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Celine Lye BVSc

strict regulations for tapeworm control, keeping flea numbers under control also reduces your tapeworm risk. But surely, “I could just use supermarket brands for my dog and they’ll be fine...” Depending on the brand, most of what’s out there are topical flea products, which can have reduced efficacy on contact with water, and they often ONLY target fleas, with no efficacy against ticks and other mites. Vet clinics often stock flea products that not only target multiple parasites, but also have proven efficacy from companies that perform transparent

## Listeriosis in cattle

Olaf Klein DVM

Since we are approaching the silage making season, I would like to remind you about the care that needs to be taken with the preparation and cover of pit silage to ensure proper airtightness and compaction of the material that is to be ensiled. This will ensure proper ensilation and a pH drop in the silage, which apart from maintaining the food value also are major factors in suppressing possible growth of listeria and mould. While mould is clearly visible listeria bacteria are not, both organisms are found in the top and at the sides of the stack were compaction and airtightness are most easily compromised. Soil contamination via dirty tractor tyres are also a possible source of listeriosis bacteria



to be introduced to the stack. While fungal spores often play a role in the

### Want good flea and tick control on your dogs? Treat your mates with NexGard oral tablets

NexGard is registered pursuant to the ACVM Act 1997 NoA011040

### First Oral Calf Drench: Eprinomectin & Levamisole The ultimate drench choice, deals to worms and coccidia in a single oral application

Turbo Initial Oral Drench is registered pursuant to the ACVM Act 1997 N# 11703



clinical trials and evidence that the products work. Whether off brand products do the same is not known to us – hence we as evidence-based believers do not like the idea of them very much... In other news, I am off for a long 2 month Holiday over Christmas, so I will see you all on the other side of 2023! Keep your dogs flea free and you’ll have happy workers!

### RMT or paddle test high SCC cows after herd test.

investigation of abortion events on farm, listeria can cause abortions as well as mastitis, but we mostly encounter the central nervous form of the disease. This central nervous form is also called circling disease because affected cattle often wander aimlessly in a one directional circle. The disease occurs sporadically and seldom effects more than one or two animals. Infection is caused by the bacteria entering via small injuries and scratches in the mouth and then traveling along the nerve sheaths of the facial nerves to the brain and sometimes the eye. On histological examination common

### Return your Ultravac 7IN1 and Leptoshaield vaccine packs for recycling

findings are micro abscesses in the brain as well as meningitis. Iris inflammation and blindness sometimes also are clinical signs of the disease. Definitive diagnosis is made by isolation of the bacteria in the brain via immunofluorescence. Treatment is initiated as soon as clinical diagnosis is made and consists of aggressive five to six day treatment with antibiotics twice daily, anti inflammatories and B vitamins (B1) in particular. Treatment has to start as early as possible to improve the prognosis otherwise the disease is always fatal.

# Wellsford VET CLINIC

# The Mad Cow Client Newsletter

116 Rodney Street, Wellsford 0900. Ph 09 4238 008 Fax 09 4328 178

## Vet Clinic Staff

### Vets

- David Haugh
- Olaf Klein
- Celine Lye
- Steve McAulay *CEO*
- Nena Nepia

### Nurses

- Nikki Humfrey
- Aliscia Vujcich

### Accounts

- Steph Treadwell

### Receptionist

- Karen Partridge

## Opening stanza

Stephen McAulay BVSc

No two seasons are the same and this one is a great example. Most dairy farms milk production is lower than previous seasons and many beef farms are still chasing grass. The weather gods are not able to decide if the temperature will warm up or cool down.

A loose description of good grass growth is when I have to mow my small lawn every week. Last week I did and this week I can probably get away with doing it next weekend. A lot more maize has been planted currently this year compared to last and a number of farms have made silage supplements.

Submission rates for the first round of mating have been mediocre on a lot of farms and this typically represents body condition loss from calving to mating. Decision making around spending money to fly on urea, sulphur and potassium is an interesting one.

When the year is incredibly wet and the ground will not allow vehicle access then paying the big bucks up front is probably a good decision. I have never been a fan of using CIDR’s and they are a “GET OUT OF JAIL FREE CARD”. The same can apply to nitrogen. To get the most from the game you need to understand when to “PLAY” the card.

The beef schedule is incredibly buoyant at the moment and the meat works are having labour issues which is leading to delays in “kill space”.

## Bulk milk somatic cell counts

Stephen McAulay BVSc

The gold standard for mastitis control uses herd tests data to improve identification of sub-clinical infections and Staphylococcus aureus carriers. “Staph” infections are typically difficult to treat and best to identify carriers earlier in the season and remove them from the milking herd (where they can continue to infect other cows via milking liners during milking).

New regulation from the veterinary governing bodies require the herds who wish to use “blanket dry cow therapy” MUST HAVE an udder health program in place. The regulations and compliance requirements we all operate under are continuing to become “more descriptive”. We will be contacting all our dairy farmers individually to discuss these requirements and feel free to ask one of our veterinarians about an “udder health program”.

**Expect peak performance from your working dogs every day? Feed Blackhawk and experience the difference. \$149 incl per 20kg bag.**



Hand stripping will remain useful into the future and using a “black paddle”, your reading glasses and a good head light source improves stripping results. Aim to strip the herd weekly through December to aid end of season SCC increases.

*Helping grow: people, animal health, profit*

**Boss - Triple Combination Mineralised drench for Sheep**

For sheep greater than 20kg and older than 4 weeks age. Contains Abamectin, Levamisole, Oxfendazole & Selenium & Cobalt

Boss Triple Combination Mineralised drench for Sheep is registered pursuant to the ACVM Act 1997 №011614.



