



# HUNTERVILLE VETERINARY CLUB NEWSLETTER—OCTOBER 2014



## Navel Infections / Arthritis in 5-10 day old Lambs

This problem seems to have been a little more common than normal in lambs this year. Or at least we seem to have received more queries and lambs to examine!!

It may possibly be because the good weather has allowed these lambs to live longer than normal and come to the attention of farmers. It is also possible that another mild winter with few frosts has resulted in higher bacterial loadings on the ground and a greater chance that these bacteria have caused navel infections.

The navel of a new born lamb is an easy entry point for bacteria in the first few hours of life until the umbilical vessels clot and seal. If lambs are born on 'dirty ground', the chances of bacterial contamination of the umbilical area is increased. Weak lambs or small lambs that take longer to stand are also at greater risk.

Once bacteria enter the navel they travel back up toward the liver and can then circulate to the joints, heart, etc. These infections then 'brew up' causing problems such as liver abscesses, arthritis, and pericarditis. Lambs become weak, fail to feed, and eventually die.

If these lambs are spotted at a very early stage and the bacteria involved are not too virulent, treating the lamb with antibiotics may save them.



### WELL DONE

Congratulations to Jackie Tapp, our vet nurse, who placed 6th at the New Zealand Under 23 Squash Champs. A great effort and she has two more years still to compete in this competition.

She was also part of the Central Squash team that won the senior team Nationals.



For those of you who mother up new born lambs it pays to have iodine spray on hand to treat the navels of new-born lambs.

### Six Weeks To Produce Quality Semen

Bulls do not produce quality semen overnight!!! The process of semen production and maturation takes six weeks, so if your bulls are not in good order by now their ability to produce high quality semen and deliver good conception rates may be compromised on dairy or beef properties where bulls go out in October / November. Later mating herds have a little more time to ensure:

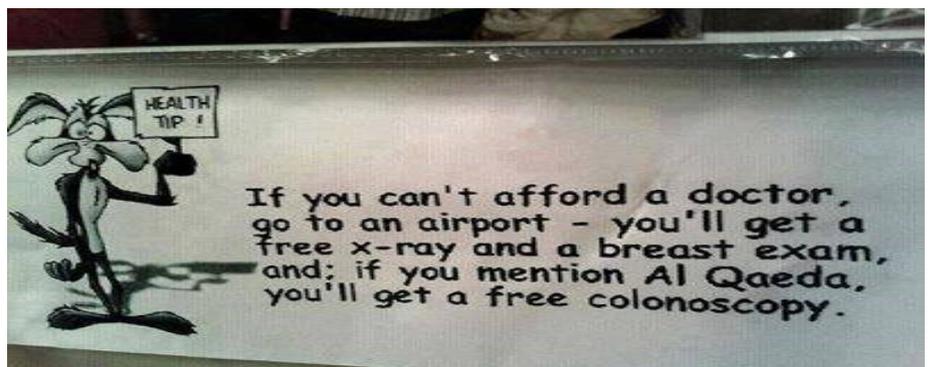
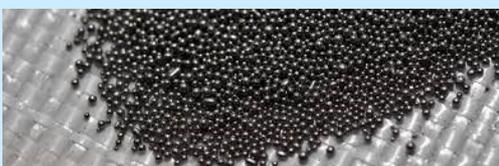
- Bulls are well fed and in good order.
- Mineral deficiencies, especially selenium and copper, have been rectified.
- BVD boosters have been given.
- Semen testing has been carried out especially for yearling bulls and bulls with previous health or condition issues.



### Lead— A Highly Toxic Material

Some of you will no doubt have read about the 100 odd dairy cows that died or had to be euthanised in Southland. These cows had been fed fodder beet grown on gun club land. The beets had lead shot embedded in them which caused lead poisoning.

This case highlights the dangers that lead can pose to livestock. Ensure lead containing rubbish (for example old batteries, lead head nails, old lead paint or iron etc) is always disposed of in a safe manner and not left lying around where stock can access it.



