



HVC

YOUR CLUB

DEC 22



Surfing for Farmers is an initiative set up for farmers by farmers, which we are supporting with sponsorship. It provides free surf lessons for farmers, their workers and immediate family, getting people off the farm and into the water to enhance well-being!

All gear is supplied and has been paid for, including an old-fashioned Kiwi BBQ afterwards, by both local and regional sponsors. It would be great to see a few of our member farmers floundering at Kai Iwi beach over summer.



Where: Kai Iwi Beach, Whanganui

When: 5:30pm every Tuesday, starting 29th November for 13 weeks

Who for: Farmers, their staff & immediate family

What you need: Nothing, all gear, food & drinks are provided and paid for

Phone Lucy on 0800 500 933 for more information.

HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS

Remember, we are open as usual over the Christmas and New Year period except for the stat holidays. There will be a vet on duty for emergencies so if you need urgent assistance please call 06 3228058 and follow the directions.



It is hard to believe we are approaching that time of the year again!! Unlike last year, things do not look quite as rosy. Any good feelings about beating covid have disappeared as we look forward to inflation, rising interest rates, a world in recession, falling markets for our products and a war in Europe. Thank God we have our great leader to look after us all, no doubt China's great leader gave her some suggestions as to how to do this in their recent meeting.

Anyway, it could be worse, you could be Ukrainian, or worse still, Russian! The grass is growing and all the pundits may be wrong???

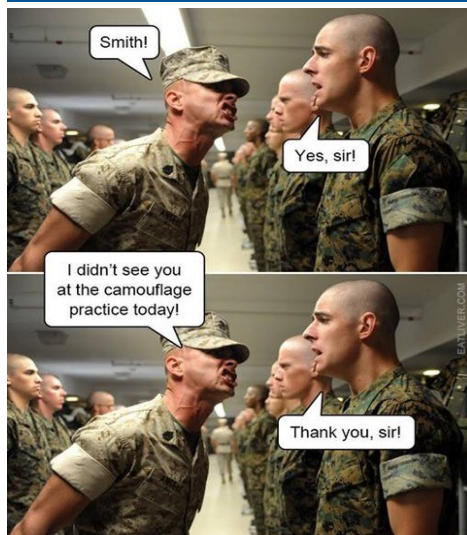
Happy Christmas and may the New Year bring a government with at least half a brain.

VIT B12 AN ISSUE??

In the last year we did identify low Vit B12 levels in lambs on a small number of farms. However the slow growth rates being reported on many farms this season are more likely to be the result of tight feed surpluses through October and a lack of sun, than a lack of B12!!

If you are concerned about lamb growth rates and Vit B12 levels on your property we suggest you arrange with us to get liver samples collected from your lambs either on farm or at the works. This is an excellent way of identifying any possible B12 issues.

To have liver samples collected at the works requires a form from us to accompany the ewes / lambs / cattle to the works. We also attempt to notify the works by email that your stock will require liver samples. So if possible don't leave getting this organised until the last minute.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW VET!!

We are very pleased to be welcoming Jaime Watters to our vet team. Jaime has recently completed her veterinary science degree at Massey University and has done some of her practical work with us as a student.

Jaime is keen to be involved in all areas of veterinary science as she begins her career. Please introduce yourself to her and point her in the right direction if you see her lost and confused on the roadside!!



DOG TRAINING DAY

*Lloyd Smith Dog Training Day
February 17, 2023*

Venue to be confirmed

We have had a great response from people wanting to attend this training day. There is still room for a few others so if you haven't already replied and would like to attend, please let us know ASAP.

TAKE CARE WHEN VACCINATING LAMBS

Vaccinating lambs with 8 in 1, or 5 in 1, is a relatively common practice on many farms where lambs are fed high quality forages (chicory, lucerne, clover or plantain in particular). A word of caution that most years we will encounter a problem with vaccination lesions and downgrading at the works where technique has been poor or vaccination has been given in the wrong place or a combination of both!

Lambs may be killed in a matter of weeks after vaccination so lesions have very little time to resolve and can be very obvious at slaughter.

