



SUNDAY ROAST

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2019 is slowly slipping us by and so far it has been a very challenging year. The dry summer is something we just have to accept as the norm and therefore be prepared for it each year with supplementary feed, hardy crops or destocking where possible.

More recent rain and the heavy dew provided favourable conditions for facial eczema once again and we saw clinical cases of eczema in lambs, ewes, yearling cattle, and even dairy cattle. Spore counts have come down and the risk should be over for this year now, but we are hoping to get one more count done to ensure this. It wasn't until 1st of May that the soil temperatures dropped to below 12 degrees at Tutaenui that the spores would have slowed in multiplying.

Beef scanning is very nearly complete. There has been a mixture of results ranging from 5% to 47% empty in mixed aged beef cattle. A bit of a headache for the farm with the high result and this is still being investigated. Mating length ranged from 66 days (3.1 cycles) to 156 days (7.4 cycles).

Our annual sheep and beef seminar is just around the corner with loads of information to be presented. Please lock out your calendar on the 22nd of May so that you can attend. As well as the topic on the flier we hope to have a robust discussion around triple active drench resistance and present some case studies. There will also be an update on the M bovis situation.



MAY 22 2019 | **STARTS AT 1:30PM**
• BE AT •
SRVS BULLS CLINIC SEMINAR ROOM

TOPICS INCLUDE

Liver fluke in cattle and sheep
Ticks in cattle
New product update
Plus more to be confirmed...
And a special guest speaker

LUNCH AT 1PM

Please advise of any dietary requirements

Reserve your spot today!
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LAMB DRENCHING—TRIPLE DRENCH RESISTANCE

Last year we started discussing the farms around the area that were finding themselves with triple active drench resistance. Since we started talking about this last year, we have even more local farmers finding that a triple active drench is no longer working on their farm. Unfortunately most have only found out after a period of time, losing a number of lambs with a black scour and getting us involved at that point.

To try and get some more information on this we offered free drench checks when you purchased drench off us in January and February. It would have been great to be able to present to you some information from the area but unfortunately, we had a very poor return rate of these drench check packs.

We did diagnose triple drench resistance in a couple of lamb mobs who had samples returned and these farmers were able to change their management practices immediately to reduce the contamination on their farm.

So, what about you? Do you know if your drenches are working on your farm? If you do not know, you run the risk of contaminating your paddocks with the eggs of resistant worms, that hatch and in turn also become resistant worms.

What is the cost of having drench resistance?

- If you do not know about it you are very likely to lose lambs before you find out. You will have lamb deaths, poor growth rates, and lambs taking longer to finish.
- There will be more costs involved due to the need for extra drenches, more FECs, larval cultures as well as any vet fees for post mortems etc.
- Continued worm infections increase the percentage of sheep with significant dags, and hence the need for crutching and the risk of fly strike. Extra treatments due to the more rapid re-development of worm problems are another cost, both in drench and time.
- You are limited to only being able to use 2 (more expensive) novel drenches (*Startect*® or *Zolvix Plus*®). You are also likely to get resistance to these drench families a lot quicker.
- You are likely to have to change your management practices to clean up the pastures that have been contaminated with triple drench resistant larvae. This may include but is certainly not limited to:
 - ◆ Extra drenches and doing more FECs to monitor the situation
 - ◆ Using other stock classes or species to help 'clean up'
 - ◆ Not using those paddocks for lambs
 - ◆ Turning the paddocks over and replanting

If you are interested in learning more, we will be having a discussion about triple drench resistance and the follow-on effects at our *Sheep and Beef Seminar on May 22nd*.



MINERAL TESTING

Don't forget it is the time of year to get the trace mineral status of your stock checked. The main mineral we test are copper and selenium but the history on certain farms may dictate other tests as well. Both copper and selenium are production limiting minerals and while deficiency of either of them will cause severe disease, sub-optimal levels will limit production.

Copper is required by many of the body systems. Because of this the clinical signs of copper deficiency are varied and can affect virtually all stages of growth or production to some degree. In late pregnancy the growing foetus/es has a high demand for copper and so the pregnant animal has to have adequate copper reserves to meet her own and her foetus' need during this period. Copper is least available from the pasture during winter. Most of the copper deficiency that we see locally is secondary copper deficiency as zinc, iron, sulphur and molybdenum interact with copper absorption.

