

## Care for Calves Priority on Streit Farms

"We raise Holstein steers from 3- to 5-day-old calves to finish," says Rich Streit, who remains on his family's Watkins farm. Rich's mother still lives in the farm house. He and his wife Sue built their own house 10 years ago on adjoining property.

Rich works with 70 huts and weans at two months, so he trucks in 35 head of calves per month from two local dairies.

"I start them on milk replacer and free-choice water for about a week," Rich states. "After that, I introduce dry feed, slowly increasing the amount of milk and dry feed as they grow."

"On arrival, we'll do a Once PMH and Inforce 3," he says of the nasal vaccines he administers. "At two weeks of age, they'll get castrated and dehorned, and receive a clostridium shot."

Rich's goal is a 200 lb. weaning weight. "That takes a little longer to achieve in the huts," he admits. So,

the Watkins farmer has made some modifications to increase calf comfort and performance in difficult weather.

Five years ago, he designed a front for his hutches to block the blowing snow and deep cold. He used the very plastic that the PolyDome company cut out to form the doorways and he designed tracks to slide these plastic sheets in place. "I close the doorway totally when it storms, part way in cold weather, and leave it open when it's sunny," says Rich, noting that a bottom sill on each hutch always stays in place, preventing moisture from entering and soaking the bedding.

"We do use calf blankets to keep moisture out and bedding dry," he adds.

Speaking of bedding, Rich also modified a straw chopper mounted on a skid loader to blow fresh straw into each

calf hutch. One large bale will fill all 70 hutches and his boys appreciate no longer having to lug small squares around the rows of hutches.

Rich also uses a mixing valve he designed to make sure his milk replacer is the same temperature every day. "This way, my kids or anyone else who mixes will always have the same water temperature for the milk replacer," he states.

Like many entrepreneurs, Rich is modest about his own designs. "I spend a little extra time and money to come up with ways to make things easier," he states. Rich's Munson Lakes sales nutritionist, Doug Sawatzke, sees things differently. "He's an inventor," states Doug.

*Continued on page 2*



Streit Farms raises calves in 70 huts, weaning at two months.

# Combat the Effects of Heat Stress

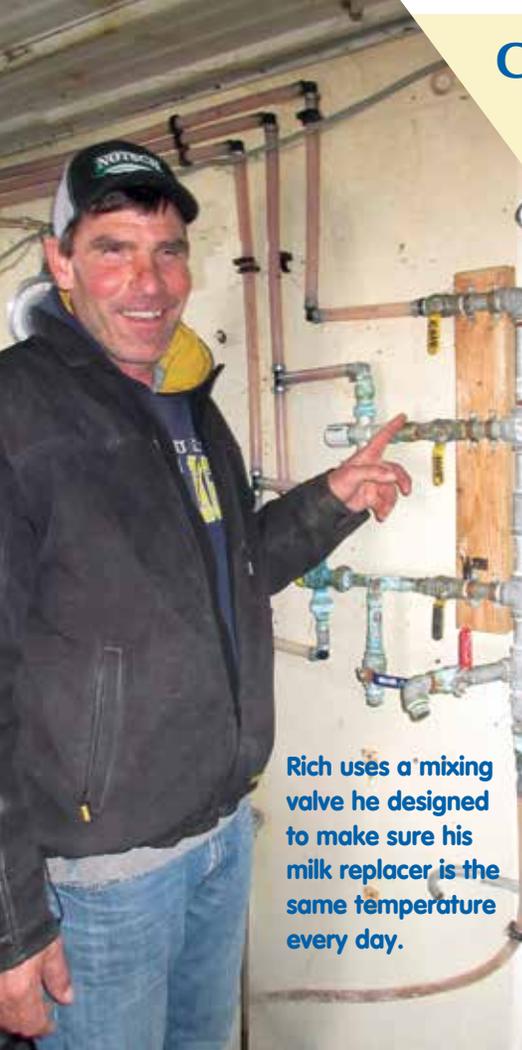
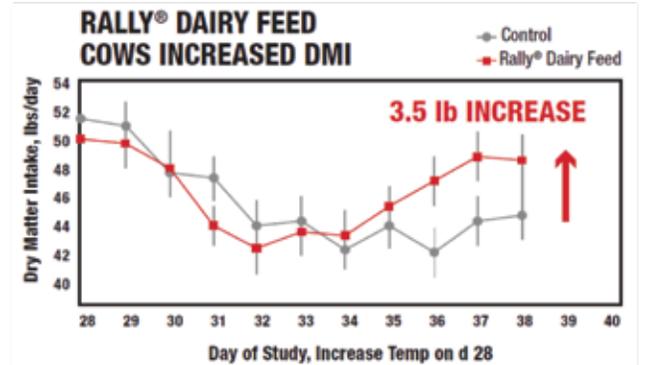
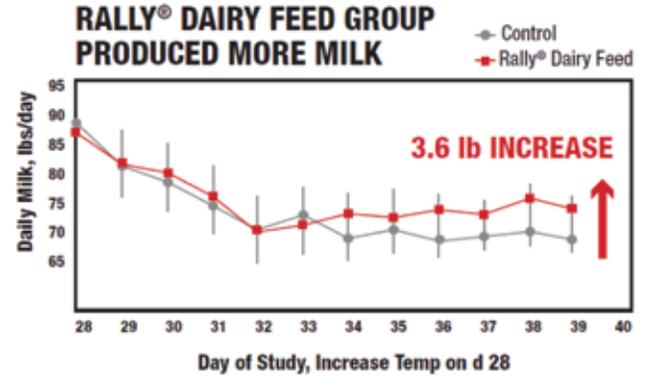
By Jake Reed, Sales Specialist, Purina Feeds

