## **Respiratory disease website**

Novartis Animal Health U.S. Inc. has created a new, multimedia website exclusively for the inactivated cattle vaccine ViraShield.® The website includes information tailored specifically for beef producers, dairy producers and veterinarians.

For producers, the disease information, vaccination guidelines and expert management tips can be leveraged in preventive health programs that drive better performance.

For veterinarians, the site includes a library of scientific research papers and technical bulletins that are easily accessible for quick reference.

Visitors to the site can also access video and audio clips from producers and practicing veterinarians who face different cattle health challenges based on their geographic region and type of operation or practice.

The product is available in nine different combinations that contain up to 13 antigens in one ready-to-use bottle. It is the only vaccine to feature three-way protection against the predominant disease affecting U.S. cattle — bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVD). It also provides protection against bovine respiratory syncytial virus (BRSV), infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR), parainfluenza Type 3 (PI<sub>3</sub>), *Lepto hardjo-bovis* and vibriosis.

The product is safe for use in all cattle, including pregnant cows and heifers, regardless of their age or previous vaccination history.

To learn more about cattle health management, visit www.vira-shield.com.

## Illuminated hoof pick

MJ Equine Tools is now offering an illuminated hoof pick that provides a top-of-the-line stainless steel pick and stiff nylon brush with an innovative battery-powered LED light on the tip. The pick is designed for the toughest work, offers an easy-grip handle and is water-resistant.

The patent-pending product was developed by Mara Glunz and Joanne Stoynoff, longtime equine enthusiasts with more than 30 years experience in riding, training, grooming and management, with a few championships earned along the way.

For more information or to order visit www.MJEquineToolsInc.com.

#### Virtual sale barn launched

Pro Livestock Marketing has launched the first comprehensive online sales portal for livestock and breed stock. The company has designed a virtual sales barn that will allow people to buy and sell cattle, swine, sheep, goats, horses, rodeo stock, show animals, specialty animals, semen and embryos across the country and internationally.

The site will help increase opportunity for ranchers, farmers and breeders by eliminating geographic boundaries and connecting buyers and sellers directly online.

The new site allows sellers to post their products by category, a description, a photo and a video for potential buyers to review. By creating direct relationships, products sold are delivered directly to buyers ensuring less processing time and a cleaner bill of health.

For more information visit www.prolivestockmarketing.com.

## High-capacity wheel rake

Vermeer Corp. has introduced the VR1428, a high-capacity wheel rake capable of raking 28-foot (ft.)-wide passages, but nimble enough to maneuver like rakes much smaller in size because the new rake is closely positioned to the tractor in the raking position.

The new rake also features a patentpending, non-telescoping, non-bolted joint straight tongue; a rugged bent tube highclearance frame, rear frame and fold arms; and a unique patent-pending rake wheel lift and suspension system.

Each rake comes with its own lift/ suspension cylinder and a nitrogen-charged accumulator. Instead of struggling to adjust wheels, operators can change wheel rake wheel settings and pressure just by setting a valve near the accumulator.

Optional features include a center splitter attachment that includes a set of dual rake wheels that gently lift and turn the crop in the center of the swath.

For more information visit www.vermeer.com.

# **High-capacity tedder**

Vermeer Corp. has introduced the TE490 Tedder, which boasts a 49.2-ft. tedding width

with handling capabilities that the company says rival much smaller models.

The new tedder features specially coiled hook-style tines, creating an unprecedented "bottoms-up" tedding action for more consistent dry down. The hook-tine design allows operators to pick up and turn the crop — short or long — and more effectively hit the low spots between rotors.

Because the hook tines operate in a trailed position, they adapt and follow the ground more effectively while avoiding crop contamination from excessive digging. All TE Series models come with a three-year limited hook tine warranty.

The 12-rotor workhorse handles like other tedders and it has a rugged carted framework that provides maneuverability and stable transport. Curved wheel support and anti-wrap plates keep the crop from wrapping around the wheels and minimize plugging. Adjust rotor angles and customize tedding action to various crops and conditions without using any tools.

