Feedlot Veterinarian & Technical Service Veterinarian Questions

1. How do you work with other members of the team? i.e. what is your relationship with the nutritionists, etc?
2. Do you feel like you do more consulting or practicing medicine in the feedlot?
3. Why did you choose feedlot medicine?
4. What do your clients expect or want from a veterinary consultant vs. a veterinarian on their operation?
5. What is your typical day like as a veterinary consultant?
6. Do you predict large animal medicine is moving towards more of a consulting role? If so, what are some experiences or opportunities veterinary students should participate in now to be prepared and competitive candidates by graduation?
7. As with the dairy industry, it seems that there are less producers with more of the market share. These producers are also becoming more educated, financially driven, and independent from the veterinary industry. If you were to graduate in 2015, what would you want to bring to the vet industry that would set you apart from your competitors and make you appealing to practices that are hiring
8. What does being a feedlot veterinarian entail?
9. How do you respond to feedlot and dairy managers that say they simply don’t need veterinarians on their operations anymore?
10. How has your role changed since you were in practice and where do you see a feedlot vet heading?
11. How has the role of a veterinarian on a Feedlot changed while you have been in practice?
12. Pretty basic but how did either/both get involved in their current positions as consultants? Did you always want to or did opportunities just open up and one thing lead to another?
13. What would you recommend for new grads looking for jobs in the Ag. Industry? Internships/externships?
14. As a feedlot vet how do you think that the new regulations on antibiotics use in food animals will impact your industry?
15. How can the feedlot industry works to help change people’s perception when there is so much bad press?
16. As a technical service vet with previous experience as a practitioner what is the greatest way you help people in private practice besides provided product information from your company?
17. Who do you think that successful private vets do to help producers see the vet as an added value to their business and not as an expense?
18. Did you find that completing a large animal internship was instrumental to you finding a job? Do you feel that the internship was a good experience and would you advise us to strive to complete one before entering the work force?
19. Was exactly does your job entail? If you’re more in a management role do you find that you do less medicine related things? If you do less hands on medicine, is this what you expected you’d be doing when you graduated?
20. I’ve had someone tell me in the last year that there is not place for a woman in a feedlot and that I’d never get a job in one. I’ve also had someone adamantly refute that ... Any thoughts?
21. How can a vet student stand out when there are hundreds of vet students graduating around the nation? or, in your experience, what makes people take a chance on hiring a fresh grad?
22. What do you see as the most important off-the-truck skills for a new feedlot veterinarian?
23. As a consultant, what do you expect from your feedlot clients (communication, records, updates, time frame, etc)?
24. What is (are) the most challenging part(s) of your job?
25. How many feedlots would a veterinary typically work for as a consultant? I'm wondering what a feedlot veterinarian is most commonly consulted about; is most of it medicine/health related or what specifically is asked?
26. I'm hearing that it's important for food animal veterinarians in general to know about nutrition. How much nutrition does a consulting feedlot veterinarian need to know?
27. You worked as a mixed animal veterinarian for over 20 yrs. Do you believe the "true" mixed practice is a dying trade or perhaps just evolving, and if so how is it changing? Many professors tell us here at WSU that the ideal "James Herriot" practice (the jack of all trades) doesn't exist anymore and students wanting to practice mixed animal are really just students who don't know what they want to do. If you good share your thoughts on this idea, I would really appreciate it.

28. As XXX CVM grads what did your program do well for you to help you become successful veterinarians? What could it have done differently? How do you feel WSU compares to XXX in preparing and producing good quality/competent veterinarians?

29. What do you think the advantages to doing an equine internship if you are going to work at a private practice. Is there a high enough benefit to do one when you will probably be at a referral center and see the less common cases versus going straight to private practice and getting good at things you do everyday and can refer the others?

30. Can you utilize newer technologies like skype, to "go to meetings" with producers when consulting for dairies or feedlots?

31. How, financially, do you go about charging for your consultation services? Is it as a retainer or by time invested?

32. How do you go about establishing a consulting firm with a group of veterinarians? (broad question, I know)?

33. In your opinion do you think it is still possible to be a mixed animal practitioner in rural America and practice on all species?

34. If you are a practitioner in a mixed practice that is primarily small animal, but the surrounding area has potential for large animal growth, with the changing roles of veterinarians what do think would be the most efficient way to grow the bovine side of practice? (i.e. be able to statistically analyze records and find ways to make financial gains they might miss, skilled at pregnancy evaluation, bettering communication skills and developing higher trust as a person of the community and therefore proving that your desire to be a vital

35. I'm particularly interested in your opinion about the future of mixed practice given your experiences in Nebraska.

36. I’d like you to briefly discuss the vaccine protocols and how practitioners can modify protocols to suit the endemic diseases (or strains, such as Leptospira) of a particular geographic region.

37. How can new vets build on a manufacturer’s campaign and how will that manufacturer support new vets in doing so?

38. How can new vets use herd data, etc to make "data-based decision making in procurement, production, and marketing...to improve our clients' net profitability"? I.e., what skills or software should we be working with now to have value for our future clients immediately?