



HVC

YOUR CLUB

JUN 22

HIGH NITRATE LEVELS

Once again our annual reminder, if you are grazing stock, especially cattle, on new grasses and crops, don't forget to consider nitrate toxicity as a possible threat.

Over recent weeks after rain, grasses and crops have grown very well. As a rule of thumb, rapidly growing plants take up and utilise nitrate at a rate that prevents nitrates accumulating in the plant tissue. However, don't assume this is the case! Always graze with caution and ideally test the feed before grazing commences.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

See overleaf for details of our upcoming golf tournament.

Phone us to ensure you secure a spot for you and your team.



WELCOME TO WINTER!!!

Welcome to the first month of winter, lets hope it continues along the same lines as the autumn we have experienced. (Global warming doesn't seem all bad when you can wear your shorts to duck shooting!)

We have a little recreational activity planned for the pros, or any budding golfers among you, later in the month. See below for further information, and be in quick if you want to be involved. The day was fully booked out last year in no time!!

With lambing and calving approaching it is a good time to ensure you are set up for spring. There are great debates to be had around the use of pre-lamb drenches and capsules, especially given the widespread drench resistance issues encountered this autumn. Contact the clinic if you have any questions.

DAIRY JOBS FOR JUNE

With the majority of cows dried off or close to being so, seasonal dairy farms can look forward to a few 'quiet' weeks in June and early July. However there are a number of management tasks that need to be completed in the next few weeks if not yet done.

Lepto Vaccination programmes should be completed. This means:

- All cows to be wintered and calved should have had their annual booster.
- First calving 2 year olds will also need a booster.
- Calves should have received at least 2 vaccinations 4 weeks apart right back at calf rearing. If so, a booster can also be given now.

Weigh rising 1 year replacements to ensure they are on track to meet target live weights. Give preferential feed to those that are not.

Any **Trace Elements supplementation** of cows during the dry period should be planned and implemented. If you have not checked the copper and selenium status of your cows this autumn it is not too late to do so. (We have seen some quite low copper levels in cows as a result of interference from zinc supplementation for eczema and a lot less PK being fed due to increased cost and good grass covers.)

Scour vaccinations programmes for cows / heifers need to be planned and vaccine ordered. Timing is important to ensure maximum levels of antibodies in colostrum occur. If you are unsure of correct timing, contact the clinic for advice.

Ensure **calf sheds** are clean and disinfected and filled with clean, dry bedding.

THE CHALLENGE OF A HIGH SCANNING

Most of our sheep farmers have experienced reasonable farming conditions over the last few months. As a result ewes generally went to the ram in good order and high scanning percentages are expected. (Early results support this!)

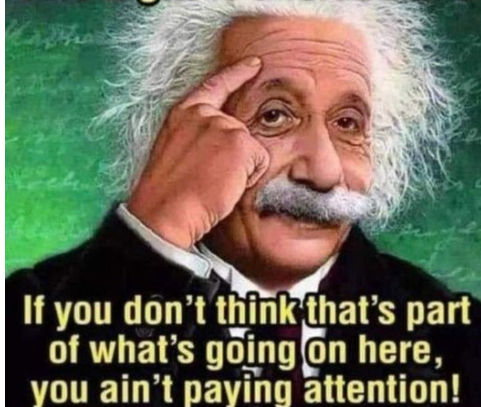
While a high scanning percentage can be good to talk about at the pub it certainly doesn't guarantee a good outcome at weaning!! For this to occur ewes have to be maintained in good order over winter and fed well, especially in the critical 6 weeks around lambing. The planning to achieve this has to start now.

Basically it all comes down to ewe condition and feed availability. Twin bearing ewes below condition score 3 require preferential feeding from scanning to ensure their 'potential lambs' survive and grow.

Consider doing a winter feed budget after scanning if things look tight. Options may include:

- Reducing feed demand by selling stock.
- Grazing out hoggets.
- Applying nitrogen. At \$1500 per tonne this may look pretty frightening but there will be situations out there where it will be a valid option.

You can't sell electric cars if gas is affordable...



If you don't think that's part of what's going on here, you ain't paying attention!

FERTILISER POISONING

Fertilisers such as superphosphate and DAP can cause poisoning in stock grazing recently fertilised pastures. The poisoning is actually caused by Fluorine, a contaminant of phosphate which damages kidneys and causes renal failure.

In the past we have encountered cases of poisoning when fertiliser has been applied to long pasture swards that have been damp, either from rain, frosts or morning dew, at the time of fertiliser application. The fert 'sticks' to the damp grass and is consumed by stock (powdery, fine fertiliser tends to be worse than granulated products such as DAP).



To avoid the problem:

- Don't apply fert to damp grass.
- Where heavy dressings, 300kg / ha plus are applied, avoid grazing long grass until good rain has occurred.

NOTE: Poisoning has also been reported where high application rates of fertiliser have been applied to very short pasture. In this situation ensure rain occurs before stock graze the area.

THEY CALL ME 007



DISEASES OF NOTE

In the past month we have seen a couple of diseases worth reminding you about.

SALMONELLA

Over the long, dry Autumn there were several outbreaks of Salmonella in unvaccinated ewes. On one property 60 ewes were lost. Vaccination halted deaths after 10 to 14 days. However deaths could have been avoided if a preventive vaccination programme had been in place to start with!! With current ewe values salmonella vaccination is a very cost effective management tool. For many farms it is more a matter of when you will be challenged by salmonella, not if!!

THEILERIA

The odd case of Theileria continues to pop up around the district. Cases normally present as animals losing weight and being slow to move (and are anaemic on examination). Both dairy and beef stock are affected.

Theileria is a disease that is spread by ticks. Heavily pregnant cows are most at risk of serious disease if they become infected. This being the case, take care where you graze your cows over the next few months and avoid areas that may have high tick populations (for example sand country grazing blocks, warm river flats, etc). This is especially important if your cows have not really been exposed to Theileria previously and so have little natural immunity.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Last years golf tournament was a huge success—phone us now to avoid missing out on your chance to be involved this year!



Date: 30 June, 2022

Start Time: 11.00 am @ Rangatira

All Members and their Staff Welcome

Entry Fee: \$35.00 per player
(includes a Meal)

First 50 members to enter will be free

Format: Teams of 3—Ambrose



Either sort out your team of 3 or you will be placed in a team. Farm / station teams would be great. Plenty of prizes including cash! (Limited to 120 Players)

CALL THE CLINIC NOW TO BOOK YOUR PLACE

PRE-LAMB SUPPLIES

Along with this newsletter is a form on which you can make your pre-lamb order of drenches and vaccines. As mentioned in the introduction the widespread occurrence of drench resistance issues creates all sorts of questions around the use of drench capsules, long acting injections and even the use of pre-lamb oral drenches. Please call the clinic to discuss options if you are uncertain of your best approach.

Filling in the form will also assist us in ensuring your animal health requirements are met while we have supply issues.



AFTER HOURS VET

Emergencies - 06 322 8058

Shop Hours - 8am to 5pm

Monday to Friday

Email - huntermvillevetclub@xtra.co.nz

Facebook— [Huntermville Vet Club](#)