Transport from field to field is also quick and easy, as the unit travels at less than 10 ft. wide. The rotor frame is positioned horizontally and fully supported during transport, creating stability and a low center of gravity. Going from transport to operating position takes less than 45 seconds, as no monitor is needed. Two remotes fold and unfold the tedder.

For more information visit www.vermeer.com.

### Two new balers

Vermeer Corp. has added two new balers to its lineup: the Rebel 5420 and 5520 hitch'n go balers and the 504N.

The company introduced its first ever hitch'n go balers 12 years ago to meet the needs and pocketbooks of producers with low-horsepower tractors looking to roll their own high-quality round bales. With a 40-hp tractor, the 5420 baler produces  $5 \times 4$ -ft. bales that weigh up to 1,000 pounds (lb.). The 5520 produces  $5 \times 5$ -ft. bales that weigh up to 1,400 lb.

The 5420 and 5520 integrate the company's Super M baler technology, including the newly designed netwrap system and the feature-filled Bale Expert™ monitor, along with belts with Alligator rivet laces and a new balanced density system that

helps increase belt life by keeping them taut and preventing tangles, producing betterlooking bales.

Optional features include Haysaver wheels that are easy to adjust with just a few quick turns of a wrench; a netwrap system that is user-friendly for loading and feeding, and features a net spreading system that can wrap bales in less than 10 seconds — right to the edge; the Bale Expert monitor that helps customers monitor bale size and shape and prevents bale chamber overfill with an alarm system; and a moisture-sensing kit that is perfect for lifestyle producers who want the assurance they are putting up high-quality hay.

For more information visit www.vermeer.com.

## **High-moisture silage wrappers**

Vermeer Corp. has introduced the SW5000 and SW5500 silage wrappers that will offer forage producers greater freedom and more flexibility by increasing their baling options and window, the company says, enabling them to harvest forages with moisture content up to 65%.

Both models feature self-loading arms that allow producers to pick up, load, wrap



Vermeer Corp. VR1428 wheel rake



Vermeer Rebel 5420 baler



Vermeer SW5500 silage wrapper

and dump tightly wrapped bales without leaving the tractor cab.

The SW5000 is ideal for mid-sized operations, while the SW5500 is more suited for operations with extensive silage baling needs. Once the bale is wrapped and ready to unload, a reliable cut-start system slices the film and secures it for the next wrapping cycle. Its low-profile design helps minimize punctures or tears in the film wrap and damage to the bale. To keep the operator working, both models provide storage room for three additional rolls of plastic film conveniently located on the frame.

The SW5000 features a semi-automatic controller within the tractor cab, while the SW5500 is fully automatic. Operators can even pause mid-wrap, if necessary. Also included are rotation counters, plus an alert that lets you know when the wrapping table has completed its predesignated number. The SW5500 also features a unique bale discharge system that pivots up to cradle the bale while ground-support bracing helps transfer the load and minimize the stress of the bale weight on the chassis. When silage wrapping is completed for the day, the loading arm folds to the side of the machine, creating a narrow profile and a transport width of less than 8.5 ft.

For more information visit www.vermeer.com.

## Revised guide for Conservation Stewardship Program

The National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (NSAC) has released an updated version of its popular *Farmers' Guide to the Conservation Stewardship Program*. The guide is intended to help family farmers, ranchers and foresters understand the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) enrollment process.

In addition, it provides clear information on conservation activities eligible for CSP payments to improve conservation performance and environmental benefits. The CSP is a whole-farm and comprehensive working lands conservation program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Its primary focus is management practices. The philosophy of the program is captured by the subtitle, "Rewarding farmers for how they grow what they grow."

The revised guide includes step-by-step enrollment guidance, key definitions and helpful hints. It also includes a new five-page section with data analysis of the program's first two sign-up periods in 2009 and 2010. This data section includes analysis of program participation by geographic region, land use type, commodity type, and the top

conservation practices and enhancements chosen by farmers and ranchers who have enrolled in the program.

Enrollment is based on environmental benefit scores as determined by the Conservation Measurement Tool (CMT). The CMT is explained in detail in the guide.

The guide is available for download on the publications page at www.sustainableagriculture.net/. Printed copies of the guide can also be purchased. To inquire about ordering printed copies, email NSAC at intern@sustainableagriculture.net.

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