



# MOOZNEWS

## Cepravin Milk Quality Competition Winners

In conjunction with MSD (the manufacturers of Cepravin) we have just run our fifth competition for Milk Quality Pro-

duction. Eligible entrants were all those clients enrolled on Infonet. This season, we changed our criteria, and sought the

**lowest average season BMSCC to December 10th.**

Well done to the top four farmers (as we have a third equal) who will receive \$750, \$500, and two at \$250 respectively as a voucher to use within our practice. Of note there were 28 farms under a BMSCC season average of 110,000. Congratulations to you all. However, there were also 12 farms greater than 250,000 season average to date.

Place	Farmer/Manager	Farm/Company	BMSCC
1st	Dan Coles	Hugh Le Fleming - Willowbridge Dairies	45,000
2nd	John Wood	Andrew & Jane McFarlane - Mairos Dairy	68,000
3rd =	Ged Meyer & Team	Meyer Dairies	70,000
3rd =	Ryan & Billie Moffat	Mike & Chris Moffat	70,000
5th	Jin Na	Hugh Le Fleming - Le Emari Trust Morven	71,000
6th =	Scott Carter	Paul & Ann-Marie Henshaw - Wai Herd Ltd	78,000
6th =	Ed & Becca Finlay	Flag Farms Ltd	78,000
8th	Alex & Elle Taylor	Taramea Farms	85,000
9th	Blake Harvie & Selene Mather	Kokoamo - Domett View	87,000
10th =	Joseph & Rebecca Laming	Fortitude farm Ltd	93,000
10th =	Hamish O'Donnell	Baldrick Farms	93,000
12th =	John & Olivia Williams	J.L.O Enterprises	95,000
12th =	Miles & Sue Chamberlain		95,000
14th =	Hamish McCulloch	Morven dairies	96,000
14th =	Ros Eden	Ray & Glenda Eden	96,000
16th =	Paul & Pam Snoxell	Walton Park Farm Ltd	97,000
16th =	Stu Carline	Alan & Leigh Gibson - Springdale Dairies	97,000
18th =	Ricky & Mel Hutchison	Providence Farm	98,000
18th =	John Zimmerman	Hayden & Lisa Watson - Lisburn farms	98,000
20th =	Karl & Emma Guy	Waitaki Ventures #2	100,000
20th =	Craig Friel	Ross & Donna Robertson - Waitahanui Farms	100,000
20th =	Grant & Nicola Neal	The Aspiring Cow Company	100,000
23rd	David Legg	Seamist Dairies	102,00
24th	Duncan & Anna McLachlan	Otewi Holdings	103,000
25th	Hamish & Fiona Winter	H F Farming Ltd	104,000
26th	Chris & Rebecca Eden	Eden Dairies	105,000
27th	Richard & Kirsten Powell	Des Conlan - Duntron Farm	106,000
28th	Jason & Hayley Hunt	Corona Farms	109,000



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**Veterinary Centre Waimate**  
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# BVD Bulletin



We have seen a number of farms this year with BVD breakdowns in their herds. These were detected through the bulk milk monitor package. The vast majority of these breakdowns were the result of PI heifers coming into the herd. Breakdowns with incoming heifers is common, given that they are usually the only animals entering the herd. However the reasons for the heifers being infected were different. The following are examples of the breakdowns that occurred and how they could be prevented from occurring.

One farm had infected heifers as a result of PI bulls that were run with the herd in the 2012-2013 season. Replacements were kept that were reared and entered the herd this season. The PI heifers were found as a result of blood testing all the heifers that had entered the herd this year. **Ensure that all bulls are blood tested for BVD and fully vaccinated before entering the herd.**

A farmer with more than one farm bought heifers onto another of their farms. The farm they bought them in from had active BVD and the farm they entered did not. As a result the bulk milk sample went positive and a PI hunt was done which found the infected heifers. **Ensure that all new stock entering the herd have been tested to make sure they are negative prior to coming into the herd.**

Another farm had a breakdown as a result of PI heifers having PI heifer calves that were kept as replacements. These then entered the herd 2 years later when they caused the bulk milk sample to go positive.

In all these situations, heifers could have been prevented from entering the herd if they had been tested as calves. An easy way to do this is to blood test 15 animals from 10 months of age to see if there are any PI's amongst the mob. This can save considerable expense compared to rearing a heifer to 24 months at \$1600 and entering the herd.