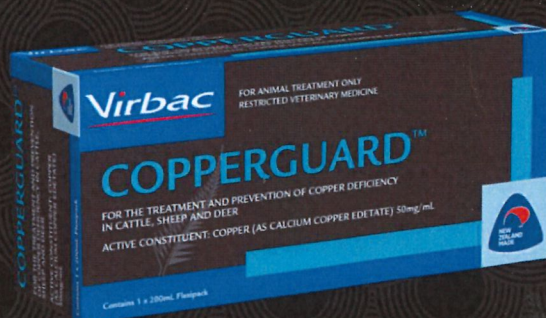
Selenium is required for the immune and reproductive systems to function properly. The major disorders recognized in stock in NZ due to selenium deficiency are low milk yields and poor growth of young stock. Selenium deficient animals are at risk of disease due to an impaired immune response during the calving/lambing period which is when selenium levels are generally at their lowest and the animals are usually under the most amount of stress for the year.

Accurate testing is achieved by sampling in calf cattle as they have had the most pressure on them after rearing a calf, and getting back in calf again. Many get liver samples done at the works, and while this is definitely preferable to not testing at all, generally works cattle are either empty, old or have some other issue and therefore are not a good representation of the rest of the mob you do keep. Liver samples can also be taken from sheep at the works.

COPPERGUARD^{200ML}

\$115.68 Ex. GST

Cattle over 4months: 2ml dose
50 doses / pack
\$2.31 / dose



SELOVIN LA^{500ML}

\$362.17 Ex. GST

Cost per dose Ex.GST:

200kg RIs

4mL dose \$2.90

500kg Cattle

10mL dose \$7.24

Long acting.
1 Injection yearly
maintains optimal
selenium levels in
breeding
beef cattle



PRODUCTS

COGLAVAX® 8 in 1

Last year we made the switch to *Coglavax*® 8 in 1 as our number 1 clostridial vaccine. The main reason for the switch from traditional 5 in 1 to *Coglavax*® 8 in 1 was the extra protection of *C. perfringens* type A, B and C for very little increase in cost. We are more and more suspicious that we are seeing deaths from *C. perfringens* type A – sudden death, when animals are vaccinated with 5 in 1 but are still dying. It is so hard to get a definitive diagnosis with these bacteria as the carcasses go off so quickly and other bacteria invade as well. It is even harder to culture for it too.

Regardless of the vaccine it is important for young stock to have both the sensitiser and booster injections whether they are from a vaccinated or unvaccinated ewe/cow. The first (sensitiser) shot primes the immune system and results in a relatively low, shorter duration immunity. The second shot (booster dose), results in a higher level of protection lasting one year. Direct to animal vaccination creates what is known as active immunity. To stimulate adequate protection in previously unvaccinated animals, a second dose should be given 4-6 weeks after the first. After the second dose is given, it is then necessary to give one annual booster to provide strong, long lasting immunity.



Ultravac® 5+1 B12

Is a multi-component clostridial vaccine for the control of caseous lymphadenitis (CLA or cheesy gland) and the prevention of enterotoxaemia (pulpy kidney disease), tetanus, black disease, malignant oedema (blackleg-like disease) and blackleg in sheep and lambs, goats and kids, and swelled head in rams. It also includes a supplemental source of vitamin B12.



- Prevention of the five major clostridial diseases of sheep and goats in NZ and for control of cheesy gland. Also, trace element supplementation of vitamin B12 in one convenient injection.
- Vitamin B12 is crucial for energy production, supporting ewe reproductive performance, and enhancing lamb growth rates.
- Suitable for kids, lambs, and pregnant goats and ewes.
- *Low dose volume:* *Ultravac*® 5+1 B12 has a low 1 mL dose volume for sheep and goats for easy administration. This means there's less fridge space required for storage and fewer pack changes needed when vaccinating large numbers of stock. Use in lambs from three weeks of age.
- Available in 500ml pillow pack

WHERE DO WE SEE A MARKET FOR THIS VACCINE AFTER HAVING MADE THE SWITCH TO COGLAVAX AS A STANDARD CLOSTRIDIAL VACCINATION?

