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www.cambridgevets.co.nz

Welcome to your Farm Newsletter for Upcoming Spring of 2024!

Alan Bremner Annual Golf Day

Cambridge Vets were delighted to host the annual Farmers' Golf Day on the 10th of May. The weather smiled down upon us, and everyone enjoyed the event.

A special thanks to the sponsors and helpers: SVS, Virbac, Zoetis, Merial, AgVance and Boehringer—Ingelheim.

We Welcome Two New Receptionist To Our Team

Originally from South Africa, Helaine studied Nature Management and worked in conservation, rehabilitation and breeding of wildlife. She came to New Zealand in 2017 with her young family for a safer future. Recently Helaine has been working at the local John Deere dealership, assisting farmers and contractors in the service department. She was very happy to accept a role at Cambridge Vets & get back into her passion for animal care.

Becs is from Auckland but has spent the majority of her adult life living in London, Zurich and Dubai. Finally realising it was time to move home she settled on Cambridge as she has family here. Having worked in a vet clinic in Dubai, Becs found this is the very best environment to work in so is extremely happy to have joined the team at CVS.





Important Notes:



Farewell

We recently said farewell to Dani after 15 years, as she departed for pastures colder at Raurimu. She will be missed by both our colleagues and customers.



Ag. Day Lambs

To support our local schools, Cambridge Vets will supply 5-in-1 vaccinations free for Ag Day lambs.

We hope you have a great time with your Ag. Day animal, you can find more information on rearing lambs at our website:

https://www.cambridgevets.co.nz/ farm-animal-services/lifestyle-blocks-3/



Zolvix

Zolvix is a novel drench for sheep and cattle. It should become available again this spring. It is a great product for a quarantine drench, but resistance has already been reported to it, so we caution people that it should <u>not</u> be used as a routine, yearround drench.

Spring Checklist - Calving Must Haves!

At Cambridge Vets we have a comprehensive range of the best products in the market place, competitive prices and with professional advice to get you through the season without a hitch.

Calving gear

- Ropes
- Chains
- Handles
- Disinfectant
- Lube • Gloves
- Penicillin
- Oxytocin

Metabolics

- Calcium
- Magnesium Oral treatments
- Ketol
- MPG
- Starter Drench
- Rumenox

Mastitis Treatment

- Intramammary
- Injectables





Bulk Magnesium

- **Bulk Magnesium**
- Molasses
- Calcium
- Salt
- Drench (Eprinex /
- Dectomax / Turbo)
- Teatspray
- Udder Cream
- Hoof gear

Calves

- Electrolytes
- Tags
- Feeders
- Shed disinfectant
- Teats
- Iodine Spray











Salmonella

From 2021-2024, there was a large study of Salmonella throughout NZ, a combined project involving vet laboratories, MSD and MPI (Watts *et al*, HoofPrint June 2024). Salmonella samples were serotyped and antibiotic susceptibility testing was done over 3 years.

- Salmonella can cause diarrhea, abortion, production drop and death. It is mostly seen in dairy cows, and calves on dairy farms / calf-rearing operations. The mortality rate amongst calves ranged from 0.2 – 50%
- The main isolates were S. typhimurium, S. bovismorbificans, S. give and S. Brandenburg
- Salmonella cases rose dramatically from 2015 to 2020, but have dropped over the last 3 years
- S. bovismorbificans was rarely isolated before 2015 but increased from 2015 to a peak in 2018 and 2019 when it was the most common isolate.
- Human cases of Salmonella bovismorbificans followed a similar pattern to cattle cases in NZ, and is
 a common isolate in cattle and people in Australia
- Waikato submitted the most Salmonella over other areas, probably linked to our density of dairy farming.
- Oxytetracycline resistance was documented, mainly in S. bovismorbificans (and a few cases of S. typhimurium). The Waikato had developed more resistance, with 21% of S. bovismorbificans isolates testing resistant to oxytetracycline.
- The proportion of resistant isolates has increased from 2021 to 2023

Thoughts

- We need to monitor and test in scours outbreaks. Prompt treatment / vaccination will reduce the impact on health and profitability.
- People can catch Salmonella too.
- Antibiotics must be used judiciously to minimize resistance; use only when necessary, use the right one the right way.
- A vaccine is available; discuss disease risk with your vet.



Worms, Drenching, WormWise

The WormWise program has got a new and most excellent website up, full of practical tips and research results. It covers Worms 101, Worms in your Farm System, Drenching and Worm Diagnostics.

