

Tirau Veterinary Centre Ltd

May 2014



Quick Notes

- Hygiene Hygiene Hygiene when inserting dry cow therapy. Toxic mastitis is a result of bacteria (normally from faeces) being pushed into the udder on the end of the tube. There is no such thing as 'locking in an infection'. The infection is introduced by the handler. Practising partial insertion of the tube i.e. only inserting the tube tip a few mm when you can will help to reduce the chances of a nasty infection.
- When treating dry period mastitis do not follow the treatment course with a dry cow antibiotic. Dry cow is designed to work with a certain amount of milk into the udder so you may run into withholding issues if there is not enough milk there.
- Unfortunately Spore counts are still high and we have seen a high number of clinical eczema lately.



Theileria Update

At this stage Theileria is here to stay. Preventing clinical cases centres around reducing stressors and reducing tick infections.

Theileria is a blood born parasite that is carried by ticks. Many cattle are infected with the parasite but show no overt clinical signs and overcome the infection themselves. Some animals however, succumb to the infection particularly if there is other stressors on the animal at that time. Other stressors include BVD, calving, high production, inclement weather, illness, poor nutrition, trace element deficiencies, facial eczema etc etc.

Clinical conditions are a result of the anaemia caused. Signs include:

- Slow to walk to the shed
- Pale mucous membranes
- Increased respiratory rate

A quarantine tick treatment of any animals returning from grazing is recommended. Any heifers or other stock returning from grazing should be given a tickicide pour-on before they are transported.

Depending on your situation a strategic herd treatment three times per year may be recommended. Also, avoiding grazing long scrubby pastures will reduce the ability the ticks have to latch on to the animal.

The tickicide comes in pour-on form called Bayticol or Flumethrin both in 5l. These are the only products that treat ticks in cattle (and deer) and are unfortunately not effective against any other parasite. The pour-on is effective for four weeks and has no withholding period.

Animals are best treated within the week prior to transportation.

NOTE: Please do not apply any other pour-on to the animal at the same time as this may result in either a tickicide toxicity or render the other pour on ineffective. Treat with the tickicide prior to leaving grazing then with a quarantine drench as they arrive about a week later. Alternatively it is safe to use an injectable or oral form of worm drench with the tickicide.



Important Induction Notice!

For anyone thinking of inducing this year you will need to register your plans and intentions online with DairyNZ ASAP.

This will involve a brief consultation with us over the next month. This will be extremely straight forward since everybody is well aware now of the rules and regulations and reasons behind these.

To continue sell your product for big bucks, and compete with all the other zero-induction players, it is no longer acceptable to be inducing large numbers of cows like we used to.

So the limit is again set at 4% of your herd.

Cows are to be:

- Condition score between 4.5 and 5.5
- Aged between 3 and 8 years
- Otherwise healthy
- Appropriate transition plan outlined
- Dated Pregnancy tests

Poor Duck Humour

A motorist in a B.M.W. was driving through the countryside on a beautiful Saturday afternoon, having a lovely time, when he came to an area of the road that was covered with a rather large puddle of water from a previous rain storm. Worried that he was going to damage the car and its engine in the deep water, he spotted a nearby farmer and asked how deep the water was. "Arr", said the local farmer "That water only be a few inches deep!" Relieved, the motorist edged his car into the water, expecting to come out the other side in no time. Instead, as he drove in, the water came right up the side of the car, and the engine sputtered to a halt. Sitting there in his soaking wet luxury car, the motorist yelled at the local angrily: "I thought you said this water was only a few inches deep!!!" "Well," replied the local farmer "It only come up to the waist of them there ducks!"

- Between 8 and 12 weeks from calving.

So prepare your records and plan and give us a bell so we can make sure you are ready for the next season.

Also, if you think you have extenuating circumstances and would like to apply for a higher allowance then you need to let us know. The situation needs to be something out of your control. And very few of these are granted.

Neospora Abortion is most common at 5 to 7 months of pregnancy. The infection cycles through dogs so please keep dogs out of paddocks and away from feed stores particularly at this time of year. This is to prevent them eating potentially infected and aborted placentas and preventing defaecation on feed that the cows may ingest. The majority of dogs are seropositive for neospora, therefore ALL dogs should be kept away or contained.

