

# Equine Research group May 21,23 2008

## Agenda

- 2008 Research Competition
- Other News
- OMAFRA – Mr. Ken Hough
- Other business – scheduling next meeting
- Adjournment

## Operating dollars awarded To new and continuing projects, 2008

• EPTaylor	\$80,000
• ORC	\$286,864
• HBPA	\$80,000
• HHT*	\$51,532
• Total	\$498,369

- These are real operating dollars after relevant University Research Expense overheads have been taken off.
- 11 out of 17 new proposals were funded
- \* This is the last payout from the Horse Health Trust which is now closed. It is in the process of being replaced by a new fund for research donations under the EGumbrella.

## Continuing projects

Cruz, A.	Non-invasive surveillance of cannon bone and joint health in racehorses by quantitative ultrasound and biomarkers
Prescott, J.	Oral vaccination of foals using a mutant strain of <u>Rhodococcus equi</u> 103
Viel, L.	Study on the pathogenesis of arterial calcification in horses (Death Registry) and its potential clinical implications
Staempfli, H.	Evaluation of a commercially available immunoassay for the diagnosis of <u>Clostridium difficile</u> – associated diarrhea in horses
Hanna, B.	Genetic analysis of cardiac ion channels in Standardbred horses with lone atrial fibrillation
Viel, L.	Clinical signs and mechanisms of airway inflammation of equine rhinitis A virus in experimentally infected horses
Weese, S	Evaluation of the survival of <u>Streptococcus equi</u> on environmental surfaces under normal outdoor conditions

### Newly funded projects 2008

JS Weese	Evaluation of broad range real time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) for diagnosis of septic arthritis
H Chalmers	Ultrasonography and histopathology of arytenoid cartilage lesions in horses with arytenoid chondritis
A Valverde	Determination of the presence of opioid receptors on bone tissue in horses and their binding to morphine
A Valverde	Comparison of cardiovascular function in isoflurane-anesthetized horses administered lidocaine and medetomidine constant rate infusions during elective and emergency surgery
R Cruz	Magnetic resonance imaging evaluation of SPIO labelled equine mesenchymal stem cells and in vivo tracking SPIO labelled equine stem cell therapy in tendonitis model
K Betteridge	Mechanisms of maintenance and loss of early pregnancy
RJ Runciman	The role of vascular wall strain in arterial calcification in horses
A Cruz	Do subchondral bone and cartilage follow a common pathway in early stage post-traumatic osteoarthritis?
J Thomason	The effect of racetrack characteristics on the horse-hoof-track interactions in Standardbred horses
D Betts	Proliferate potential, tri-lineage potency and allogenic immunogenic evaluation of equine cord blood stem cells
D Bienzle	Functions of equine clara cell secretory protein

## Other News

- Terms of Reference of Equine Guelph Research Committee
  - I am working with a subset of the research committee to draw up ToR and will meet with the group this week to try and finalise a working draft. You will see them for comment before final approval by the Equine Guelph Advisory council.
- 5<sup>th</sup> year celebrations for EG
  - Events include a fundraising ride this Sunday with the OEF and a dinner in September (more details later), and the Research Magazine
- Research Magazine
  - One issue of the UoG research magazine this year will be devoted to EGF research activities
  - Several of you will be contacted for information/interviews. Please cooperate with the writers. You will see your piece before publication
- Arkell herd
  - As noted in an email, no foals were used this year, and we are trying to gauge whether to breed again next year. If anyone anticipates needing foals in the next few years please let me know
  - Billing – see next slide

## News about new OMAFRA agreement

Mr. Ken Hough presented the following

- Arkell billing – each horse will cost you
  - $\$3000 * 0.03 / (\text{number of researchers using it})$
  - In year 2 of a project, the 0.03 increases to 0.06
  - This formula replaces the *per diem* fee
- New funding plan presents opportunities
  - Grad funding
    - a pool of \$1M will soon be available for open competition for graduate stipends
  - Operating funding
    - the pool of operating dollars has increased to > \$7M
    - During the summer, strategic areas under which equine projects can apply will be identified and a competition will follow in the Fall. More news will follow in later meetings.

## Other business

- Next meetings will be held in repeated pairs:
  - 4<sup>th</sup>,6<sup>th</sup> June
- Other business?
  - None