

# Valleywide News



VALLEYWIDE VETERINARY SERVICES

## Valleywide Welcomes New Vet, Dr. Stephanie Bandoski



Our newest doctor, Steph grew up in Western Massachusetts with dogs, cats, and horses. She went to undergrad at the University of Rochester in Western New York State. During her summers, she started working with a large animal vet

and fell in love with the dairy industry. She graduated from Veterinary School at Cornell University in 2022 after focusing on production medicine. Though dairy is her passion, she enjoys working with creatures both large and small. Outside of work, you'll find Steph outside running, hiking, or kayaking with her main adventure buddy, Buttons, her cat. She

is excited to begin work in the area and to meet all of our clients.



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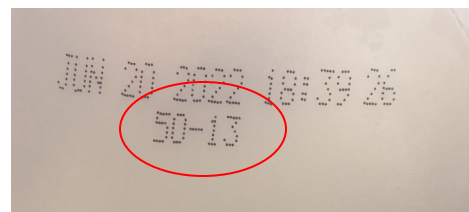
## Buy Vermont Dairy - Look for the #50

The dairy industry is incredibly important to the state of Vermont. It's our #1 agricultural commodity in sales and a leading provider of jobs. In Addison county, we have about 1 cow for every person living here. It's no surprise that consuming local

dairy products in Vermont is easy. Choose local brands that you know such as Monument Farms Dairy or Cabot, or check the label to make sure your dairy products came from Vermont. There is a code printed on every milk, cheese, yogurt

and cream container that tells which state and processing plant that product came from. Vermont's state code is 50.

Check out the website [whereismymilk-from.com](http://whereismymilk-from.com) to type in your code and learn more about where your dairy products are from.



# Fly Control on Pasture

Dr. Elizabeth Martens

One of my favorite things about summer is seeing cows out on pasture. Even many of our large, free stall dairies pasture heifers and dry cows for part of the year. With pasture often come flies, a constant source of disease transmission, production loss and discomfort to animals. As livestock owners it is important to do everything possible to lessen the fly population around barns and on pastures. Since flies often travel 3/4 mile from their breeding site, fly control needs to be a whole farm consideration.



All flies go through 4 life stages: egg, larva, pupa and adult. Under warm, moist conditions this can take as little as 9 days. Face flies and horn flies like to lay their eggs in fresh manure, while stable fly eggs are most often found in areas with wet hay.

There is no insecticide that can control fly populations without proper sanitation to eliminate their breeding grounds. This means removal of manure, wet bedding, feed and other organic material as often as possible.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is the most effective and economical way to manage flies. This means using as many methods as is practical to lessen the population. While all farms should start with sanitation, there are many more options - both natural and chemical - to keep animals comfortable. Remember to start early in the season and monitor fly pressure throughout the summer.

## Premises Fly Control:

Tall grasses and weeds not only harbor flies, but also larger pests such as rodents. Take time out of your busy summer to mow grass and cut down weeds growing around the edges of barns. Fans provide important cooling and drying, but also create an environment where it's hard for flies to land and exist comfortably.

Parasitic wasps are tiny insects that lay their eggs in fly pupae and prevent them from developing into adults. They are delivered by mail on a regular schedule throughout the season and need to be hand scattered around fly breeding areas. One adult lays enough eggs to kill 50-100 developing flies. They don't bother humans because they live their entire life cycle in manure.

Oral larvicides can be fed to animals to prevent fly development in their manure. There are also many highly effective chemical sprays and baits that can be used in or around facilities that house animals. Be sure to read application and safety instructions carefully as some of these can cause harm if applied to animals or their feed or water or by human exposure.

## Animal Fly Control:

For individual animals such as pets, show animals and small herds, fly sprays or pour-ons can keep flies away effectively. Not all fly sprays are the same; ask your vet for recommendations on specific products. They usually have to be applied every 2-3 weeks or more, so for larger groups of animals there are other options. Insecticide ear tags can be placed in beef and dairy animals to last the whole summer. They work well for face flies, but some horn flies are developing resistance. Change the type of ear tag you use from one year to the next and remove the tags at the end of the grazing season to prevent more horn flies from developing resistance.