I have written many times about the concern over drench resistance, and the need to balance farm management practices with appropriate drenching programs. The website goes into quite a bit of detail across many topics and examples of farm systems, in a very read-able way.

Some of the things I noted in addition to the staple points:

- Importance of feeding and general health
- Check drench efficacy
- Quarantine drench -
- Refugia
- FECs to assess if drench needed

https://beeflambnz.com/wormwise

.....continued on following page

Grazing Management

Techniques that can be used to reduce worm challenge to susceptible stock include:

- Grazing only the top 1/3 of the pasture with your vulnerable young stock.
- Using adult stock and other species of stock to clean up behind youngsters and increase the time taken for them to come back to the same ground.
- Removing larvae in hay and silage.
- Spelling paddocks for prolonged periods.

Rotations

Youngstock grazing the same paddocks tends to cause a build-up of worms in the pasture. One way to address this is "Leader-Follower" grazing. The leader mob is the most vulnerable animals (lambs or calves) and these are followed by less vulnerable ewes / older cattle to vacuum up the larvae. However, watch the follower group – if they get underfed they can become vulnerable too!

Forages

Crops do provide a less favourable habitat for larvae as well as excellent nutrition. However, worm challenge can vary so monitoring is important.

Brassicas and fodder beet can be great lowworm-challenge feed, and if they are grazed out and then re-sown few larvae will survive. So drenched animals can be placed directly onto brassicas / beet without much worry over resistant hot spots. Be careful if grass or plantain are mixed in though.

Watch the grassy edges of crop paddocks, or a run-off grass area they have access to from crop. These areas can become heavily contaminated, so monitor young animals carefully with liveweight and FECs.

Helpful tips:

- Graze lambs through a crop with their mums in the week or two before weaning, so that they are used to the new forage.
- For calves: feed baleage, meal, or another feed type that calves are used to, as well as the crop, until they adapt.
- Drench the calves or lambs a few days after they have been introduced to the crop, to remove worm larvae that they've picked up while grazing the grass parts.

Hay and Silage

Cutting grass can remove some larvae. Less reliable with silage as the grass is green and growing, protecting any larvae. Lambs grazing the aftermath may become infested again quite quickly. Hay leaves a more open sward, so the sunlight will kill more larvae, and the regrowth should have lower worm burdens.

But they Hay / silage / baleage itself can be fed as a source of "worm free" feed.

Spelling pasture – in NZ it takes months not weeks for larval levels to drop just with time, unless it is exceptionally hot.

Multi-year crops and Newly-sown Grass

Multi-year crops such as lucerne, plantain, chicory, pure clover and their mixes all provide excellent nutrition to stock. When they are first established, they can also present very low worm challenge. Drench inputs can and should be reduced while grazing these.

Because these crops usually start life with low levels of worm larvae on them, it is possible for them to become 'hot-spots' of resistant worms if drenches are not used carefully. Indiscriminate drench use can quickly lead to a high percentage of the worm larvae on these swards being drench survivors.

Think about ways you can introduce 'good worms' (<u>refugia</u>) into these areas without overcontaminating them with worm larvae:

- Initial grazing of new crop with undrenched older animals.
- Periodic grazing of crop with undrenched older animals.
- Undrenched older animals run in the mobs of young stock that are grazing the crop (e.g. light ewes that need to gain weight).

- Young stock that are due for a drench are introduced to the crop for a few days and then drenched. This is safer than drenching straight on but depending how many previous drenches they've had (and how effective the drench has been) there could still be a high proportion of resistant worms in the animals.
- Leave a percentage of animals undrenched each time treatments are given while grazing the crop (Targeted Selective Treatment/TST).
- Use extended drench intervals and use monitoring to ensure that this is safe.

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In an industry dominated by foreign drench companies, Alleva stands proud. Since opening the doors over a decade ago, our kiwi owned business has thrived thanks to innovative products and the support of kiwi farmers like you.

Now BOSS® Triple Mineralised Drench continues our story. With the power of three individual drenches all packed into one convenient dose, it's truly a worm control triple star. See your local veterinary practice for further details.

PURCHASE

BOSS® Triple Mineralised Drench and we'll support kiwi made by giving you a FREE double pack of merino work socks with every 20L drum purchased

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PURCHASE a 5L of TURBO° or BOSS° Pour On and receive a Ledlenser H3.2, a lightweight headlamp boasting 120 lumens of illumination. Or with every 2.5L of TURBO° or BOSS° Pour On receive an Alleva Puffer vest*. Your go to layer for on or off the farm.

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