



HVC

YOUR CLUB

JUL 22

Dairy Farmers - Beer & Burgers Pre Spring Update

When - Tuesday, July 19th

Where - Rangitira Golf Club

Start Time - 11am

YERSINIOSIS

While deer farmers will be familiar with this disease it can also be problematic in other species especially young cattle. We have recently investigated scouring and weight loss in beef weaners which proved to be due to **Yersiniosis**.

The bacteria that causes Yersiniosis can be carried asymptotically in the intestinal tract of many species including cattle, deer, sheep and a wide variety of wildlife. When young animals, especially cattle and deer, suffer stresses such as weaning, feed changes or feed shortages, the bacteria proliferates causing disease, primarily scouring and dehydration. Huge numbers of bacteria are shed which can also infect other herd mates.

Fortunately affected cattle show very good responses if treated with **tetracycline antibiotics**. They should also be isolated to minimise infections spreading.

So if you have issues with scouring and weight loss in young stock, do not assume the problem is worms, especially if they have a good drenching history. Consider yersiniosis as a possibility and collect faecal samples to culture for Yersinia which if positive, will confirm a diagnosis.

Remember that **BVD**, **selenium** and **copper deficiency** can also cause scouring and weight loss in young stock.

WELCOME TO WINTER

Well I hope you all feel refreshed and ready to take on the challenges of winter after **Jacinda's little holiday**!! I never realised how important a day can be that surveys suggested 80% of New Zealanders knew nothing about 3 years ago! Although I now understand how the Maori must have felt when preached to by the missionaries about the importance of Christmas and Easter!!

Once again it looks like livestock farmers have been sold out in terms of the EU free trade deal. Supposedly a critical part of this deal was meeting climate change and emission obligations. So livestock farmers have to make all the emission concessions (at a currently calculated cost of a 7% drop in farm profitability under He Waka eke noa) and get nothing in terms of meat and dairy access to the EU. Another great deal for agriculture!!

The good news is apart from being a bit sloppy and slippery, things aren't too bad out on the farm. Scanning results are generally positive although higher dry percentages than recent years are a relatively common theme. Stock condition is good across the sheep, beef and dairy farms. The grass is growing and the days are starting to get longer. Just don't watch the news or read the farming papers and it is all good!!

DJ Arden's Record Collection

- Record inflation
- Record house prices
- Record rents
- Record debt
- Record taxes
- Record spending



PRE CALVING DRENCHING FOR DAIRY HEIFERS

Just a reminder for dairy farmers to give consideration to drenching their R2 heifers prior to calving. In amongst other treatments drenching is often forgotten.

Although heifers often look good if they have not been drenched for some time, **inhibited Ostertagia** larval populations in particular can develop. These larvae if left, can resume their development in early spring causing scouring, weight loss and even death. A nil or short meat withholding drench pre calving such as **Eprinex** or **Microject Nexprexin** will remove these inhibited larvae.

BE PREPARED!

With heavily pregnant multiple bearing ewes requiring yarding and handling over the next couple of months, **milk fever** is a potential risk. Especially if ewes are yarded for longer periods or feed changes occur.

Early treatment of ewes for milk fever can be very successful. The classic signs of milk fever are:

- slow moving, weak ewes (older ewes are much more at risk than 2.2ths or younger ewes).
- Ewes will then sit down and be unable to get up (but are not dopey and vacant like sleepy ewes).
- Ewes may develop a clear nasal discharge.
- Treatment with 50-100mls of **Calcium Borogluconate** should be given under the skin ASAP, mark the ewes so they can be retreated if you can still catch them in 12 hours time.
- Oral calcium such as Calol can also be useful if ewes can swallow.

So grab some Calcium Borogluconate, a 50 ml syringe, needles, and Calol, and be prepared!!! And maybe grab a bearing needle while you are at it!

THIS MONTHS RANT!

I recently attempted to contact Waka Kotahi (formerly Transit NZ in another uncomplicated life) to discuss issues around the Rowe Road / State Highway One intersection.

I had been given the name of a person to contact so I looked up the Waka Kotahi website and phoned the number. The phone was automatically answered and I was informed that 'due to covid' there may be a 'short waiting period'. After 10 minutes I was starting to get a little agitated so to fill in time I had a look at the website to find the names and histories of a large number of employees, none of whom seemed to do much with actual roads, but rather HR leaders, Waka Kotahi and Maori Liaison personnel, Advertising and Promotion staff. Essentially bureaucrats galore!!

There was a job opportunity section advertising for all sorts of jobs but few that seemed to relate to actual roads either and certainly not for someone to answer the bloody phone!!

So after 30 minutes including dropping a few 'f' bombs as I have been told these systems have the ability to identify stressed clients and bump them up the queue, I gave up and sent a rather stressed email to the suggested email address to which they would respond within 10 days (nothing yet!).

If we ran our business like this (admittedly their music while you wait was better than ours!) I am not sure how many clients we would still have.

And our great leaders think that creating further bureaucratic dinosaurs under the 3 waters proposal is going to make things better!!

PRE-LAMB 2022

Please remember, if you have not already filled out your pre-lamb order form that we sent out with last months newsletter, please get this back to us ASAP. Filling in the form will assist us in ensuring your animal health requirements are met while we have supply issues.

All forms received go into the draw for a \$50 voucher.

RAT AND OPOSSUM BAIT TOXICITY

We recently treated a dog for opossum bait poisoning. The dog had eaten 'Double Hit', a relatively new bait containing a component that interferes with blood clotting and a second component that causes kidney failure.

Just a reminder if you have opossum or rat baits out, minimise the chances of your dogs getting access to them. If at any time a dog is off colour and lacking energy consider poisoning as a possibility and contact the clinic ASAP. Dogs treated soon after poisoning can make excellent recoveries but cost of treatment goes up and success rates decline where treatment is delayed.



MULTIMIN FOR CALF REARING SYSTEMS

For a few years now Multimin injection has been used by a number of calf rearing clients to improve calf immunity to disease. Feedback from users has generally been very positive.

Ideally Multimin should be given on the first day of life which is easy enough for dairy farmers. We also have some calf rearers who administer Multimin to calves they purchase for rearing. Calves are then treated again at weaning.

If you would like more information on the use of Multimin contact the clinic for advice.



KILLING SIRE BULLS

Killing sire bulls has become rather problematic in recent times. The situation is even worse for bulls that require Vet Certificates for injuries. Once certified, animals need to go to the closest meat works. For most of our clients this means either AFFCO Feilding or ANZCO in Bulls. ANZCO Bulls do not kill service bulls so bulls need to go to Eltham. I have established with the veterinarians there that bulls can be transported to Eltham provided the condition they have will not result in increased pain and discomfort from longer trucking.

If you have service bulls to kill please **plan ahead**, videos and photos can be helpful. Killing a few cull cows or other animals at the same time also keeps the works on side and can be useful for supporting a certified animal in transit.

The works vets also informed me that if bulls are too big for the stunning box they will either be returned to the farm or shot and condemned. This becomes an issue for bulls above **1000 kg live weight**. However especially stocky bulls or long bulls can be a problem under this weight. I have suggested meat works killing bulls make the dimensions of stun boxes available to clients and company reps!!

AFTER HOURS VET

Emergencies - 06 322 8058

Shop Hours - 8am to 5pm

Monday to Friday

Email - huntervillevetclub@xtra.co.nz