

**\*\*\* IMPORTANT \*\*\***

**DOG WORMER OUTAGE**

On 04.10.23 we were notified that all Drontal All Wormer 35kg tablets have been withdrawn from the market due to formulation issues.

This means all those clients on the dog worming programme will not receive Drontal 35kg tablets in the upcoming mail-out. A replacement product, Milbemax, will be sent instead. This product covers all of the same worms and sheep measles that Drontal controls. There is however, a difference in dose rates. One tablet treats 25kgs of body weight rather than 35kgs.

This may mean that clients receive more or less tablets than they require. Please contact us if you receive more or less tablets than you need so that we can change numbers for future mail-outs as it appears this problem will go on for some time.

**AI PROGRAMMES**

We are around to the time of the year that AI programmes in cattle need to be thought about. Please contact the clinic so we can get things planned and appointments made.

To ensure success with AI, cows and heifers need to be in good order, well fed, and have all trace element requirements covered off. Giving **Multimin** 3-4 weeks before AI can also be useful.

If you are considering an AI programme for the first time, costs are around \$50 inclusive plus semen costs. This can be quite cost effective when compared to buying a bull for small numbers of heifers etc. As always, contact the clinic if you require further information.

**REAL NEW ZEALAND!**

Well, by the time you read this I hope and pray we are very close to having a clean out in the lunatic asylum. I just hope the new inmates have a little better understanding of farmers and the demands of farming. They may possibly work with us to address the issues we face rather than hurl unworkable and ideological legislation at us.

I was lucky enough to spend some time in old NZ (aka the West Coast) last week. We could do with a few more of these inhabitants in charge. They are more than happy to call BS for what it is, aren't offended at the drop of a hat, and don't even know what 'woke' means!!

No electric cars, the aroma of well burnt coal wafting through the air, and you can leave your white baiting gear on the river side content that it will still be here the next morning!! The only thing I can't work out is how Damian O'Connor has managed to survive down there!! Maybe they just believe he belongs in the lunatic asylum and are happy to have him in Wellington.

Happy voting!!!

**EAR TAG ISSUES**

This season, while dehorning, we have noted a number of calves with bad infections around their recently applied ear tag. Wet, muddy conditions early on probably did not help this situation!

Ear tagging should be seen as a minor surgical procedure. As such, basic hygiene should be used. For example, have a bucket of disinfectant, give your applicator a clean before and after use, and dunk it in the disinfectant between calves. If you drop a tag, disinfect it again before using. Ears that are particularly muddy or wet can also be wiped clean with disinfectant on a sponge.

If an ear does become infected, minor problems can be sorted with a shot of penicillin and a clean up. However, more severe infections may necessitate removing the tag and retagging once the infection is resolved.

With docking underway, don't forget to also regularly clean and disinfect **earmarkers** and **elastrators** to avoid infections from these procedures.



**MULTIMIN AT WEANING**

Many of our dairy farmers use **Multimin** on new born calves to enhance their immunity and resistance to disease. A reminder that this product is also very useful for helping calves get through the stress of weaning, if administered at weaning. Treat calves with 1ml per 50kgs of bodyweight.

Note that **Multimin** is not designed to deliver full mineral supplementation. If your young stock require copper or selenium, these demands need to be addressed with appropriate supplementation programmes.



**NEW VETERINARIAN**

After the loss of long time vet Mac Keene, we have hired a new vet! We are thrilled to welcome Samantha (Sam) Leaver to our team.

Sam comes to us from the Waikato and is in her 3rd year of practicing as a mixed animal veterinarian.

Make sure you introduce yourself to Sam next time you are in the clinic or she is on farm!