## Suitable Fly Treatments

Some wool growers are now entering contracts to supply wool with specific demands around dipping times and residues.

Wool Services International / Pure Lana have published a list of dips that are considered compliant with European standards. These dips all come from 2 action families only:

- Cyromazine (Vetrazin, Cyrazin, Banish)
- Spinosad (Expo, Extinosad)

The following dips:

- Organophosphate dips (Topclip, Seraphos)
- Diflubenzaron (Fleececare, Magnum),
- Triflumuron (Zapp, Exit),
- Cypermethins (Wipeout, Cypercare)
- Dicyclanil (Clik)

- *are all non compliant.*

Confused or needing advice as to how you will dip your sheep this season and meet contract requirements??? Call the Clinic.



## A Bar in West Virginia

All the hillbillies sitting around the bar look up from their beer and whiskey, expecting to see some pitiful Yankee from the north. The bartender says, "You ain't from around here, are ya?" The guy says, "No, I'm from Canada ." The bartender says, "What do you do in Canada ?" The guy says, "I'm a taxidermist." The bartender says, "A taxidermist? What in the hell is a taxidermist? Do you drive a taxi?" "No," says the Canadian "I don't drive a taxi, I mount animals." The bartender grins and hollers, "It's okay boys. He's one of us."

## Loan Item Equipment

*Please remember it is a privilege to borrow the Club's equipment, please return as soon as possible in a clean and tidy condition once you are finished with it so other clients can also have the opportunity to borrow as required. ☺*



## A Good Night

Thanks to all those who packed out the Golf Club for the Club AGM. It was a good

night and Ian Jones was an excellent speaker.

## Docking Fly Treatment—Dips only protect where you put them!

Apart from Clik which has some ability to spread in the fleece, all other docking dips DO NOT move in the fleece. This means products such as Vetrazin Spray On, Cyrazin or Banish need to be applied **accurately to the tail / scrotal area**. Make sure the person carrying out this job does it with some degree of accuracy!!

Where a high level of fly challenge is expected or prolonged protection (greater than 6 weeks) is required, Clik still remains the premium fly protection treatment. Give consideration to Clik for hogget lambs and lambs when re-dipping before weaning is necessary but a hassle to do.

## Sheep Measles

Spring is always a very difficult time to ensure dogs **do not** have access to unsafe meat.

If you had sheep measles on your lamb killing sheets last season, give consideration to dosing your dogs monthly over the next 3 months. This will ensure any sheep measles infections picked up by dogs are killed before they can be passed back to your lambs.

These monthly treatments need to be for sheep measles only, costing \$2.60 for a 20—40kg dog.

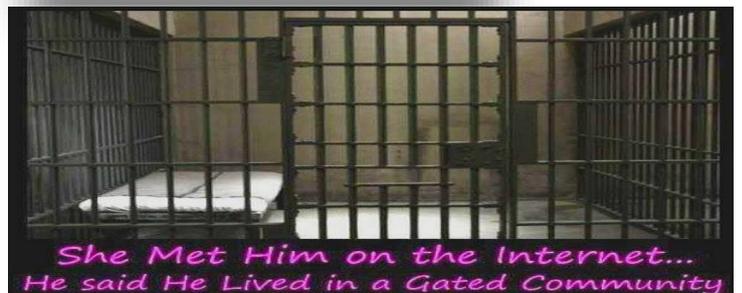
*Talk to Anna if you require treatments to be carried out.*



## Conveyor Staff

Coming home on the last day of the season and everyone is ready for a break.

Thanks for a great job  
Brenda, Garry  
and Michelle.



*She Met Him on the Internet...  
He said He Lived in a Gated Community*

## After Hours Vet

**Emergencies:** Phone 06 322 8058

**Shop Hours:** 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

**Email:** [huntervillevetclub@xtra.co.nz](mailto:huntervillevetclub@xtra.co.nz)

**Website:** [www.huntervillevetclub.co.nz](http://www.huntervillevetclub.co.nz)

