**NAVAN VETERINARY SERVICES – JULY 2018 NEWSLETTER**

**TRACEABILITY AND PREMISE IDENTIFICATION (PID)**

Do you own or care for livestock?

Dairy producers already have a valid PID to ship milk.

Beef producers in Ontario should be aware that mandatory traceability will be implemented at some point and will require producers to register premise identification (PID) numbers, report cattle movements, and individually identify cattle using approved RFID tags (a regulation already in place).

All livestock producers (goats, alpaca, llamas, chickens, etc.) Will require a PID.

Here at Navan Veterinary Services we are required to submit a valid premise identification number (PID) for all sample submissions to Guelph/Kemptville lab. A PID is required on the submission form otherwise a charge will be added by the university of Guelph.

Please contact your local premises registry to confirm or acquire a valid PID for your livestock site.

All farms should be pr0 active and obtain this number to keep with their records. Please call us once you have received your PID and we can record it in our records.

**A PID can be obtained for free by calling 1-855-697-7743 or visiting www.ontarioppr.ca**

They will need your farm address and they may confirm some contact information with you. Otherwise it is a quick call.

*This years annual Twilight Meeting is being held at*

*Riverdown Holsteins*

*John, Karen and Justin Velthuis & Ron and Betty Eastman*

*8728 Marvelville Rd, Metcalfe, Ontario*

*Tuesday, July 17, 2018*

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**RABIES VACCINES**

The Population& Public Health Division of The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care has recently revised their Rabies Immunization Regulations for animals in Ontario, including livestock. In the past, rabies immunization requirements for animals have varied from health unit to health unit across Ontario. As of July 1, 2018 all rabies immunization requirements will apply uniformly across all health units in the province, including immunization of certain classes of livestock. However, don’t fret! According to the Ministry the vast majority of Ontario livestock will not fall into the category requiring rabies vaccinations as there is a large exemption clause in this legislation.

The new law does not apply to livestock that is only accessible to the “person or persons who are responsible for the care and control of such animals”. Essentially, the new requirements fall on those livestock owners that promote or encourage the public to have direct contact with their animals. (Petting Zoos, riding schools, therapy animals etc).

The question has arisen recently re 4-H and other livestock events (local and county shows). According to the Ministry Newsletter, these shows would also be exempt from rabies vaccination requirements unless “these animals are intended to come into direct contact with the general public”. (Petting, feeding)

As long as reasonable measures (signage, physical barriers etc) are used to dissuade the public from accessing the animals they would be exempt from the rabies vaccine requirements.

However, there may be individual fair boards or event organizer decisions that require participants to have the animals vaccinated. Legally all rabies vaccines must be administered by a veterinarian.

If you need more info, we can provide an information page supplied by the Ministry.