

HUNTERVILLE VETERINARY CLUB

NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2015

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Time seems to fly these days!! Another farming year has gone by which has been relatively difficult in some sectors. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our fantastic members for their business over that last 12 months. Here's hoping El Nino stays away, the Chinese decide to stock up on milk powder again, and the NZ\$ and the Reserve Bank behave themselves in 2016!

Need To Tape Worm Drench Again??

Many farmers will now be starting to drench lambs for the second time and we are often asked whether they need another tapeworm drench. Our general advice is that if the lambs appear to be doing well and seem to be clean, another drench with a specific tapeworm drench is probably not necessary.

Moving onto a triple combination such as Matrix, Pyramide or Abacare / Duocare Combo can be a good option.

However individual property factors need to be taken into account and if you feel your lambs benefit from a second tapeworm drench and wish to spend the money to do so there is little reason why you should not. We would however suggest you use a triple combination plus tape. (Matrix Tape or Ivermatrix Tape rather than lamb First!)



Conveyor

With the vaccine season underway people have already been booking our conveyor and staff to help with the vaccination, and drenching. We have bookings stretching out as far as March already so if you would like to use this service please ring the clinic.

On this note we would like to say a huge thank you to Brenda Berrett who has been in charge of running our conveyor for the last few years. Brenda has done a fabulous job and I am sure everyone who has used Brenda and the conveyor will appreciate the skills and organisation she has brought to this position.

We would also like to welcome Sarah Lilburn who is stepping in to fill this role. Sarah spent last year under Brenda's wing learning the ropes and will be contacting you if you have made a booking for our conveyor.

Things Look Good

Well at this stage if this is El Nino it doesn't look too bad! Feed quantity and quality is now pretty good on most farms and stock seem to be doing well. This can still change very rapidly with a bit of heat and wind with little rain. Keep revising those plans and making decisions sooner rather than later.

For those of you with crops in, it pays to check them regularly for pest and weed problems. I recently lost about 2 ha of a 10 ha rape and turnip paddock to greasy cut worm!!! A few days delay in finding the problem could have made it a lot worse!!



Dairy NZ Milksmart Roadshow

Feb / March 2016

For further information see
www.dairynz.co.nz/milksmart

Toxo

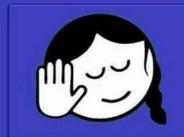
Just a reminder to get your vaccine orders in. We have received one order with no name on so remember to fill in all the details on the form carefully. Phone us if your order is for 100 doses of toxo and we can put a name to the order!!! Thanks

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

Dear Mother-in-Law



Don't teach me how to handle my children,
I am living with one of yours and
He needs a lot of
Improvement.

WORM PILLS

Just another reminder to check your worm pills and flea treatments when they arrive to ensure all details are correct. If your dog and cat numbers have changed recently let us know so that we can make the necessary changes.
Thanks



Agrecovery

Safe Disposal of Chemicals and Empty Containers

Members worried about disposing of chemicals and empty containers should check out the Agrecovery website, www.agrecovery.co.nz, or call 0800 247 326. Alternatively we are putting together an information sheet on how containers should be treated and drop off locations and opening hours.

Please note that the disposal of any empty containers that you have purchased from us with the Agrecovery logo (see above) can be disposed of at no cost provided they have been triple rinsed clean before drop off. (Larger chemical containers can also be disposed of if supplied by participating companies. Once again look for the logo on the container.)

Currently Agrecovery are running a promotion to win a holiday to the Pacific Islands!, when you recycle your drums before the end of March 2016. Check out the website www.agrecovery.co.nz.

Vaccine Problems

Over lambing and docking we had 2 reports of abortions in 2.2ths that had been vaccinated for campylobacter and toxoplasmosis. Blood testing revealed that the problem was due to Toxoplasmosis despite vaccination. However further blood testing of 2.2ths that were rearing lambs showed very high antibodies to toxoplasmosis also.

In these cases it appears that an extremely high toxo challenge overwhelmed the vaccine protection in some animals. The most likely explanation is that pregnant 2.2ths grazed areas with high populations of shedding cats. These cases highlight the fact that while vaccines are generally extremely effective, 'breakdowns' can occur in very high challenge situations.

As users are aware Toxovax is a live vaccine and quite fragile, requiring careful handling during vaccination. In these cases poor technique / handling was not an issue, but with the toxo vaccination season approaching it is a good time to remind users to handle vaccines carefully.

*Keep refrigerated and cool during use.

*Avoid exposing vaccine to direct sunlight.

*Remember that Toxovax has a very short life to expiry.

When Insults Had Class

A Member of Parliament to Disraeli: " Sir, you will either die on the gallows or of some unspeakable disease."

That Depends, Sir," said Disraeli, "whether I embrace your policies or your mistress."

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire." - Winston Churchill

"I never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure." - Clarence Darrow

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go." - Oscar Wilde

"He uses statistics as a drunken man uses lamp-posts....for support rather than illumination." - Andrew Lang

"He had delusions of adequacy." - Walter Kerr

"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend, if you have one." - George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill

"Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second...if there is one." - Winston Churchill in response

Seed Time

This is the start of the time of the year that grass seeds can start to be an issue in dogs and cats, finding their way into eyes, ears, toes, etc. If your dog or cat suddenly displays signs of irritation / swelling in these areas, check for grass seeds. If you can't find anything call the clinic sooner rather than later as seeds such as barley grass can cause real problems quite rapidly.



Dogs that have had previous problems with barley grass can benefit from having the hair between their toes clipped and checked regularly.

Check Teat Health

It is always a good idea to regularly check the condition of cow teats in your dairy herd. Damage to the teat end is a very important contributing factor in new cases of mastitis. Teat and damage can be associated with:

- Milking machine problems
- Over milking
- Liner age or unsuitability or your plant / cows
- Dry teats

If you suspect teat ends are not as healthy as they should be take action. Delays will only lead to bigger problems and we have seen severe mastitis outbreaks occur as a result of high incidence of teat end lesions in the herd.

Risk Factor	Reason for increased likelihood of teat end hyperkeratosis
Pointed teats	The load applied by the closing liner is on a smaller area of teat surface
Increasing age	The 'wrinkle factor' in all species
Higher production	Clusters are on for longer
Peak lactation	Clusters are on for longer
Udder washing	Water and chemicals reduce skin moisture and elasticity
Clusters on before let-down	Longer period of milk flow < 1 litre/min
Low thresholds for Automatic Cluster Removers (ACRs)	Longer period of milk flow < 1 litre/min
Overmilking	Longer period of milk flow < 1 litre/min
High vacuum	Greater stress on teat tissues - more stretched in the open liner and squeezed in the closed liner
Tight liner mouthpiece	The lip acts like a tourniquet which slows or restricts outflow of blood from the teat wall when the liner is collapsed
Liners mounted at high tension	The region of greatest local pressure is applied just above rather than at the teat end This restricts outflow of blood from the teat tip (acts like squeezing a grape until the skin splits)

Skin roughness or cracking around the teat orifice ('teat end hyperkeratosis')



No ring.

Smooth or slightly rough ring.



Rough ring.



Very rough ring.

