

## CYRAZIN KO

We have been selling this fly dip for a number of seasons now and it appears to perform very well. Cyrazin KO is a mixture of cryomazine and ivermectin and has a number of pluses.

- One of the longer lengths of fly control—up to 14 weeks.
- The ivermectin content kills maggots if sheep are already struck.
- Ivermectin also gives summer lice control.
- Relatively cost effective at 23 cents per litre of wash.



## MASTITIS OUTBREAK

In the last month we had a dairy client who experienced an unusual mastitis outbreak. All cows affected had mastitis in the front right quarter. Milk cultures grew a range of different bacteria, some normally associated with mastitis which required a change in antibiotic treatment.

A milking machine problem was suspected but the plant had been checked very recently. However a recheck did find a problem with a pulsator and set of cups. The owner had mentioned prior problems to the initial plant check that he was concerned about this set of cups but nothing was done.

The moral of this story—don't assume a plant check finds all the problems, and don't just keep treating in a mastitis outbreak—**investigate the problem!!**

## MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Well Covid, droughts and all, it looks like we will all make it to 2021. So here's to a Merry Christmas and a new year that proves to be a little less challenging than 2020!!

Generally things out there seem to be going fairly well although a little more certainty around schedules and where they might end up would be useful!! At the end of the day all we can do is ensure we feed stock as well as possible, (this may become more difficult for young stock as feed quality deteriorates rapidly given the current excess pasture covers) keep them in good health and make management decisions on time and based on fact, not fantasy!!

The grass has certainly grown but as mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, the moisture will create a list of problems. Worms, flies, slugs, springtails, and cutworm all love the damp conditions and are creating problems for livestock and crops!!

Have a great Christmas and stay on top of the challenges!!!

PS. As per normal we will be supporting the Lions Club Christmas Shout on Christmas Eve following the Christmas parade. All members are welcome to attend and it will be great to see you there!

## GREAT WEATHER FOR WORMS AND FLY

While recent damp conditions have been good for grass growth they have also been favourable for the life cycle of worms and to a lesser extent, fly.

Wet swards are great for larval development so we can expect to see worm numbers on pasture build rapidly if the moisture continues through December and January. This could lead to early season worm challenges (Barbers Pole and Ostertagia) which we have not really experienced in the last couple of years.

With widespread drench resistance now occurring it is essential effective drenches are used on farm.

1. Check the effectiveness of your drenching programme by taking faecal samples 10 days after drenching. (The egg counts should be zero at this time.)
2. Consider carrying out a drench test to determine what drenches work on your property if you don't know already.
3. Ensure you quarantine drench lambs that you purchase with either Zolvix or Startect.

If the winds die and we get heat with the moisture we are getting, fly challenges will take off. (Something that we have missed to some extent in recent seasons.) We are already getting some reports of flies striking. Ensure you have good control measures in place and don't get caught!! There are all sorts of options out there from short term control to products that deliver up to 20 weeks protection. Talk to us if you require advice.

I took my dad to the mall the other day to buy some new shoes (he is 92). We decided to grab a bite at the food court. I noticed he was watching a teenager sitting next to him. The teenager had spiked hair in all different colours: red, orange, green and blue. My dad kept staring at him. The teenager would look and find him staring every time.

When the teenager had had enough he sarcastically asked, "What's the matter old man? Never done anything wild in your life?"

Knowing my dad I quickly swallowed my food so that I would not choke on his response, knowing he would have a good one.

And in classic style he did not bat an eyelid in his response. "Got drunk once & had sex with a peacock. I was just wondering if you were my son."



## HOW BVD GETS YOU

Over the course of the year a number of clients have experienced the significant economic and reproductive losses that an outbreak of BVD can have on farm.

BVD, Bovine Viral Diarrhoea, is a virus which is mainly shed by persistently infected (PI) animals. If a naive cow (one that has not been exposed to BVD) gets exposed to the virus when she is 40-150 days pregnant, she will either abort or create a PI calf. The cow becomes immune but the calf becomes a PI, PI calves are born a PI and die a PI.



PI calves tend to do poorly, looking smaller or lighter than others. They tend to die before the age of two. However, the odd animals will survive to an older age. One farm had a R4 within the top 10% of milk producers test positive as a PI.

These PI calves shed the virus in their body fluids. A naïve animal infected with the virus will be sick for 2-3 weeks. Signs of infection include: pneumonia, diarrhoea, milk drop, high somatic cell count, immune suppression. It also causes **higher empty rates (through early abortions), mid to late term abortions** and abnormal calves. While infected these animals will also have **checks in their weight gains** as they recover from the infection. Farmers tend to not know they have a problem until pregnancy scanning when they suddenly have a high empty rate (up to 50% has been recorded)!

The way the virus gets onto a farm is either through animals moved onto the farm, or over the fence exposure. Therefore, to ensure your farm is safe, ask for the BVD status of animals you purchase from the sales, or bulls you lease, and vaccinate your stock. If you are unsure as to the 'accuracy' of an animal's status consider blood testing them before they are mixed with other stock on your property. At the moment BVD status is not a requirement prior to sale.

The BVD vaccine requires a booster 4 weeks after the initial vaccine, it is safe for, calves and pregnant animals. At the very least bulls must be vaccinated and heifers to protect your in-calf rate.

## RAM CHECKS

It is that time of the year again!! Ram checks are a simple, cheap check to ensure your rams are up to the challenge they face.

While Brucellosis is very rare these days it still appears from time to time and can be costly.

The risk is greatest where boundary fences are poor and stock intrusions can occur (especially if the neighbour doesn't check his rams).

Purchasing rams that are not Brucellosis accredited also presents a risk so think carefully about isolation procedures if buying rams for dog tucker, etc.

If you require **teasers**, this job can be done at the same time. Teasers should be cut at least 6 weeks before they are required to work.



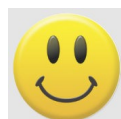
A young pirate, proud of the scars on his arms and his back, seldom wore a shirt.

After a particularly hot and brutal summer, the pirate noticed several moles on his back that were certainly not there before. He remembered the dire warnings of his mother, who cautioned him that without a shirt he was certain to get skin cancer.

So he hurried to a doctor the next time his ship was in port.

The doctor carefully inspected the moles and told the pirate not to worry. "They're benign," he said.

Unconvinced the pirate said, "Look again ye lubber! I'm sure there be at least ten."



## PUPPIES – BREEDING & WHELPING

We have had quite a few caesareans in the last month and thought we should give you some things to do and look out for to make for a smooth delivery.

### *Things to do in the last 3 weeks*

- Feed your bitch more than normal, energy requirements are highest in the 3rd trimester
- Feed your bitch a good quality feed containing good amounts of calcium i.e. premium puppy food (raw meat is deficient in calcium)
- Worm your bitch 2 weeks before the estimated due date and again 2 weeks after the pups are born
- Vaccinate your bitch for Parvo if she hasn't had one in the last 12 months (must be given at least 10 days before pups are due).

### *During whelping*

- Provide good quality food for your bitch, as much as she wants
- Monitor for discharge – green discharge with no signs of puppies is a bad thing and can mean the placentas are separating early causing still births
- Active straining for 20-30 minutes without seeing a puppy could mean the puppy is stuck
- Having longer and longer times between pups could mean the uterus isn't contracting properly, on average you should see a pup every 2 hours or less
- Try to avoid disturbing your bitch while she is whelping but do let her out for a toilet break

If you are concerned, please phone the clinic as early as possible, it is a lot easier to help out a bitch in trouble when we have staff on hand before 5pm on weekdays or daylight hours during weekends.

## 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)**