

Gizmos & Gadgets

Innovative products, services for your farm or ranch.

Compiled by Shauna Hermel, editor

A combination endectocide

Zoetis introduces Valcor™, a combination endectocide in the United States designed for use against internal and external parasites in cattle.

“Valcor offers the unique combination of doramectin and levamisole,” says Mark Alley, managing veterinarian with Zoetis

beef technical services. “In a research study with more than 1,500 head of heifers, Valcor reduced fecal egg count numbers by

99.9% compared to ivermectin at 85%, and the heifers treated with Valcor gained 9.3 pounds (lb.) more than the ivermectin-treated heifers over 56 days.”

The prescription injectable’s two active ingredients treat and control adult stage and L4 stage of *Haemonchus placei*, *Cooperia spp.*, and *Ostertagia ostertagi* (including inhibited L4), as well as the adult stage of *Nematodirus helvetianus*. It is also indicated for treatment and control of lungworms, eyeworms, grubs, mange mites and sucking lice.

For more information about this latest innovation from Zoetis, visit www.valcortough.com.

K-State releases app for recordkeeping

Kansas State University (K-State) ag economics and

veterinary medicine staff are taking their knowledge on animal recordkeeping to mobile phones with an app now available in app stores for iPhone® and Android® devices.

K-State livestock economist Ted Schroeder said the app, called CalfDex, is free to download. It was developed by ag economist master’s graduate

Jake Hefley (who now works at the University of Missouri), master’s candidate Audrey Marchek, K-State veterinarian Bob Larson and Schroeder.

The project was funded by a grant from the USDA Federal-State

Marketing Improvement Program.

“Considering the growing importance of information exchange in the beef supply chain, there is value in an application that has the ability to store and upload data at the whole-herd and individual-animal levels, while also facilitating easy downstream data-sharing,” says Schroeder.

The app is designed for use in the field even where cellphone service is not available. It enables producers to maintain efficient and accurate calving and treatment records, mitigating the risk of clutter, data loss and misplacement that is commonly seen with paper records. The data is stored across calving seasons for easy access.

The app allows users to protect

information with a unique email address and password established by the user.

With the capability to track multiple herds and individual animal information, the app is tailored to meet the needs of all sizes of calving operations.

More information is available at <https://www.agmanager.info/>. A tutorial is available at <https://calfdexapi.azurewebsites.net/>. Questions can be directed by email to calfdex@ksu.edu.

Rye seed cocktails

A desire to simplify and improve decision-making with cover crop mixes that work for both livestock operations and grain farms inspired Renovo Seed’s Rye Cocktail mixes.

Each proprietary mix is anchored with hearty rye, a winter annual and nutrient-catching cover crop workhorse that does well both in the Upper Midwest and Corn Belt states. The Rye Cocktails add other broadleaves and legumes based on a producer’s specific end goal, such as increasing soil biology and plant diversity or decreasing water erosion.

“Cover crops add diversity with multiple species in one planting,”

explains Renovo Seed’s Justin Fruechte. “That improves land resiliency and helps mitigate risk stemming from each season’s unique weather, weed and pest challenges.”

Most farmers, ranchers and landowners try a cover crop after being presented with a need — often a livestock farmer in need of feed, says Fruechte. “If that farmer is going to plant rye as a forage, it makes sense to add something to it to make it work even harder.”

The Mellow Maker Rye Cocktail is made for acres that need increased water infiltration and decreased compaction. The cocktail’s radish, turnip and rapeseed work together to create alleyways for water to seep into the soil. Species in this mix also work to suppress weeds and keep necessary nutrients in the soil for cash crops.

Other cocktail mixes include the All-American, a good all-around mix that builds nitrogen (N) levels for cash crops to utilize, and Winter Wonder that gets fields ready for a green spring and minimizes early weeds.

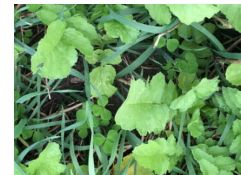
Learn more about Renovo Seed and its prebuilt seed mixes at www.renovoseed.com. **ABB**



Valcor



Renovo Seed’s Mellow Maker Rye Cocktail is a deep-rooted cover crop mix that will keep the ground mellow by loosening the soil to increase water infiltration and decrease soil compaction.



The All-American Rye Cocktail is a classic, dual-purpose, diverse mix designed for both livestock grazing and nitrogen capture.



A trio of winter annuals is included in the Winter Wonder Rye Cocktail, a mix designed to provide diversity for spring growth, promote soil biology, protect soil from erosion and create an ideal seedbed for cash crops.

