



Exit Drenching.

This drenching strategy is an idea that has come into vogue in the last couple of years with the advent of the two new drench families (Zolvix and Startect.) Exit drenching was discussed in our newsletter last autumn and was taken up by a number of farmers. I thought it was worth going over again, as I have seen articles/ advertisements really promoting it.

Essentially the idea is that if you have been drenching your lambs with traditional drenches over the spring, summer and early autumn period, it is likely that on many properties some resistant worms may have survived the drenching programme. Where drenches are still working at near full levels of effectiveness, the numbers of surviving worms will be low and you will have no idea they are there by looking at the lambs or their performance.

However, if these worms go on living they will have the opportunity to produce eggs and off-spring with resistant genetics and allow their resistant genetics to build in numbers on your property. This can be a very real problem, especially on farms with low worm populations (low refugia) or areas with low worm populations (new grass paddocks, areas last grazed by cattle etc.)

If you drench your lambs with Zolvix or Startect, you will kill these resistant worms preventing them from seeding your property with resistant genetics, thereby slowing resistance development and protecting the working life of traditional drenches. Extensive computer modelling supports this theory; and in 10-20 years time we will know whether it worked in practice!!!

At 85 cents for a 45kg lamb, there is a minimal cost. We are happy to discuss the merits of exit drenching for your particular farming system this autumn. Give us a call.

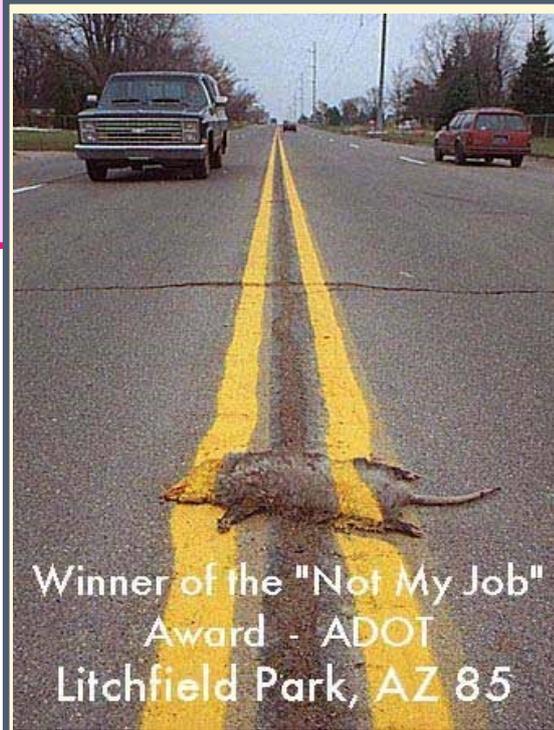
LOOKING AFTER RAMS

I recently carried out a post mortem examination on a terminal sire 4 tooth ram that had failed to put condition on like his flock mates after mating last season. My investigation revealed that the ram was suffering from the chronic effects of a long term worm challenge. The ram had not received a drench in the preceding 12 months.

Terminal sires are bred to produce meat and as such the majority of breeders put very little emphasis on worm resistance/ tolerance. (Unlike maternal flock rams.)

Some terminal sire rams will not be good at dealing with worms. To extend the life and performance of these valuable sires, it is a good policy to

- I. Drench terminal sire rams pre-tup.**
- II. Winter drench terminal rams after they are removed from the ewe.**
- III. Ensure they are well fed in the weeks following removal from the ewes. (This applies equally to all rams.)**



EID READER

We now have an EID reader available for all our members to use. It's very user friendly and the only thing you need to do is scan your cattle... Kerin will do the rest for you! If you have any question please do not hesitate to give us a call.



BOPRIVA—TURNING BULLS INTO STEERS.

With the beef outlook appearing to be very bright, wintering and finishing R2 bulls could be a very profitable venture. Unfortunately bulls come with behavioural problems that you are all aware of. Riding and fighting, digging holes etc all cause problems, especially when you attempt to winter big groups of bulls on rotation or breakfeed crops etc.

Over several seasons now, a small number of clients have utilised 'Bopriva' to very successfully winter R2 bulls in intensive situations. This product when used correctly by giving two vaccinations 4-8 weeks apart temporarily immuno castrates the bulls for a period of time 10-16 weeks (the length of effect being determined by the interval between vaccination.) Essentially the bulls are turned into steers from 10 days after the second vaccination and will exhibit steer like behaviour meaning they can be:

1. **Wintered in large mobs**
2. **Break fed on crops/ grass**
3. **Rotated around hill country to "clean up"**
4. **Won't damage new pastures with bull behaviour.**

Growth rates are generally similar to steers or untreated bulls on restricted intakes. As the effects of vaccination wear off, the bulls will return to "bull behaviour" and growth rates. With planning this can be organised to coincide with improved feed levels in spring and bulls will perform with average daily weight gains in excess of 2kgs/day.

Farming R2 bulls or thinking about it this winter?? Give the clinic a call to discuss the merits of Bopriva. The cost of the vaccination is around \$10inc/ bull.

Farewell

We would like to take this opportunity to farewell Michelle Holloway who has left us to explore other pursuits. We wish Michelle all the best for the future.

Please Be Aware

Copper and liver selenium testing is available through the works. If you would like to get this done please let us know 2-3 days in advance so that we can get the forms filled in. If you have any questions please phone us.

When sheepherders have a sense of humor



Nitrate Poisoning Risks

Once again climatic conditions over the last few months have led to a situation that could lead to high nitrate levels in newer grass paddocks and crops in the coming weeks. (Applications of nitrogen 'could further' enhance the problem.)

Bear this in mind when grazing such areas especially with cattle. A pre grazing nitrate test at \$25 could be very cheap insurance!!

Grown Fodder Beets—Got A Plan??

Fodder beets are expensive to grow but offer huge potential if well managed at grazing.

This requires careful planning around:

- ◇ ***The introduction of cattle onto the feed.***
- ◇ ***Supplementary roughage / grass requirements and amounts.***
- ◇ ***Paddock grazing plans.***
- ◇ ***Placement of bale feeders.***
- ◇ ***Type of stock to be fed and the objectives of feeding.***

Last year good planning gave good results and poor planning caused problems!! Ensure you understand what you need to do and how this can be achieved to end up with an excellent outcome.

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

Anna's Corner

You may have heard by now that I'm on the move, but never fear, I'm sure we can find someone to fill my shoes! I will still be around until the 15.5.15.

Internet payments: If you pay your bill over the internet, please be sure you use the code in bold on the bottom right corner of your account.

Cheers, Anna ☺

High Cell Count Cows

It would appear to be a good year for dairy farmers to ***'take the bit between the teeth'*** and deal to these animals. We know that high cell count cows with the following problems:

- * ***Multiple treatments over the season.***
- * ***Previous lactational history of high cell counts.***
- * ***Older cows.***
- * ***High cell count cows with obviously weak quarters***

- generally give disappointing results next season following treatments with dry cow therapy, and are a very good source for creating new cases of mastitis in good cows next season.

High cell cows are worth good money in the works (getting better all the time) and if replacement numbers are a little short, plenty of good, sound cows and heifers at reasonable money seem to be available. Take advantage of this situation to sort any problems out this autumn.