Calving

Immune suppression at calving can leave cows vulnerable to infection and an increased risk of mastitis<sup>6</sup>. Dairy cows and heifers are in need of protection particularly at calving due to a decline in the function of neutrophils – the primary type of white blood cell that recognizes and destroys harmful bacteria. Imrestor helps restore the function<sup>7\*</sup> and increase the number<sup>1,7\*</sup> of neutrophils at calving which helps the cow to fight invading bacteria that cause mastitis.

“We know that even the best producers need a little help protecting their dairy herds. Imrestor is a proactive approach that can help keep cows healthy and help reduce the frustration, financial strain and stress associated with treating mastitis,” added Rapnicki.

Mastitis is the most common illness treated with antimicrobials in dairy cows<sup>8</sup>. The launch of Imrestor is aligned with Elanco’s eight-point antibiotic stewardship plan that ensures the responsible use of antibiotics, reduces shared-class antibiotic use and replaces antibiotics with alternatives. The plan was outlined by Elanco President Jeff Simmons at an antibiotic stewardship forum last year.

Available in pre-filled, single-dose syringes, Imrestor is administered with two injections – one seven days prior to the anticipated date of calving<sup>\*\*</sup> and the other within 24 hours after calving – thus helping to protect the cow against mastitis when she needs it most.

Imrestor does not require a meat or milk withdrawal period. Imrestor will be available for purchase in 10-dose pack sizes. The product availability date will be announced at a later time. Dairy producers are encouraged to contact their veterinarian to discuss incorporating Imrestor into their herd health program.