

Views from VanDeWalle

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Cow/Calf College Set for January 11, 2024

Farmers and Ranchers College announces the 2024 Cow-Calf College is set for January 11, 2024 at the Great Plains Veterinary Educational Center, near Clay Center, Nebraska. Registration begins at 10:15 am with presentations scheduled from 10:30 am – 2:00 pm.

This year's program is focused on strategies to enhance cow/calf health from birth to weaning. The hands-on format will allow participants to engage with specialists and peers throughout the day. Dr. Matt Hille, Assistant Professor and Diagnostic Pathologist at Nebraska Veterinary Diagnostic Center, will provide an in-depth look at common infectious diseases affecting calves. Topics include scour prevention and treatment techniques, and when it may be worthwhile to pursue diagnostics. Discussion will also include pinkeye disease background, treatment, and prevention strategies.

The afternoon will be comprised of three mini-workshops, where participants will dive further into neonatal calf health, including when and how to intervene in scour cases and tips to ensure newborn calf success. Dr. Becky Funk, GPVEC Extension Specialist will host a hands-on palpation wet lab utilizing bovine reproductive tracts and Dr. Hille will continue the cow health discussion with potential causes of abortion and when diagnostics are needed. Dr. Brian Vander Ley, Associate Professor and Assistant Director of GPVEC will provide an overview of activities at the Center while participants enjoy a catered lunch.

The program will conclude with an optional tour of US-Meat Animal Research Center (weather permitting). There is no cost for the event; however, registration is required due to limited space. Pre-registration can be made by calling the Webster County Extension office at 402-746-3417 or online at <https://go.unl.edu/cow-calfcollege2024>.