It gives you options! We have a number of clients using *Eweguard*® (5 in 1 + cheesy gland vax + long acting moxidectin injection). We know that the use of long acting drenches contributes to drench resistance and therefore the use of *Ultravac*® 5+1 B12 on some ewes pre lamb that don't need the moxidectin drench (good condition, singletons etc.) could act as refugia. *Ultravac*® 5+1 B12 could also be used in lambs if you are wanting to give clostridial protection and B12 with only 1 injection rather than using 2 products.

We will not have the product on the shelf but are able to order it in if you would like it. Please contact Nat if you wish to do so.

REMINDERS

WORKS CERTIFICATES

Any animal that is lame, injured or deformed needs to be examined and certified by a veterinarian before being transported and the vet cert must accompany the animal onto the truck. Please remember that when we are certifying animals:

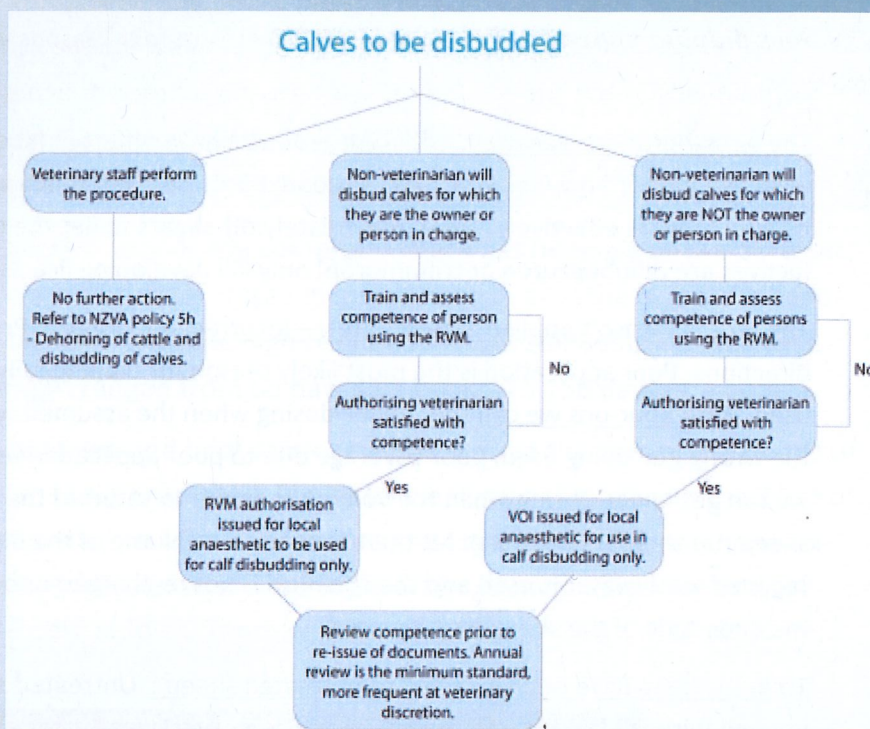
- They must go to the closest works and we need to stipulate the name of the works on the certificate so we need to know where they are going when we write the certificate
- Wounds must be healed and must not be discharging (no pus, no blood)
- Cancer eyes need to be less than 2cm to be able to be certified
- Cattle with ingrown horns or horns longer than their ears must be dehorned before being sent
- A certificate only lasts for a maximum of 7 days and some conditions have a much shorter time.

NEW LEGISLATION COMING INTO EFFECT SOON

As of 1 October 2019, it will be a legal requirement that all cattle being disbudded/dehorned will need 'an appropriately placed and effective local anaesthetic that is authorised by a veterinarian for the purpose of the procedure'. This is true for all methods of horn tissue removal including hot iron cautery, scoop dehorning, amputation dehorning, and caustic paste (which the NZVA advises is not an appropriate method).

In addition to this, anyone disbudding/dehorning must:

1. be experienced with, or have received training in, the correct use of the method being used; and
2. be able to recognise early signs of significant distress, injury, or ill-health so that the person can take prompt remedial action or seek advice.



SRVS vets will be training our farmers to administer local anaesthetics if they wish to continue doing their own debudding—but it will require a training session and annual review at your cost. Obviously you need to have some calves to debud to train you so if you are interested get in touch with us.

