

Attica Veterinary Associates

November 2020



Holiday Hours:

Thanksgiving - Thursday, November 26 – Office closed for routine work, available for emergencies.

Christmas Eve – Thursday, December 24 – Office closes at noon, available for emergencies.

Christmas - Friday, December 25 – Office closed for routine work, available for emergencies.

New Year's Eve – Thursday, Dec. 31 – Office closes at noon, available for emergencies.

New Year's Day - Friday, January 1 – Office closed for routine work, available for emergencies.

BioPRYN (Blood Pregnancy) Scheduling Notes:

Beginning Next week (11/16) through December 5th:

- Tuesday set-up with Wednesday results will remain the SAME!
- Thursday set-up with Friday results will be changed - results will be by SATURDAY EVENING

Please continue to have samples here by noon on Thursdays though.

Thanksgiving – please note that the office is closed and you cannot drop bioPRYN off here that day, have it in by 5pm on Wednesday 11/25.

Christmas & New Year's Weeks– Both weeks all samples need to be here on Wednesday by 5pm to be run for the week. Roy's pick up route will remain the same.

If you are someone that mails samples in, please be aware of delayed shipping during both of these times.

Other Scheduling Notes:

We send many of your samples to Cornell Diagnostic Lab daily, however they will be closed

November 26-29, Christmas December 24-28 **and** New Year's January 1-3.

Please be aware that our last day to ship samples out will be 2 days previous to each of these dates.

Calf Blanket Tips

As temperatures fall below 55°F for an extended period of time, young calves have to burn extra energy to maintain their body core temperatures; blankets cut this energy loss. Here are three conditions for use:

1. The smaller the calf, the greater the potential for her to lose body heat. That's because her ratio of surface to body mass is much greater than for even a 100 pound heifer. These small calves may be the youngest ones or calves with especially low birth weights like small breeds or twins.
2. The greater the air movement around the calves, the greater potential benefits of calf blankets. Group pens often have lots of drafts.
3. The colder the weather, the greater the potential for benefits from using calf blankets. November to April are blanket months in western NY.

Blanket management tips include:

1. The drier and cleaner the blanket, the better it will insulate a calf.
2. Blankets are more effective when put on dry calves rather than wet ones. Aim for a "fluff-dry" hair coat to take maximum advantage of blankets.
3. Aim for bedding that keeps blankets relatively clean and dry.
4. Blankets are most cost-effective for short-term use. If you have a limited number of blankets, give priority in cold weather to blanketing smaller and younger calves. By the time most calves are eating 2 quarts of calf starter a day they benefit very little from blankets except in extraordinarily cold weather.

The average cost of a blanket is \$28-\$45. They are available in a variety of sizes and styles, with various fasteners, such as straps, ties, Velcro, and buckles, and in fabrics like wool, polyester blends, and insulating foams. We carry blankets that are machine washable to encourage easy to maintain, good hygiene, as well as regular washing and maintenance to ensure optimal function and reduced disease spread.

