



HVC

YOUR CLUB

NOV 21

EARLY WEANING OF LAMBS!!

Feedback from farmers over recent weeks indicates on some properties ewes have struggled from lambing and were in pretty 'average' condition at docking. A lack of feed due to porina has been a big issue for some. While lamb survival has been good, growth rates have not been great.

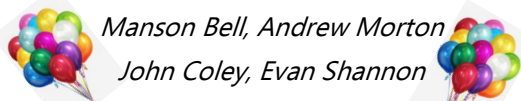
If your ewes and lambs fall into this category weaning earlier can be a great option. In this type of situation ewes will generally not be milking well and volume will be declining. Ewes will be competing with lambs for quality feed. Given the rain we have had and lowish grass covers one would expect to grow high quality feed over the next 6-8 weeks. It can make sense to wean early (especially twins) and have lambs alone targeting this 'quality feed'. Low condition score ewes will also have the best opportunity to put weight back on to set them up for next mating.

So think about early weaning if:

- your ewes are light and milking poorly.
- Lambs are 70 days plus of age (ideally 23kgs minimum weight).
- You have good quality pasture (plenty of clover!) or crops to wean on to.

Contact Martin if you would like to discuss early weaning in more detail.

CONGRATULATIONS



Manson Bell, Andrew Morton

John Coley, Evan Shannon

Thanks to the above farmers who returned their Docking forms and had their names randomly drawn winning them a \$50 New World voucher.

THE YEAR MARCHES ON!

Welcome to November, a critical time of the year for maximising productivity and returns. Feed quality and quantity available this month has a major effect on livestock performance in so many areas—growth rates, milk production and reproductive performance being the 3 most critical.

Healthy stock perform best so ensure you cover off all the bases to ensure you are not limiting the performance potential of your stock.

At the clinic we have had a couple of significant staff changes. After 27 years Helen has headed to the South Island, and Jo, one of our vet nurses has moved to milking cows. We have employed Amy Pugh at reception, Amber Barron has moved to Helen's area of stock control, and Renea Leary is now doing 3 days vet nursing.

May the sun shine, the grass grow, and your stock perform over November. If they don't we are here to help!!!

WEANING CALVES

Come November many clients are weaning or have weaned the first of their hand reared calves. For most it has taken some effort to get them to this stage. While it might be tempting to heave a sigh of relief and tip them out in a paddock and forget about them, that's not a good option!!

Transition of calves from a milk / meal diet to a 100% grass diet should be managed. Don't cut calves from high meal diets (1kg / head / day or more) to nothing overnight. Do it gradually. Ensure calves are on high quality pasture and if it is particularly lush it can pay to have some good quality hay available while calves adjust.

Ensure calves are drenched. **Turbo Initial** is an excellent option as not only does it control worms but also contains Diclazuril which deals to any coccidia calves may have picked up. Coccidia is very common in calves and can be a problem even in some calves when meal has been fed containing coccidiostat.

Clostridial vaccination programmes (**10 in 1** being the gold standard) should be carried out if not already started. Where **lepto** vaccination programmes are in place, vaccination programmes should be completed (2 doses, 4-6 weeks apart).

If issues exist with **copper** or **selenium** consider the use of copper capsules and long acting selenium. If lice are an issue on calves these should be dealt with. It is a good idea to weigh calves 6-8 weeks after weaning to ensure their weight gains are on track.

Keep an eye on calves after weaning for conditions that can affect recently weaned calves—Vit B1 / Thiamine deficiency and Yersiniosis in particular.

DRENCH EFFICACY TESTS

If you are giving consideration to carrying out a '**full drench test**' this year, things need to be planned from weaning. To deliver really meaningful results lambs used for testing need to have significant worm burdens. This generally means leaving 40 to 50 lambs undrenched at weaning. These lambs then need to be monitored through faecal egg counting until they are wormy enough to be drenched. Sometimes this can take up to 3 months!! Call us at the clinic to plan a drench testing programme.

DOG FOOD \$

Feeding your dog with high quality, energy packed dog biscuits at times of the year when dogs have a heavy workload is now well recognised as important for dog health and performance.