Loss of milk production from heat stress is a huge cost to dairymen. Even with outstanding facilities and management strategies, heat stress can take a toll on a herd of cows. Nutritional strategies can help. Munson Lakes Nutrition has two great nutritional strategies to mitigate heat stress.

**Rally®.** Rally Dairy Feed provides transition benefits to lactating cows suffering from heat stress. Heat and humidity reduce feed intake, while increasing energy requirements. Reduced feed intake coupled with increased energy demands can quickly depress milk production. Rally efficiently delivers energy to cows when intakes are challenged. Data from the University of Missouri showed Rally Dairy Feed improved milk production potential, increased dry matter intake and feed efficiency, and lowered NEFAs during heat stress. Rally Dairy Feed is best used throughout the summer months for maintaining high dry matter intakes.

**Dissipate™.** One of the underlying causes of increased energy requirements during heat stress is reduced gut integrity. Dissipate Feed Additive consists of thoroughly researched functional ingredients (probiotics, vitamins, minerals and essential oils) that help to support gut integrity during heat stress. High gut integrity requires less energy for maintenance and allows for the absorption of more nutrients. Dissipate is a short duration feeding product placed in the diet prior to a high heat event and removed once high temperatures subside.

Plan your heat abatement strategy now! Talk to your Munson Lakes nutritionist to strategize your operation's best option for alleviating the potential effects of heat stress. ●



Rich uses a mixing valve he designed to make sure his milk replacer is the same temperature every day.

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Continued from page 1

Doug brings a team of people that specializes in calf rearing to Streit Farms. "I make a lot of rations for a lot of different kinds of cattle, but with Dr. Amber, Melissa and Ted helping Rich and Sue with their calf program, there shouldn't be a question we can't answer together. **NOTE: Dr. Amber Hazel is a Purina calf and heifer specialist; Melissa Holtz is a national sales representative for Land O'Lakes animal milk products; and Ted Radintz is a Munson Lakes Nutrition calf and heifer specialist.**

Munson Lakes supplies a total nutritional package for the calf-raising protocol of Streit Farms, including Amplifier® Max Dairy Calf Milk Replacer and palatable intense whole shell corn mixer pellets. The farm has been using this program for years.

"I was having health issues before, and now everything is working fine," says Rich.

Rich and Sue Streit have four sons, each two years apart. Jared is studying finance and playing football at

Saint John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota. Jacob is studying business, agriculture and playing football at Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Justin is a junior in high school and Josh is a 9th grader. ●



Rich modified a straw chopper mounted on a skid loader to blow fresh straw into each calf hutch.

John Zander (left) with retiring driver Rob Painschab. Rob's Freightliner is behind them.



## Long Time on the Road

After 42 years, 2 months and 13 days driving a truck for Munson Feeds and Munson Lakes Nutrition, Rob Painschab retired on Feb. 28.

Rob grew up in Waverly and graduated from Howard Lake -Waverly High School in 1975. He married Mary Jo and they have lived in Howard Lake for the past 43 years. Four girls and a boy have kept them busy and now they enjoy their eight grandchildren. "Our children all live in Howard Lake and Waverly and we enjoy that," says Rob.