If vaccinating lambs it is essential to:

- Vaccinate high up the neck so lesions can be trimmed without carcass loss.
- Use clean needles, use meths to maintain sterility, and change dirty / damaged needles.
- Try to avoid vaccinating wet sheep.
- Ensure the vaccine is subcutaneous, not intramuscular. Use the correct length needle and tent the skin.

FAT TOES-LAME DOGS

Fat toes are a common occurrence on farm and are often presented to us at the clinic. Most commonly these are as a result of an infection in the soft tissues surrounding the toe and nail bed, or less frequently within the bone or a toe joint.

If you don't think there has been a traumatic incident, infection is most likely. The longer an infection has been present, the harder it can be to clear it with antibiotics and the higher the chance of it getting into the bone. Sometimes our antibiotics can't clear up an infection and a partial or whole toe amputation might be required.

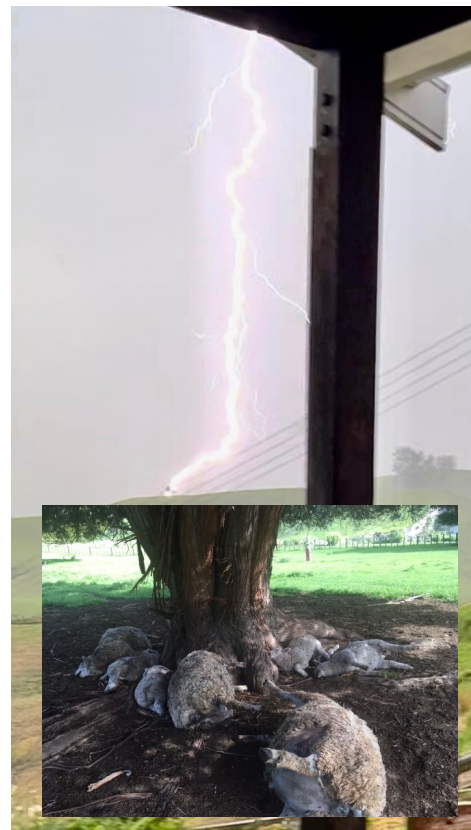
As soon as you start to see a toe swell, or a nail look dodgy, bring your dog in for us to look at and start treatment. This could save your dog's toe.

AI AFTER XMAS

As much as dairy farmers hate to even think about this option, finishing the mating season with a period of AI can have merit!

Why could you consider end of season AI:

- It is a good alternative where bull soundness and a lack of numbers have become an issue due to lameness etc.
- Short gestation length bulls can be used meaning where it has been a struggle to get cows in calf, mating can be extended for 10 days without extending calving dates also.
- If indications are that conception rates were less than optimal for the initial AI programme, there is an opportunity to breed a few more replacement heifers if required.



Once upon a time a man named Bruce made fun of a princess named Jacinda, who wanted to save the world. Now, Jacinda knew the climate Gods and she urged them to teach Bruce a lesson. The rest is history.

If you don't believe in fairy tales, maybe this was a trial as to how to instantly reduce methane emissions.

FACIAL ECZEMA

In recent days I have had inquiries as to whether facial eczema is likely to pose a threat this season and when should one start to worry!! It is certainly early days at this stage and we would need warm, humid conditions up to Christmas to see any significant increase in spore numbers.

Generally we begin monitoring spore counts in mid January if climate conditions suggest spore counts could be rising, so start watching our indicative counting sites from then. If you are intending to use zinc capsules if prevention is required it would pay to place an order with us. Last year stock availability was a real issue and this is very likely to occur again if the season is a challenging one.

EARLY FLY CHALLENGE

As early as mid November the first cases of fly strike were reported. Initial indications are that the recent unsettled moist conditions, if they continue, will result in high fly challenges from December onwards.

There have been a number of changes in the names and types of dips that will be available for controlling fly this summer. Availability of some of the 'actives' used to formulate dips is also posing an issue for suppliers. As a result, it would pay to plan your summer dipping programme early to ensure you have cost effective dip protection of suitable duration while avoiding any risk of product unavailability.

Contact us now to discuss product options and prices.



AFTER HOURS VET

Emergencies - 06 322 8058

Shop Hours - 8am to 5pm

Monday to Friday

Email - huntervillevetclub@xtra.co.nz