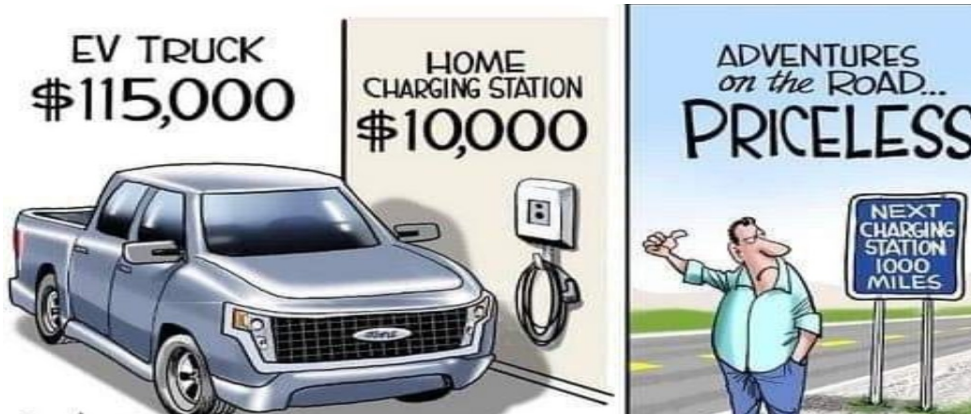
## STAPH AUREUS MASTITIS

As most dairy farmers are aware, Mastitis caused by Staph Aureus is one of the biggest challenges and threats posed to your herd.

This season already we have investigated mastitis problems caused by Staph Aureus. Notably, high bulk milk cell counts and new cases of clinical and subclinical mastitis that are difficult to cure.

Staph mastitis can be very contagious and difficult to deal with if it gets a foot hold in your herd. While antibiotic treatment can be successful in new cases, many infections cannot be cured meaning culling is your best option.

If you have mastitis cases that have not cleared up, cows testing positive on paddle tests or elevated bulk milk somatic cell counts, act now. Take milk samples from suspect cows for culture. If Staph Aureus is identified as the primary cause, consideration can be given to utilising Livestock Improvement testing services and decisions can be made early around culling infected cows.



## PARVO VIRUS – IT IS STILL AROUND!

Recently we have seen an outbreak of parvo cases in pups which have not had their full vaccination course. Pup vaccination schedules include a vaccination at or over 12 weeks of age, as before this, maternal antibodies can reduce the effectiveness of the vaccination, meaning your pup is not fully protected.

The pups we have seen have all had their initial vaccination but failed to return for their 12 week one. Pups suffer a huge amount more than older dogs from Parvo so their initial vaccination course is of utmost importance.

Older dogs can still contract Parvo if they have not been vaccinated or have not responded well to vaccination. These dogs may only get a mild GI upset but they will still shed virus in their vomit and faeces which will cause future unvaccinated pups to become very unwell.

Pups can die due to dehydration from vomiting and diarrhoea. They also get systemically unwell as the virus wipes out their white blood cells. This makes them susceptible to any sort of infection they may come across. Death rates of over 50% are common in unvaccinated pups. Treating pups early and aggressively reduces the chances of death.

We find farmers are very good at vaccinating their older dogs when we come to do the rams, but unfortunately the pups (who are at most risk) sometimes fall through the cracks.

We recommend vaccinating puppies at 6, 9 and 12 weeks of age if they are on a property that has a lot of dog traffic, or if any parvo has ever been on the property before. If the risk is low, an 8 and 12 week vaccination will protect 95% of pups with the other 5% being picked up at their 12 month booster.

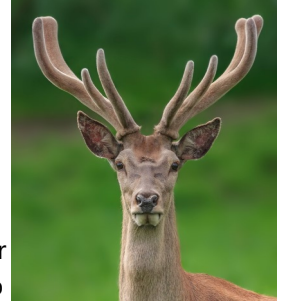
The virus can last for very long periods in the environment but is inactivated by bleach at 1:30 dilution rate. If you have had sick animals on grass, you can hose it down to reduce the viral load.

If you have any dog with vomiting and diarrhoea, these should be quarantined well away from pups and other dogs to reduce the risk of passing on disease.

## VELVET REMINDERS

Most of our velveting clients have probably taken a head or two off by now. Here are a few reminders for the coming season:

- Ensure you have your velvet tags ordered with us.
- Ensure your payment to NVSB is up to date.
- Velvet is treated as a food grade product so clean facilities are important especially in your clean zone and where you store velvet.
- Check your freezers are running at -15 degrees celsius and only have velvet in them!!
- When it comes to velveting, always ensure your **tourniquets are applied before local anaesthetic is administered**. Last year traces of anaesthetic were detected in a stick of velvet and the farmer was suspended from further velveting (not one of our clients!!)



## AGM 2023

It is that time of year again and our AGM is fast approaching. Save the date below in your calendars for an entertaining evening.

Please RSVP to the clinic for catering purposes. All members are welcome. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Tuesday 31 October 2023**

**7.30pm**

**@ Rangatira Golf Club**

**Guest Speaker: David 'Toddy' Todd**

## 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)**