



# HVC

YOUR CLUB

## JUN 21

### DRENCH MELTDOWNS

In the past month we have been involved with investigating lamb deaths and poor growth rates on an ever increasing number of properties. In all cases the problem has been caused by worms. It hasn't been because the wrong drench was used or lambs were drenched too late; the problems have been caused by drenches not working properly due to **worms being resistant**.

As a rule the problems are worse where single active drenches like Cydectin or Exodus have been used but triple drenches such as Matrix or Boss are also failing on many farms.

We have been urging farmers to check how well drenches are working as part of their drenching programme for several years now. If you are not doing it expect to get caught out. Over 75% of the drench testing / faecal egg counts we are now doing point toward serious drench resistance problems.

**If you have not done any testing it is time to wake up and take some action.**

### FAMOUS TOPICS IN ART HISTORY:



**HERCULES ATTEMPTING TO GIVE HIS CAT A PILL**

### A GOOD PLACE TO BE!

While things are pretty good out there on most farms, Drench Resistance is becoming a real problem for many. Please read the short piece entitled Drench Meltdowns and make a plan if you haven't already.

One has to feel sorry for the farmers of Canterbury. What a time of year to experience the flooding they have had. No doubt global warming will be identified as the cause and all those cows in Canterbury will get the blame.

### THEILERIA RISKS TO GRAZING COWS

I recently took a call from a dairy client which highlighted a very real risk when it comes to grazing cows away from home. He had found grazing on a property that had had issues with Theileria in recent seasons. His question was whether there was a risk to his cows.

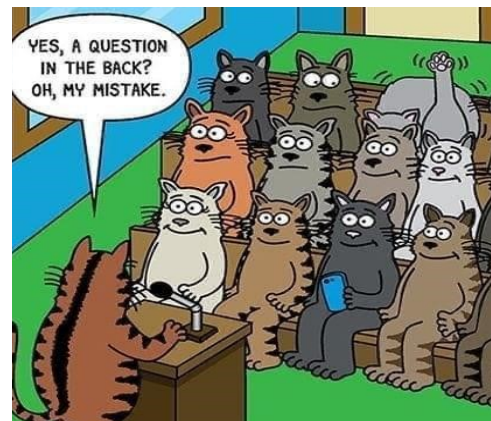
The answer is an emphatic yes, there is a very high degree of risk as many of our dairy farms have nil or minimal levels of exposure to Theileria. Unexposed cows in late pregnancy are most at risk of being seriously affected by Theileria if they contract it and death rates can be high. Do not put your cows into this high risk situation.

### QUARANTINE AND KNOCK OUT DRENCHING

Given our comments in 'Drench Meltdown' elsewhere in the newsletter, **quarantine drenching** and **exit drenching** should be part of every farmer's drenching programme.

Quarantine drenching should be carried out using Zolvix when sheep come on to your property. Ideally stock should then be held in a quarantine area for 24-48 hours before they move out onto the farm.

Knockout drenching involves treating lambs such as ewe hogget replacements or long term trade lambs with Zolvix or Startect to remove resistant worms that have survived the earlier drenching programme. These worms need to be removed or they will continue to grow the resistant worm population on your property. Please contact us if you would like further advice around this practice and what drench is best suited to your particular situation.



### VELTRAK

In order to sell velvet for export, all velvet suppliers, whether they remove velvet themselves or get us to velvet their stags, need to register their farm with Veltrak – the new velvet tagging/identification system.

Registration needs to be completed before the start of the 2021/2022 season. Tags can still be ordered through the clinic as before. The cost of tags has increased slightly (~49c/tag).

### GOLF TOURNAMENT FOR CLIENTS

Just a heads up that on July 22 the Vet Club will be hosting a Golf Tournament for our clients at Rangatira. This will be a great day to attend for a bit of fun and a few drinks before the onslaught of Spring. You won't have to be a professional golfer to enjoy yourself or win a prize.

More details will follow or call the clinic for more details. Entry will be free for the first 50 golfers.



## JUST A THOUGHT!

Seems like a body of people out there think they can save the planet by turning vegetarian and having fewer children. (Probably a good thing having fewer children if they are going to raise them as vegetarians).

The problem is instead of having kids, a lot of these people seem to be buying dogs or cats which do need a meat based diet so how much planet saving is really going on???

## THE OLD WAYS WERE BEST???

I was recently reading a very old copy of a book entitled Veterinary Medicine of Sheep and Cattle in New Zealand.

Under the topic of liver fluke the recommended practice was to 'treat streams of wet areas with copper sulphate until they had a 'blue tint' and drench sheep with carbontetrachloride.

I wonder if this could form part of regenerative farming practices??



## GOOD RESULTS

Early ewe scanning results have been very good so far (not too surprising given the season and general ewe condition out there). Clients are reporting percentages 10-20% up on last year.

This trend will probably continue for later lambing flocks so start making plans to handle more twins and triplets this year! 😊



## GRAZING BRASSICAS

Every year clients have various problems with grazing their winter Brassica crops. There are a number of things that need to be considered or carried out to ensure crops are grazed successfully with good productivity and minimal losses.

1. Be sure high **nitrate** levels are not an issue (more of a risk to cattle than sheep). If unsure, test the crop before grazing.
2. Stock should be vaccinated for **clostridial disease** – we recommend Covexin 10 in 1 for cattle and Coglavax 8 in 1 for sheep.
3. **Bloat** can be a problem on Brassicas even when intakes are being restricted. Often problems are also associated with times of heavy frosting and minimal roughage being available in the diet. Check cattle closely for signs of bloating an hour or 2 after shifting breaks and have hay or baleage available.
4. In-lamb ewes grazing brassicas (including swedes and turnips) can develop iodine deficiency that can affect lamb survival. Iodine supplementation as ewes go onto brassicas and when they come off may be advisable.
5. Make fibre available (ie. hay or silage / baleage). As well as helping to control bloat issues it can also improve the efficiency of feed conversion.
6. It takes up to 10 days for stock to adjust to a brassica diet so plan to avoid putting stock on such diets for short periods.
7. Achieving very high utilisation of crops (ie no stalk or bulbs left behind) will generally result in minimal weight gain if the brassica is more than 75% of the diet. The more you can leave behind, the better the stock will generally do.
8. It is pretty self-explanatory but stock do best when there isn't too much mud. (And it keeps our urban friends happy as well!)

## PREG TESTING DEER

Generally June is the best month for pregnancy scanning deer. Deer farmers who wish to pregnancy test their deer should have them booked in by now.



## 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)