OTHER ENFORCABLE REGULATIONS THAT NOW CARRY FINES/CONVICTIONS

Cattle with ingrown horns—Ingrown horns are painful. An ingrown horn is when either the tip or the side of the horn pierces, inflames or causes abrasion to any part of the body. If you allow horns to become ingrown, you can be fined \$500.

Use of traction in calving—You are prohibited from calving a cow using a moving vehicle, or any instrument that doesn't allow for the immediate release of tension. If you calve a cow this way, you could face a criminal conviction and a fine of up to \$3,000 for an individual, or \$15,000 for the business.

Castrating sheep and cattle—you must not castrate cattle and sheep over 6 months old, without using local anaesthetic. You must not castrate cattle and sheep at any age with a high tension band, without using local anaesthetic. Failure to comply with this regulation could result in a criminal conviction and a fine of up to \$3,000 for an individual, or \$15,000 for the business. A high tension band is one that is mechanically tightened during application (doesn't include a rubber ring).

LICE CONTROL

Why do we get lousy sheep? It is very easy when you notice that you have lousy sheep to blame the neighbour, but most commonly the reason is that they were not all removed the last time you treated. This is due to how lice work:

- Lice cannot jump or fly. They get onto a sheep by crawling from one sheep to another, typically when a mob is in the yards.
- Lice will only survive a few days off a sheep in ideal conditions e.g. on the rails in the woolshed or on moccasins. They will only last a few hours on wool caught on a fence.
- Lice are slow to build up numbers but females can live for nearly 2 months.
- Despite having effective chemicals available it is almost impossible to eradicate lice. It didn't happen after 140 years of statutory dipping with nasty chemicals and plunge dipping. It is not going to happen now with nicer chemicals and fast, modern application methods. It only takes one adult lice on one sheep to keep the lifecycle going. We are aiming for lice control, not lice eradication.

Why does dipping appear to fail sometimes? There are four reasons you may be seeing lice in your sheep shortly after treatment:

1. The wrong product was used: Different products have different label claims depending on length of wool and type of wool. No matter how well you apply a product if there is too much wool, especially if it is fine wool, the product will not be able to work effectively. Treat immediately off-shears to get the best result from your dip. Remember that the IGR's (actives are diflubenzuron or triflumuron) only kill developing lice as they moult so any adult lice survive.
2. The product wasn't applied appropriately—Incorrect application: Products must be applied strictly according to label directions. Poor application is the most likely reason for dipping failure, regardless of the method or chemical being used. With pour-ons we can see: under-dosing when the assumed weight is wrong or the gun isn't working properly; the wrong gun being used; poor coverage due to poor application technique. With saturation dipping and jetting races: we can get under-dosing when the volume required to saturate the sheep is underestimated or is not applied when sheep run through too fast or let out too soon; the volume of the dip sump is wrong; the mixing rate is wrong; when recycled wash water is used and the chemical is not re-charged or only the nozzles for fly control are used—meaning the underside of the sheep isn't covered.
3. Treated sheep have been exposed to untreated sheep : Untreated sheep (including lambs at foot) provide a source of lice and with some pour on products it can take several weeks for all lice to be killed. When using an IGR it will not kill adult lice. Try to maximise the effectiveness of the lice programme by: Clean musters; Keep strays out; Quarantine newly purchased sheep; Avoid split shearing or keep stock shorn at different times separate from each other; Don't treat ewes with lambs at foot (unless the lambs are also treated) and don't treat pregnant ewes within 6 weeks of lambing. Remember it takes about 4 weeks for any pour-on product to kill all lice.
4. The lice are resistant to the product: Mother Nature has given some lice the ability to survive dip chemicals. Resistance develops when lice are exposed to a dip and some survive to go on to breed. If we keep using the same chemical or chemical group, these resistant lice will survive and breed, increasing their numbers until they make up the majority of the population.

NITRATE TESTING

With new grass paddocks about to be grazed it is important to remind ourselves of the risks associated with nitrate poisoning. We have been receiving many samples (new pasture, oats, crop) in the last couple of weeks that are showing very high nitrate levels. Prolonged dry conditions slow or prevent the nitrate from being converted to proteins in plants and can result in a build-up of high levels of nitrate in the plant. All forages contain nitrates and under normal weather conditions nitrate levels decline rapidly after peaking, but plant stress conditions may prevent this decline.

Testing is cheap! Get your new grasses and crops tested to avoid a potential disaster.