The next few months are a time of heavy dog work. Unfortunately we are seeing some significant increases in dog food prices due to the increasing cost of feed components and transport. Please contact the clinic to discuss options for purchasing dog foods at the best prices.

TYPE 2 OSTERTAGIA IN RISING 2 YR CATTLE

Type 2 ostertagia used to be a very common problem in rising 2 year cattle. The advent of ivermectin type drenches solved a lot of the problems. This family of drench is very good at killing the inhibited stages of ostertagia that built up in the cattle beast's abomasal lining over late autumn and winter.

If these 'inhibited larvae' are not removed they tend to 'break out' in spring resulting in severe damage to the abomasal wall with acute scouring and even death.

This spring I have seen 2 cases of type 2 ostertagia in rising 2 year cattle. In both instances the cattle had not been drenched since mid autumn and because the animals 'looked okay' a spring drench had not been given.

If wintering rising 2 year cattle, a spring drench should be considered to prevent type 2 ostertagia. It is also a good time to treat with copper and selenium if required.

NIGHT OUT...

The other night I was invited out for a night with the "girls." I told my husband that I would be home by midnight, "I promise!" Well, the hours passed and the margaritas went down way too easily. Around 3 a.m., a bit loaded, I headed for home. Just as I got in the door, the cuckoo clock in the hallway started up and cuckooed 3 times. Quickly, realizing my husband would probably wake up, I cuckooed another 9 times. I was really proud of myself for coming up with such a quick-witted solution, in order to escape a possible conflict with him. (Even when totally smashed... 3 cuckoos plus 9 cuckoos totals 12 cuckoos = MIDNIGHT !) The next morning my husband asked me what time I got in, I told him "MIDNIGHT"... he didn't seem pissed off in the least. Whew, I got away with that one! Then he said "We need a new cuckoo clock." When I asked him why, he said, "Well, last night our clock cuckooed three times, then said "oh shit" Cuckooed 4 more times, cleared its throat, cuckooed another three times, giggled, cuckooed twice more, and then tripped over the coffee table and farted.

PRODUCT CHOICES

- for pour-on fly control this season

Last year we warned that dips containing **Triflumeron** (Zapp, Exit) for fly control were unlikely to be as effective as in the past due to developing resistance in the 'Aussie greenback fly' to this particular chemical. Although it was not a particularly bad fly season clients did report that Zapp and Exit did not work as well as in the past.

If you use pour-ons for fly control we suggest Klik / Strikeforce or Cyrazin Spray-on are the best options.

Klik or Strikeforce have very good long term fly control (up to 16 weeks). Cyrazin Spray-on is best suited to situations where 6-8 weeks of fly protection are required and has a short withholding period.

Note that none of these products will kill active fly strike where live maggots are present. They also have no activity against lice.

LEARNING FROM HISTORY??

Our great leader and her agenda driven mates have determined that the history taught to school children is no longer fit for purpose. I can see their point, history should be used to stop governments and mankind (sorry 'humankind') making the same mistakes again.

Little wonder then that the origins and history of WW2 are now not considered appropriate given what it teaches us!!

1. State propaganda can be used to manipulate society and push agendas. Think 3 waters.
2. Printing money and having a money tree doesn't work and leads to inflation.
3. Remove opposition to your views by dividing the population and marginalising people that don't agree with your views.
4. Instigate policies such as the 'Star of David'. Think Covid Passports.
5. Use a bunch of thugs to form the SS. Think Mongrel Mob.
6. Appeasement doesn't work. Eg Neville Chamberlain, "Peace in our time", sometimes you have to stand up for your beliefs and fight back.

HAMS FOR CHRISTMAS

As normal, ham deals are available with a wide range of products.

Contact the clinic to discuss deals and ensure you have your hams for Christmas.



AGM REMINDER

As long as nothing changes between now and then our AGM is still going ahead!

Thursday, November 11, 7.30pm

@ Rangatira Golf Club

Please make sure you:

- RSVP to the vet club today.
- Sign in via the covid tracer app as you enter the golf club.
- Sign the attendance book.
- If you are feeling unwell on the night please stay at home.

We look forward to seeing you there.

AFTER HOURS VET

Emergencies - 06 322 8058

Shop Hours - 8am to 5pm

Monday to Friday

Email - huntervillevetclub@xtra.co.nz