**Calf ill-thrift in late spring**

David Haugh BVSc

Are your calves achieving target weights... 18% of adult weight (body condition score about 4.5) at three months and 30% of adult weight at six months. Grass (Dr Green) should be in abundance in late spring so if your calves aren't thriving then here are some disease processes to consider....

**< 81% herd 3-week submission rate**  
 **Seek Help!**  
 InCalf Benchmark

Gut worms are always a challenge on our farms but warm and moist times are worse. Mostly there will be diarrhoea but maybe not in lower burden cases that can still be affecting growth. Use multiple family anthelmintic drenches in youngstock.

What if it looks like a worm burden but there is no response to drenching? If you take faecal samples 10 days after drenching to get faecal egg counts done this should tell you if worms are not the problem or your drench has failed. Where it is the former my next consideration would be coccidiosis. While this disease often

**>90% herd 3 week submission rate**  
 **Top farmers achieve**  
 InCalf Benchmark

causes bloody diarrhoea, straining to defecate and death in baby calves, once they are a few



**Nil Meat and Milk withholding Tick Control**

- Breaks the tick life cycle**
- Stops adults laying eggs**
- Provides 3 - 6 weeks protection**

Bantix Pour-On is registered pursuant to the ACVM Act 1997 № A11154

months old it looks more like a worm burden and can be a problem in their first year.

It is easily diagnosed by lab testing faecal samples. Toltrazural (Catalyst minidose) or diclazural (in Turbo Initial) are effective at treating this protozoan and stimulating immune response against it. Very occasionally what

looks like worm burden not responding to drench will be BVD virus. In this situation probably one or more calves will be born as a Persistently Infected carrier and from them it will go through the others becoming Transiently Infected for a few weeks until their immune system clears it by itself. How has your BVD biosecurity been going?

Although copper is our most commonly deficient trace element which will cause diarrhoea and ill-thrift this is not likely to be a problem in youngsters in late spring unless your soil Mo, S or Fe is high. Watch out for lungworm in late spring in

calves a few months old. There is no diarrhoea and they keep eating but there is always coughing. Respiration rate can get up to 80/minute and there can be mouth breathing and death. Problems occur when there is a sudden large challenge of the infective larvae and the calves' immune systems don't have time to build up ability to control this

parasite. Management may be a factor. And rain, earthworms, fungus in dung pats, birds, stock and machinery all aid in the spread of infective larvae out over the pasture from cow pats. Levamisole or 'mectin drenches should kill lungworm.

After the initial outbreak of the Ikeda strain of the blood parasite Theileria in the early 2010s, when some adult cattle became sick, in recent years I have only seen clinical disease in calves about 2 or 3 months old. Properties that get a lot of ticks are at risk. There may be Theileria carried in older stock but their immune systems keep it under control. The new generation of tick larvae (6 legs) pick up the Theileria if attached to these older carrier cattle. If, after moulting off animals, an infected tick nymph (8 legs) attaches to a baby calf the Theileria transfer is made. It multiplies over time in the host's bloodstream. If the original challenge was very high this will lead to a serious anaemia (see pale mucous membranes). These calves are first noticed falling behind their mates when being moved. Various treatments have been tried to kill Theileria, but nothing works in my experience. Death often follows. If this is happening on your property, my only advice is to treat/manage tick challenge as best as you can.

**A flea-free mutt is a productive mutt**

Celine Lye BVSc

The warmth of summer beckons, I certainly love it and the fleas sure do too. In cold conditions, it's not flea eggs, but the cocoon stage of the pre-adult flea that goes into dormancy for an extended a long period of time. Warm weather triggers these pre-adults to emerge from their cocoons and start to seek out a host – which would be your yummy working dog basking in the sun. The cycle of flea – egg- larvae-cocoon starts again and this can cause huge irritations for your working pup, and can trigger skin issues for them, affecting their comfort, working ability and wellness. We are lucky in NZ that fleas and ticks don't carry many horrible viruses compared to overseas, but fleas are involved in the cycle of carrying and transmitting tapeworm eggs to dogs and cats. Thus, for most farmers operating under

**Key Reproduction Dates**

Calving Date	10 July	20 July	1 Aug
Apply Heat Detection Aids; tail paint, scratchies or K-mars	29 Aug	8 Sept	20 Sept
Metricheck Herd	29 Aug	8 Sept	20 Sept
Check Non-cycling cows	22 Sept	2 Oct	14 Oct
CIDR Programme Visit #1 -insert CIDR	22 Sept	2 Oct	14 Oct
CIDR Programme Visit #2 -remove CIDR +PG +eCG	29 Sept	9 Oct	21 Oct
Planned Start Mating	1 Oct	11 Oct	23 Oct
CIDR Programme Visit #3 -inject Dalmarelin	1 Oct	11 Oct	23 Oct
CIDR Cows Blanket Mate	2 Oct	12 Oct	24 Oct
Check cows not submitted for AI	22 Oct	1 Nov	13 Nov
CIDR Programme Visit #1 -insert CIDR	22 Oct	1 Nov	13 Nov
CIDR Programme Visit #2 -remove CIDR +PG +eCG	29 Oct	8 Nov	20 Nov
CIDR Programme Visit #3 -inject Dalmarelin	31 Oct	10 Nov	22 Nov
CIDR Cows Blanket Mate	1 Nov	11 Nov	23 Nov
Cows mated after today may calve after planned start of mating 2023	15 Dec	25 Dec	6 Jan

**Need a good combination worming product for your stock, ask for the BOSS**

Boss Dual Active Pour-On is registered pursuant to the ACVM Act 1997 №10817

