

HUNTERVILLE VETERINARY CLUB

NEWSLETTER—DECEMBER 2014



Vet Club News

Firstly, thanks to all those members past and present who attended our 50th celebration. It was a great night with a lot of catching up on old friends and acquaintances. We were thrilled to see so many past members, ex vets and staff in attendance. Congratulations to John and Yvonne Marsh who won the draw on the night for \$2000 worth of travel. (No doubt John can't wait to get away from the farm!!)

Congratulations to our vet nurse Jackie Tapp who recently took out the Wanganui Senior Sportsperson of the Year Award. Well done Jackie!!

In early December Jordan Stayt, a new Massey graduate, will begin working for us. Jordan hails from Taranaki and has a real interest in all things farming, with a particular interest in breaking in horses and training heading dogs. We welcome Jordan to Hunterville and look forward to his input into the Club for some time to come!!

The budget wasn't quite blown with the 50th celebrations, so as has become the norm in the last few years, ***call in for a drink after the Christmas Parade on Christmas Eve.***

The hams with drench / dip deals are in full swing. We have last year's list of who received hams with purchases so these people should be covered if they have purchased similar amounts of product in the last two months. Please try to pick up your hams BEFORE Christmas!

Remember to check out our website. It contains copies of our newsletters, our new FOR SALE section and some photos from the 50th celebration. www.huntervillevetclub.co.nz

Have a very safe and happy Christmas.

Flea Control

Last year after a very mild winter many people and their animals were driven mad by fleas! There is no quick fix to a flea problem as so much of the flea population resides in the environment except when the flea hops on you or your pet's for a feed.

The best advice we can give is start flea control early so populations don't have a chance to build up. This involves:

- cleaning out kennels and old bedding and spraying the kennels and surrounds with a product such as Ripcord or Permethrin.

- Treating your dogs and cats. (You really need to treat them all if you want proper control).

- Continue this programme right through the summer and autumn.



Remember that the products used to control fleas on your pets do not kill fleas instantly so if the environment your pets live in has fleas in it you can expect to see fleas on treated animals before they die. Often the reason you spot these fleas is because the treatments are slowing the fleas down before death.

In the last 12 months several new flea treatments including 8 month collars and oral treatments have been launched on the market. These products have certain advantages and disadvantages. Check at the Clinic as to what products offer the best flea control in your situation.

Teat Lesions and Mastitis



Over recent weeks we have dealt with outbreaks of environmental mastitis that have been associated with a high incidence of teat lesions in the affected herds. With the farming practices used today involving feedpads, etc there is ample opportunity for teats to be contaminated with mastitis causing bacteria. If the integrity of the teat opening has been compromised these bacteria stand a much greater chance of colonising the teat canal and causing mastitis.

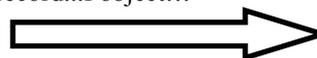
It is always good practice to monitor and score teat condition in your herd. The development of hyperkeratosis of the teat opening and progressive cracking may indicate problems with the milking plant that need to be addressed ASAP.



Avoid teat lesion problems by:

- Having the correct cups and liners for your cows.*
- Regularly ensuring the milking plant is running correctly.*
- Ensuring that teat spray and emollient are correctly mixed and applied.*
- Making a point of checking and scoring the teat health of your herd on a regular basis.*

Martin wanted this picture in. For the record...I object!!!





Drenching Programmes

Tapeworm Treatments

Debate still rages over the merits of treating lambs for tapeworm. The vast majority of lambs still receive a tape worm drench normally before weaning. It doesn't cost a lot extra and farmer observation is certainly that lambs dry up and that black shitty scour is stopped.

What we would suggest is that if your lambs are looking good at weaning and doing well further tapeworm drenches are not necessary. A good quality triple

combination drench is in most cases the best option.

Barber's Pole Treatments

Barber's pole is not an early season problem in this area. The explosive growth in barbers pole population occurs from late January. Using specific drenches with sustained barbers pole activity (Cydectin / Vetdectin or Closantel / Genesis Ultra) are generally advisable from the end of January until mid March to control barber's pole in most situations.

Exit Drenching

This relatively new concept in drenching has some merit. Essentially it involves targeted drenching using the new drench families (Zolvix and Startect) to remove resistant worms from lambs that have survived the drenching programme to this point. If you don't remove these worms they will continue to shed eggs with resistant genetics into the environment and accelerate the development of resistant populations.

Deadly Dog Sausage

We have had two of cases over the last few weeks where dogs have choked to death on dog sausage.

Please remember, if you are feeding your dogs dog sausage you MUST cut it up into small pieces as you dog will scoff it down. It can be an expensive business if you don't and your dog chokes!!!



Anna's Corner

NAIT Tag ordering—After hearing me say several times, I only need your AHB number, the systems have changed and I now require your NAIT number to do any official orders. Rumour has it AHB numbers will be non-existent in approximately July next year. Please have your NAIT number on hand when ordering as I have no history of them or way of tracking them.

Recently I was lucky to attend a *First Aid course*, I learnt so much, it was such a valuable experience! Staunch men, if you are having chest pains, let's get them checked out. A quick trip to the Dr is much better than time in hospital or realistically worse if you live way out in the sticks!

Ram Runs—Please ring to indicate your numbers for rams to be palpated and dogs to be vaccinated so we can co-ordinate you into a run. Organising runs makes this job much more efficient.

Cheers, Anna ☺

God promised men that good and obedient wives would be found in all corners of the world....



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then he made the world round and laughed and laughed...

The Lone Ranger and Tonto walked into a saloon and sat down to drink a Beer. After a few minutes, a big tall cowboy walked in and said "Who Owns the Big white horse outside?" The Lone Ranger stood up, hitched his gun belt, and said, "I do....Why?" The cowboy looked at the Lone Ranger and said, "I just thought you'd like to know that your horse is just about dead outside!"

The Lone Ranger and Tonto rushed outside and sure enough Silver was ready to die from heat exhaustion. The Lone Ranger got the horse water and soon Silver was starting to feel a little better.

The Lone Ranger turned to Tonto and said, "Tonto, I want you to run around Silver and see if you can create enough of a breeze to make him start to feel better." Tonto said, "Sure, Kemosabe" and took off running circles around Silver.

Not able to do anything else but wait, the Lone Ranger returned to the saloon to finish his drink. A few minutes later, another cowboy struts into the bar and asks, "Who owns that big white horse outside?" The Lone Ranger stands again, and claims, "I do, what's wrong with him this time?" The cowboy looks him in the eye and says, "Nothing, but you left your injun runnin!"

Drench Tests

To carry out a full blown, proper drench test you require wormy lambs!! If you are considering doing a drench test this season this will generally involve having 40—50 lambs un-drenched at weaning and leaving them un-drenched until enough worms are picked up to carry out a test. This can take a surprising length of time in some situations.

Call us if you would like more advice on the protocols and costs of drench testing.

After Hours Vet



Emergencies: Phone 06 322 8058

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

Email: huntervillevetclub@xtra.co.nz

Website: www.huntervillevetclub.co.nz