Rob started with Munson Feed Company after graduating high school and never looked back. He's been trucking for the feed manufacturer all that time, starting by putting 50,000 miles a year on a 1970 Dodge single-axle truck, and ending by putting 90,000 miles on his 2012 Freightliner last year.

"It was great working for the Munson family—Floyd, Beryl, Bob and Ray—and, in recent years, I've enjoyed working with John and all my fellow employees at Munson Lakes Nutrition," says Rob. "Our customer base is made up of really good people. A handful of our customers have been here since I started 42 years ago."

Rob has many memories of truck driving over the years, including pushing snow in North Dakota when he couldn't see 10 feet in front of his truck's bumper. "If I hadn't kept going I'd have been in trouble," he recalls. He also remembers delivering feed to a 1,200 cow dairy in Cleveland, Minnesota, one afternoon only to come back the next morning to find all four barns gone from a tornado.

"It's been a good experience to see most of Minnesota," he states. "We spread out quite a ways, from Sioux Falls and Aberdeen in South Dakota, to Thief River Falls in Northern Minnesota and to Osceola, Wisconsin."

Rob says he liked coming to work at MLN every day. "I didn't have to travel far to get to work," he states. "I still enjoy my job, but it's time to move on to the next stage." The next stage, according to Rob, will be camping with Mary Jo and the family, doing a little more fishing and spending time with the grandkids.

"It's been a good place to work and good people to work with," he concludes. "I'll miss it, but hopefully I'll be busy with everything else." ●

## Meet Our Newest Driver

Todd Jopp grew up on a 40-acre hobby farm at New Germany and attended Watertown-Mayer High School. In 1987, he married a classmate, Betty Hoese. The couple bought their own 20-acre hobby farm about four miles from where he grew up. Todd says he's turned most of their acreage into a wildlife habitat.

Todd and Betty have two grown children, Casandra and Patrick, and four grandchildren.

Over the years, Todd has taken jobs in wood-working, polishing and in the lumber business. Most recently, he worked at Mayer Lumber, delivering materials, helping customers and building utility sheds.

Last October, Todd decided to try something new. He applied for a trucking job with Munson Lakes Nutrition. "I drove for 18 years at Mayer," he says about his past experience. "It's good to get into the countryside, see the different farms and how they operate, and compare them to the one I grew up on."

"I'm delivering bulk pellets, meal and bags to a lot of farms," he says of his job as a tandem truck driver. "A lot of these customers are getting specialized feeds to improve their herds, and that's good to see." ●



Todd Jopp

PO Box 549  
 Howard Lake, MN 55349



# Washing Trucks to Keep You Safe

By John Zander, General Manager



Regulations for the new Food Safety and Modernization Act (FSMA) contained requirements that delivery vehicles should be routinely washed to prevent the possibility of transferring disease. Each wash will be documented, and these documents will be

examined at our yearly FDA audits. We'd been considering a truck wash; FSMA regulations pushed our plans up a couple of years.

I'm happy to say we've removed the old Wright Way Ag building west of The Country Store on the east side of Howard Lake, and we've constructed a 3,840 square foot

building. Of that space, 2,160 square feet will be a truck wash that should be operational by April. The other 1,680 square feet will be cold storage for The Country Store.

RAM Buildings, Inc., of Winsted is the general contractor for the new building.

*NOTE: Munson Lakes Nutrition has 12-13 trucks on the road every day, plus a private contractor that hauls for us.*

## New office going up

After three years of planning, we're about to break ground for a new office in front of our Howard Lake Feed mill. We've outgrown our current office which was built in 1952.

The new office building, to be constructed due west of our current location, will feature plenty of space for our expanded staff, as well as a meeting room for training and sales meetings. It'll also have parking access from Highway 12.

We hope to be in the new building by the end of 2018.

## Much gratitude

Finally, I want to personally thank Rob Painschab for 42 years of valuable and courteous service to Munson Lakes Nutrition and its customers. Rob will certainly be missed. ●

**Outside of truck wash and cold storage building.**

## OUR MISSION

Some things never change—even after 80+ years.

**THE VALUES THAT SHAPED OUR HERITAGE WILL REMAIN. MUNSON LAKES NUTRITION WILL CONTINUE TO:**

- *Manufacture A Great Product At A Fair Price.*
- *Give Great Customer Service.*
- *Base Every Decision On Fairness And Decency.*

## MUNSON LAKES NUTRITION DIRECTORY

### HOWARD LAKE OFFICE

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