

BATCH NUMBERS AND EXPIRY DATE SYSTEM

We have recently updated our computer system to allow for batch numbers and expiry dates to be matched to the products at point of sale. For this system to work, we are asking for some patience when you are at the counter, due to the girls needing to match up the batch numbers to what the computer has on file. The batch number and expiry dates will be printed on your statements for your records and convenience.

This will be mainly used for large animal products such as drenches, dips and vaccines.

CLINIC CHANGES

In an effort to avoid clutter in the shop and animal accidents on the carpet we have put some new signage in place. We would like to encourage all our animal visitors to enter through the back door, and to keep animals strictly on the lino. We hope that all our clients understand and appreciate our efforts to tidy the clinic up.



TAIL END WEANERS

Where BVD is present in a cow herd, one of the problems associated with the disease is calves being born carrying the virus (PI's). These calves generally fail to thrive, will grow much more slowly than herd mates and show symptoms such as poor coats and scouring.

These calves will spread the disease to other weaners or cattle that they come into contact with. It is "Best Practice" to confirm their infected status with a blood test and destroy them.

If you have tail end weaner cattle that have performed poorly (including weaner dairy bulls), consider checking their BVD status with a blood test.

Where infected weaners are found, which have originated from your own cow herd, the next issue to address is protecting your herd and incoming heifers from the effects of BVD.

This can be an extremely complex issue and the best approach to the problem varies from farm to farm.

THEILERIA UPDATE

We continue to diagnose cases of Theileria on new properties around the area. Fortunately to date the number of animals being affected have been small and they have recovered with good feeding and the removal of any stresses.

With winter approaching, and cows in particular coming under increasing stress from pregnancy, cases of Theileria may become more common and more severe.

If you have cattle of any age that appear to be performing poorly or suffering weight loss this winter/spring, consider Theileria. A diagnosis can be easily confirmed from clinical signs and blood tests.



IRISH PIG BUYERS

Paddy and Paddy, two Irishmen, went out one day and each bought a pig. When they got home, Paddy turned to Paddy and said, "Paddy, me ol'mate, how are we going to tell who owns which Fookin' Pig?" Paddy says, "Well Paddy, I'll cut one of te ears off my Fookin Pig, and ten we can tell them apart." "Ah, dat id be grand," says Paddy.

This worked fine until a couple of weeks later, when Paddy stormed into the house. "Paddy," he said "Your Fookin Pig has chewed the ear off my Fookin Pig. Now we got two fookin pigs with one ear each. How are we going to tell who owns which fookin pig?" "Well Paddy," says Paddy, "I'll cut ta other ear off my fookin pig. Ten we'll ave two fookin pigs and only one of them will avan ear". "Ah tat'd be grand" says Paddy.

Again, this worked fine until a couple of weeks later, when Paddy again stormed

into the house. "Paddy", he said, "Your fookin pig has chewed the other ear offa my fookin pig!!!" "Now, we got two fookin pigs with no fookin ears!!! How we gonna tell who owns which fookin pig?" "Ah, dis is serious, Paddy," said Paddy. "I'll tell ya what I'll do. I'll cut de tail offa my fookin pig. Den we'll av two fookin pigs with no fookin ears and only one fookin tail." "Ah, tat'd be grand," says Paddy.

Another couple of weeks went by and.....you guessed it, Paddy stormed into the house once more. "PADDY," shouted Paddy, "YOUR FOOKIN PIG HAS CHEWED THE FOOKIN TAIL OFFA MY FOOKIN PIG, AND NOW WE GOT TWO FOOKIN PIGS WITH NO FOOKIN EARS AND NO FOOKIN TAILS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! HOW DE FOOK ARE WE GONNA FOOKIN TELL 'EM APART!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

"Ah, Fook it," says Paddy, "How's about you have the black one, and I'll have the white one".

AUTUMN WORM BURDENS

We have recently investigated several cases of high worm burdens in lambs that had been drenched within the last 4-5 weeks. A wet summer and autumn has been great for worm life cycles and populations have certainly built up on pastures, especially those areas that have seen high sheep stocking rates.

The worm problem investigated seem to have occurred for varying reasons;

- The most common problem seems to be drench resistance problems where the same drench (in most cases cydectin/vetdectin/exodus) has been used 2-3 times in a row. The species of worm involved in these cases has almost always been *Trichostrongylus* (black scour worm). This species of worm seems to be the one that is most likely to develop resistance to the Ivomec family of drenches in our area. *Haemonchus*/ Barbers pole has not been in a problem in any case investigated.
- In two cases worm problems appear to have been related to faulty drench guns or administration problems.
- High worm challenges and a 4 week drench interval being too long was also identified as a problem.

When resistance was suspected farmers were recommended to drench with Zolvix or Startect to ensure resistant worms were removed.

As we suggested in last month's newsletter, now is a great time to use these new drenches to remove resistant worms that have survived your drench program to date. It is highly likely that resistance issues will exist on most properties however in the very early stages this emerging resistance problem will not yet be affecting productivity to the extent that you can see a problem.



THE ALTAR BOY

An altar boy goes to confession: 'Bless me Father, for I have sinned. I have been with a girl.' The priest asks, 'Is that you, little Joey Pagano?' 'Yes, Father it is.'

'And who was the girl you were with?' 'I can't tell you, Father, I don't want to ruin her reputation.'

'Well, Joey, I'm sure to find out her name sooner of later so you may as well tell me now. Was it Tina Minetti?' 'I cannot say.'

'Was it Teresa Mazzarelli?' 'I'll never tell.'

'Was it Nina Capelli?' 'I'm sorry, but I cannot name her.'

'Was it Cathy Piriano?' 'My lips are sealed.' 'Was it Rosa DiAngelo, then?'

'Please Father, I cannot tell you.'

The priest sighs in frustration.

'You're very tighted lipped, and I admire

that. But you've sinned and have to atone. You cannot be an altar boy now for 4 months. Now you go and behave yourself.'

Joey walks back to his pew, and his friend Franco slides over and whispers, 'What'd you get?'

'Four months holiday and five good leads...'

CONVEYOR STAFF

We are looking for more conveyor staff to be available for Capsule season. The season is July- August, pretty much full time. This is quite a physical job with attractive pay rates.

Please contact Kerin at the Clinic if interested.

ANNUAL REMINDER

Lice burdens in sheep are best treated when **wool lengths are shortest**. As wool length increases the choice of products available diminishes and the cost of treatment increases, results also tend to be more variable.

If you need to dip for lice we would advise you to carry out the procedure as early as possible this autumn/winter.

- Where sheep are to be 2nd shorn, dip the month after shearing, or immediately off shears.
- For full wool ewes or hogget's, treat sooner rather than later.

Many product options are available so contact the clinic to discuss options and costs.

SELENIUM DEFICIENCY

As a generalisation, in years of high grass growth, selenium levels in pasture tend to diminish. The majority of stock in our area will benefit from selenium supplementation especially in seasons such as this. If you have not supplemented weaners or cows with selenium, now is the time to test if you don't know your Selenium status, or supplement if you do. Contact the clinic if you need to discuss treatment options available.



AFTER HOURS VET

Emergencies - 06 322 8058

Shop Hours - 8am to 5pm

Monday to Friday

Email - huntervillevetclub@xtra.co.nz