Through the work of many people, the Utah Veterinary Medical Association will present a continuing education conference that will be of interest to large animal, mixed animal, small animal, avian and equine veterinarians as well as to veterinary technicians. The UVMA MountainLands conference will be a hybrid format of virtual or in-person attendance. It will take place in Park City, Utah from Thursday December 9 through Saturday December 11, 2021.

There will be three concurrent sessions, of course with a number of breaks, and exhibitors at a trade show. Up to 15 hours of CE credit can be earned.

The conference registration website is scheduled to go live on October 1, 2021. Within the existing UVMA website at: https://utahvma.org, there will soon be a button to click for registration for the conference.

The topics are:

Dr. Dean Taylor, State Veterinarian of Utah, and Dr. Amanda Price, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food - 2020: A Year Like No Other

Dr. Michael Clayton, Utah State University and Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory - Poisonous Plants in Livestock

Dr. Shawn Zimmerman, USU/UVDL - Practical Clinical Pathology

Dr. Amanda Price, UDAF - Threats to Livestock Health

Dr. Kerry Rood. USU/UVDL - The Veterinarian’s Role in Preventing Agritourism Zoonoses and Occupational Safety

Dr. Kerry Rood, USU/UVDL - Stress and Wellness of Veterinary Students During a Pandemic: Survey Results

Cameron Bolman - DEA Opioids Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements

Dr. Karl Hoopes, USU/UVDL - Ride Utah! A Recreational Therapeutic Equine Activity

Dr. Karl Hoopes, USU/UVDL - How Can Veterinarians Help with Equine Therapy Facilities?
Dr. Dean Taylor - Ongoing Threats to the Equine Industry

Dr. Richard Ford, Boehringer Ingelheim - Vaccines & Vaccination: Protocols, Products and Controversies

Dr. David Frame, USU/UVDL - Things to Know About Small and Home Flock Poultry

Dr. David Frame, USU/UVDL - Common Home Flock Diseases and Those Not So Common

Jenna Crowder - Bee Basics; A Crash Course in Honeybee Biology

Jenna Crowder - Foul-Brood Disease and the VFD

Cdr. Willy A. Lanier and Dr. Dean Taylor - The Utah One Health Network

Dr. Christopher Lee, Merck - Understanding Infectious Disease

Dr. Christopher Lee, Merck - Infectious Disease Control

Dr. Christopher Lee, Merck - Vaccinology 101: How Vaccines Work and Work for You

Dr. Michael Mison, MedVet - Wounds: Retro vs. New Age Therapies

Dr. Mike Lappin, Purina - Hot Topics in Nutritional Management of Small Animal Internal Medicine Cases

Dr. Kim Claus, Gastric Dilatation and Volvulus

Dr. Kim Claus, Management of Feline Urethral Obstruction

Dr. Richard Ford, Boehringer Ingelheim - Update of FeLV & FIV

Dr. Richard Ford, Boehringer Ingelheim - Feline Viral Upper Respiratory Disease - Why It Persists

Dr. Heather Kaese, MedVet - Canine and Feline Eyelid Tumors

Dr. Hilary Wright, MedVet - Understanding Vestibular Disease in Small Animals

Dr. Kim Claus - CPR; What to Do and When?

Dr. Kim Claus - Traumatic Brain Injury

Dr. Kurt Grimm, Zoetis - Anesthesiology

Dr. Max Parkanzky, MedVet - Out of Body Experience: Indications for Dialysis and Other Extracorporeal Therapies

Dr. Christina Boekhout, MedVet - Common Surgical Complications and their Management

Stephanie Johnson, BAS, CVT, VTS, Mountain West - Going Under: Anesthetic Monitoring for Veterinary Patients
Kristalynn Johnson, RVT, CVT, Mountain West - Stethoscopes, Cuff and Tracings, Oh My! Cardiac Basics for Technicians

Emily-lone Kinney, CVT, VTS, Mountain West - Not Just a Drop in the Bucket - Intravenous Fluid Therapy for the Veterinary Technician

Stephanie Johnson, BAS, CVT, VTS, Mountain West - Strengthen Your CORE: Steps for Quality Dental Procedures

Emily-lone Kinney, CVT, VTS, Mountain West - RECOVER CPR Guidelines: Prepare and Prevent

C.L. Fairbanks, LVT, Mountain West - Emergency Triage: Where Being the Worst, Means You're First

Whether virtually or in person, I hope you will consider attending this conference.

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**Dairy Cattle Numbers and Total Milk Production are Skyrocketing**

Keeping up with dairy industry statistics is challenging and sometimes confusing, but I try to be informed about them. However, some recent developments in the dairy industry surprised me. After many years where the U.S. dairy cattle population ranged between 9.1 and 9.3 million lactating cows, it has been increasing during the pandemic, to over 9.5 million milking cows. This is the highest number of lactating cows in the U.S. since 1994. In conjunction with this, averaging 66 pounds per day across all lactating cows, total milk production per month has climbed from the typical 18 - 18.5 billion pounds to 19.1 billion pounds and it is increasing. Considering that the pandemic was resulting in milk being dumped during the spring of 2020, and the milk price plummeted at times in 2020, (and also noticeably went up and down later in the year) this was counterintuitive and was not what I expected. What accounts for this increase in cows and milk production I have not been able to find an explanation for at this writing. If you are aware of an explanation, please let me know.

USDA state by state cow numbers have only been updated through the end of 2020, and are not up to date with the continuing national increase in numbers. However, at that time, they showed the following states accounting for all of the increased numbers of milking cows through the end of 2020:

- **Texas** + 30,000 cows
- **Idaho** + 20,000 cows
- **Colorado** + 11,000 cows
- **South Dakota** +10,000 cows
- **Kansas** + 7,000 cows
- **Indiana** + 5,000 cows
- **Michigan** + 4,000 cows
- **New Mexico** + 4,000 cows
- **Ohio** + 3,000 cows
Wyoming       +1,500 cows
Arizona        + 1,000 cows
Nebraska       + 1,000 cows
Oklahoma       +1,000 cows

(Utah declined slightly from 98,000 to 96,000 lactating cows during 2020.) It is obvious that the above numbers do not account for much of the continuing increase in cow numbers during 2021, and there may be major changes in state rankings. Nevertheless, it is interesting that the two largest (by far above all others) dairy states, California and Wisconsin, declined in cow numbers, and every state in both the Northeast and Southeast was either steady or declined in cow numbers during 2020. All of the increases in lactating cow population were in the Midwest, West, and Texas.

Please let us know your comments and suggestions for future topics. I can be reached at (435) 760-3731 (Cell), or David.Wilson@usu.edu.

David Wilson, DVM, Extension Veterinarian

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