

Four Star Veterinary Service - Stoney Creek Office

Newsletter June 2016

After a remarkable 48 years of Veterinary Practice, Dr. Dale has decided that it is time to slow down and retire from active veterinary practice. Over those 48 years he transitioned his veterinary business from a mixed animal practice to a swine exclusive practice. Dr. Dale throughout his career has worked with producers in the Midwest as well as most of the largest swine systems in the country. He has had an impressive run and had an opportunity to influence so many swine producers over the years. One of his distinctive accomplishments was the establishing and leading of Four Star Veterinary Service, which today is now one of the most influential swine veterinary practices in the country. The 4-Star group will continue to utilize Dr. Dale as an active member and advisor while he continues to mentor the group as it moves forward. The group would like to thank Dr. Dale for all he has done for the practice both personally and professionally. We also would like to wish Dr. Dale an enjoyable retirement and look forward to utilizing his talents in the future. If you would like to wish Dr. Dale a happy retirement, he can still be reached on his cell phone (765) 744-5622.

From the Desk of Dr. Daniel: Arthritis

Arthritis is caused by inflammation in one or more joints. This inflammation can arise from a variety of reasons, most commonly trauma and infection. The keys to successful treatment of arthritis are catching the signs of inflammation and treating it quickly. If you notice painful, swollen joints that are causing lameness and stiffness, immediate corrective action is necessary immediately to prevent as much permanent damage as possible.

Typically, joint infections can be treated with Enrofloxacin and Dexamethasone or Lincomycin and Dexamethasone. The antibiotic will treat the bacterial infection in the joint and the Dexamethasone will help draw fluid out of the inflamed joint to help promote proper healing. Use product label for dosing and administration.

Joint problems caused by trauma can be treated with Dexamethasone or Banamine to help reduce the inflammation. Joint problems can quickly snowball into a serious problem if they are not treated properly, so be sure to treat quickly and properly to help get your pigs back on the right track.

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Dr. Daniel Hendrickson



From the Desk of Dr. Daren: Dyrgiene

Drygiene is a new drying agent hitting the market and has shown to be an excellent moisture absorber while also reducing ammonia levels and inhibiting bacterial growth. It is commonly applied in farrowing to dry off piglets and on heat mats. It is also being used after washing and disinfecting to dry out a room. Additionally, it is useful in litters that have diarrhea to help keep the environment dry. A sales representative compared Drygiene against other commercial drying agents and showed its remarkable ability to absorb and reduce the odor of liquid ammonia. Other studies have shown that Drygiene can reduce bacteria levels 2-6 times more than washing and disinfecting alone. Overall, Drygiene is an impressive new product that could help your operation keep a clean environment to help improve production.

Dr. Daren Miller

Daran Millor, DVM





Joel Steckelberg is spending the summer with Four Star participating in the Swine Veterinary Internship Program sponsored by Zoetis. He is from central lowa and just finished his first year of vet school at Iowa State University. He grew up working at his family's mixed animal veterinary practice in Iowa and have always wanted to become a large animal veterinarian. He enjoys working with clients to continue improving their operations and is excited to get to work and learn with Four Star this summer. He is currently working on two projects: one for influenza testing and one on iron protocols.

We are very excited to have him with us this summer and look forward to the valuable information from his projects.

Feature Product: Safeguard Aquasol

A familiar product now has an alternative administration route. Merck Animal Health has introduced Safeguard Aquasol which has the same anti-parasitic effect of Safeguard EZ-Scoop without the need to top dress feed. Safeguard Aquasol is a water medication used for treatment of round worms and whipworms.

Treatment Recommendations:

- Add 3 ounces of liquid Safeguard Aquasol to each gallon of stock solution.
- Run this medication continuously for 3 days through water medicators set on a 1:128.