



# HVC

YOUR CLUB

## NOV 17

### QUARANTINE DRENCHING

As we have mentioned in previous newsletters we are beginning to see cases where worms appear to be resistant to the three drench families present in triple drenches (ivermectins, levamisole and white drench). While triple drenches may be adequate as a quarantine drench for the majority of lambs, there is a risk that in some situations they may now fail to work 100% effectively and allow multi resistant worms onto your property. This is a real threat especially where lambs go onto pastures or crops where existing numbers of worms are low (low refugia situations).

The new generation drenches—Startect and Zolvix—are now the gold standard quarantine drenches. Talk to us about their place in your lamb drenching programme.

PS. We have a limited stock of Startect at a reduced price. Call the clinic if you are interested.



### LAMB DEATHS ON HIGH QUALITY FEEDS

We have received some queries regarding the death of good lambs on high quality feeds such as clover dominant new grass, plantain or chicory. Where the sudden death of good lambs occur, pulpy kidney or on occasions other clostridial diseases, are a probable cause.

Some of the deaths reported occurred in lambs where ewes were not vaccinated at the correct time before lambing (2-4 weeks). This is likely to have resulted in poor levels of protective antibodies being passed to the lamb in colostrum.

Where correct vaccination programmes are carried out and good colostrum intake occurs lambs should be protected from pulpy kidney for the first 10-12 weeks of life. If lambs are likely to graze high quality feeds after this time vaccinating lambs can be a good management option. 5 in 1 vaccination should be sufficient but on occasions 6 in 1, or 10 in 1 clostridial vaccines may be a better option.



If purchasing trade lambs and finishing lambs, on high quality feeds, vaccination at arrival is a good protocol to consider. Vaccination should be carried out carefully high up on the neck to avoid problems with vaccination lesions at slaughter.

Where lambs are to be farmed for a short term (less than 3 weeks) before slaughter, vaccination should be avoided to prevent problems with lesions.

Contact the clinic for advice on vaccination protocols.

PS. **Don't assume** deaths are always necessarily due to pulpy kidney! We have also seen deaths associated with:

- ◇ Leptospirosis infections
- ◇ Pneumonia
- ◇ Poisoning

### GOT ENOUGH BULLS

There are some reports of pretty low submission rates in dairy herds. If your herd falls into this category you may have to reassess your bull requirements for the end of AI as you may have more empty cows than anticipated when the bull goes out.

The general recommendation is one bull to every 30 cows not in calf at the end of AI. One or two spares should also be carried or be accessible for bull injuries or lameness that may occur.

The other alternative is to extend your AI period or possibly recommence AI at the end of mating. Short gestation bulls can be used which will assist in bringing late calving cows forward a little next season.



### CARS

Three men met at a party, and it wasn't long until the conversation got around to their line of work and what kind of cars they drove. "I'm a veterinarian," said the first fellow. "So, naturally, I drive a white 'Vet.'"

As they smiled and nodded, the second man said, "I own a sign company, so I drive a purple Neon."

Now the third guy was suddenly quiet until he was egged on by the other two. "Well," he finally said, "I'm a proctologist... and I have a brown Probe."

## A MAN RIDING

A man riding out in the bush fell from his horse and broke his leg. He was a long way out, so the situation looked pretty grim. Then the horse grabbed the man's belt in his teeth and dragged him to the shade of a nearby tree.

He made the man as comfortable as he could and then galloped off to get help. The man discussed the incident a few weeks later with a friend, who, very impressed, praised the horse's intelligence. "He's not so smart," said the animal's owner. "He came back with a vet."



## SMALL ANIMAL CORNER

### Lepto In Dogs

You are probably familiar with Leptospirosis vaccines and issues in your farm animals but did you know dogs can also contract the infection and potentially pass it on to you?

The bacteria are shed by asymptomatic hosts and sick infected farm animals (including rats, mice, pigs, horses and deer). The bacteria can be found in free standing water and is associated with alkaline soil. Infection can occur when dogs come into contact with infected urine, infected water, soil, bedding and food.

Dogs can show varying signs of illness; from mild non-specific signs like vomiting, diarrhoea, anorexia and depression to sudden death. The bacteria can cause kidney and sometimes liver disease and will be shed in a sick dog's urine, posing a risk for you.

Prevention includes vaccination, rodent control and reducing standing/stagnant water areas on your property. Call the clinic to discuss the inclusion of lepto vaccination in your dog's vaccination schedules.

## BULK MILK TESTING FOR BVD

If you pay for this service from Livestock Improvement we want to ensure that the results are being properly interpreted.

Currently many farmers appear confused by what the results mean or just ignore them!!

Livestock Improvement will email the results to us for interpretation if you request it and we would encourage you to do this. Please let us know also, so we can ensure it actually happens!!

## LAME COWS

Such a wet Spring has not been very helpful when it comes to 'hoof health' and track conditions. It is fair to say that many dairy farms have more lame cows than normal.

I recently read a report that highlighted a number of important points.

- ◇ Delays in treating lame cows significantly increases the cost of lost production, the chances of the cow not getting in calf, and the likelihood of not obtaining a satisfactory cure.
- ◇ Cow slips and anti-inflammatories improve cure rates and minimise the loss of cow condition and milk production.
- ◇ Antibiotics only improve cure rates in certain cases of lameness. For many cases, especially sole bruising and white line damage, cow slips and anti-inflammatories are more beneficial.



## STAFF CHANGES

Just to keep you all in the loop, we have a couple of staff changes in the next couple of months.

Aimee has left us after 2.5 years to pursue other avenues. Aimee has been a great member of staff during this time and she will be dearly missed by staff and clients alike.

Beatrice is also leaving to further her studies down south. Beatrice has also been working with us for 3 years in various roles and we wish her well with her studies.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Bayley Phillips, who started Nov 6, and Amber Barron, who starts Dec 4.

Remember they are new and it will take them a wee while to get to know everyone and everything—we appreciate your patience.

## THEILERIA UPDATE

This problem continues to spread through the area. New cases have been seen in dairy herds and in beef cattle. In some cases the disease has been quite severe but if cases can be identified early and managed correctly with the removal of stresses and excellent feeding, most animals will recover.

If you note any of the following theileria may be involved.

- ◇ Unexplained losses of cows or their calves.
- ◇ Sick, lethargic cattle at any age.
- ◇ Lines of stock showing poor live weight gains.

## AFTER HOURS VET

**Emergencies - 06 322 8058**

**Shop Hours - 8am to 5pm**

Monday to Friday

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