



THE Agri-Vator

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Fly Control Update

by Rob Costello

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For many of us, fly season is right around the corner. So it's back to the routine of fly baits, traps, sprays and fly predators. Combine that with renewed efforts with calf bedding, mowing, feed management, sanitation and clean-up. Whew! The good news is that this year's fly season brings some changes in fly control products that will greatly improve their distribution – of the products, that is, not the flies.

The first is that Central Life Sciences is introducing a ClariFly® Add-Pack that can be added directly to milk or milk replacer right on the farm. ClariFly® Larvicide is a feed supplement that prevents adult house flies, stable flies, face flies, and horn flies from developing in and emerging from the manure of treated cattle. The larvicide passes through the digestive system and into the manure where it disrupts the normal molting process of the fly larvae.

In the past, ClariFly® has been available as an additive for dry feeds, including calf starter feeds. Fly protection was related to when a calf began eating dry feed and how much feed it consumed. Now you can begin building that protection as soon as the calf is drinking from a bottle or pail. The Add-Pack can be mixed with both medicated and non-medicated milk replacers as well as whole milk.

“ Now you can begin building protection as soon as the calf is drinking from a bottle. ”
Rob Costello



DISCOUNT
\$1.75 PER BAG

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Now Is The Time To Assess Your Nutrient Management Situation On Your Farm

by Leon Ressler

Several developments in the Pennsylvania Nutrient Management Program are likely to have an impact on many livestock operations. In May of 2017 new standard animal weights were approved by the State Conservation Commission. These new weights for calculating animal units on a farm will be effective on October 1, 2019 which is the beginning of the 2020 crop year. The animal weights were increased to be more in line with current livestock weights. For example, a mature Holstein cow was calculated at 1,300 pounds but the new weight is 1,450 pounds. This will mean for some producers who previously had less than 2,000 pounds of animal weight per acre will now exceed that weight limit per acre.

This is very significant since with less than 2,000 pounds per acre only a manure management plan is required. However, if the farm now has more than 2,000 pounds per acre an Act 38 Nutrient Management plan is required.

Another development is the effort to conduct farm inspections to evaluate if the operations are current with their Nutrient Management Plans and Agricultural Erosion

and Sedimentation Plans. In 2016 as a part of the Chesapeake Bay Program "reboot" the Environmental Protection Agency initiated a program to inspect 10 percent of the farms in the Bay Watershed each year. In most counties the local Conservation Districts are doing the inspections. All these programs can be confusing and you may want some help to sort out exactly where you stand.

Over the next few months I am available to visit farms as requested to assist farmers in determining if they are current in their plans. If something is lacking I will assist the farmer in getting connected to people and resources to get in compliance before you are inspected. I will do this review for free. As an employee of Penn State Extension, I do not have any regulatory role, Penn State Extension is strictly an educational organization.

There are two reasons to do such a review now. First it would be good to determine if you are in compliance before your turn to be inspected occurs. Second if you need an Act 38 plan there are funds available at the moment to assist with the cost. The funds are limited and some of the funds expire in April of 2018. So now is the time to evaluate what you need and take care of things before the funds run out.

If you would like me to review your situation (for free) call me at the Lancaster Extension Office (717)-394-6851. I will arrange a visit at our mutual convenience.

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“ I will assist the farmer in getting connected to people and resources to get in compliance before you are inspected. ”

Leon Ressler



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