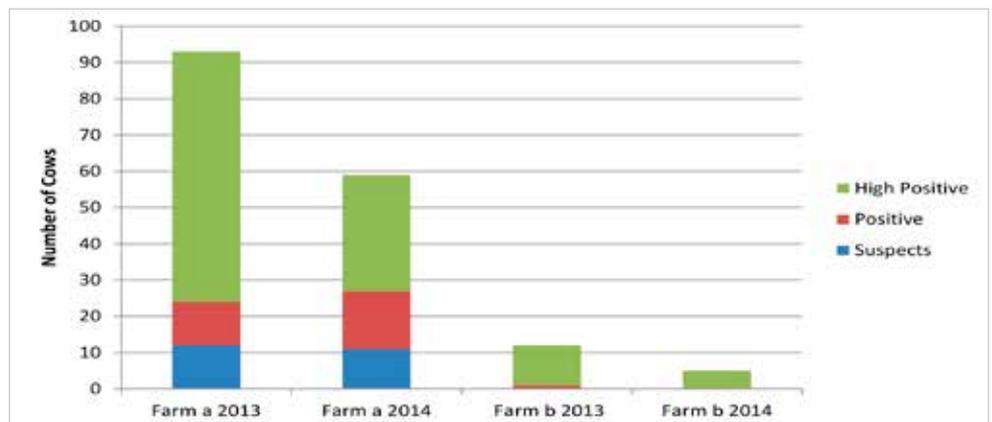
## Jobne's News January 2016

Last season 26 farms from our district enrolled for the Jobne's test during herd test. They saw this as a valuable way to reduce the effects of Jobne's on their farms. Two of these farms have tested their herds for 2 seasons. The following shows the reduction in the number of Jobne's cows from the test in the first year to the second year.

Both farms have experienced a reduction of 40- 50% in the number of infected cows detected after only 1 year of testing. This has meant a reduction in the number of cows dying from Jobne's which is a significant cost saving on

their farms. It also enabled them to cull cows infected with Jobne's and get works prices ~\$500, for them prior to

them becoming unwell and being worth only pet food ~ \$20. To discuss this further contact your Prime Vet.



## Polioencephalomalacia

We are once again seeing several cases of P.E. (polio encephalomalacia), a nervous disease seen primarily in calves and younger stock. P.E. is caused by a lack of vitamin B1 (not to be confused with a cobalt deficiency, which is associated with a vitamin B12 deficiency). P.E is thought to be nutritionally induced, when there is

a sudden change in diet from starchy, higher DM diet, to a lush, low fibre diet. A high dietary sulphur intake, especially with brassica's, has also been incriminated as a cause of P.E.

Calves with P.E. appear blind, may walk aimlessly, appear wobbly, have muscle tremors and head press. If calves are treated early in the disease process with

a series of vitamin B1 injections, survival rates are good. In an outbreak situation we have had good success, by prophylactically treating the remaining, unaffected calves, in the group with an oral vitamin B1 drench. This has proved a very cost effective preventative measure.

# Healthy Hoof Update

Lame cows continue to be among the three main problems affecting farms in our area together with mastitis and reproduction.

Lameness figures on local farms range from 5-25%, but there is still a significant problem with under-recording of lameness and under-estimating its importance and control.

Early detection and treatment of lameness problems remains the best solution. The Veterinary Centre has been running Healthy Hoof programmes on many farms with lameness issues



Andrew & Luke discuss hoof care

this season. Having staff trained by one of our vets so that they are competent and confident with lame cow treatments and understand the causes of lameness has made huge differences to lameness on these farms.

An influx of lame cows over the Christmas and the New Year period will sound familiar to many farmers, these can be challenging to deal with as many farms go onto skeleton staff with public holidays and annual leave.

We ask you to be proactive if you are seeing an increase in the number of lameness cases. Do not hesitate to organise a lameness consult with a member of our team.

Instead of receiving Christmas presents our amazing staff (with the assistance of Nestle) have donated 300 large tins of Milo to Foodbanks in our area. This is a fantastic gesture from our team that really defines the Christmas Spirit.



## Reminders in January

- Bull Removal In Heifers - ideally no heifers should calve after the 1st of October, therefore bulls should have been removed before the 23rd of December!
- Covexin 10 in 1 - in the last month we have seen many cases of sudden deaths in calves attributable to clostridial diseases. Covexin 10 in 1 gives the best possible protection available against clostridial disease. Two doses are required 4-8 weeks apart.



# Grow Right



With the current dry weather affecting most of dryland areas in this region, the monitoring of calf and heifer growth becomes imperative. The late summer/early autumn period is often a time of the year, when calves do not grow to target - this will be exacerbated this season by the dry. It is good farming practice to discuss with your grazier, what are his/her plans for coping with the summer dry - and what dates have been pencilled in for monitoring weight gain. Proactive decisions are ones made early. With the number of humeral fractures we have seen in heifers this season, we are strongly recommending treating calves with copper at this time of year - discuss this with your Prime Vet. Other animal health decisions to be ticked off in January include...

- ✓ choice of drench and drenching interval
- ✓ the use of selenium supplementation
- ✓ leptosensitising your calves
- ✓ weighing calves
- ✓ BVD vaccination



# Uddernews



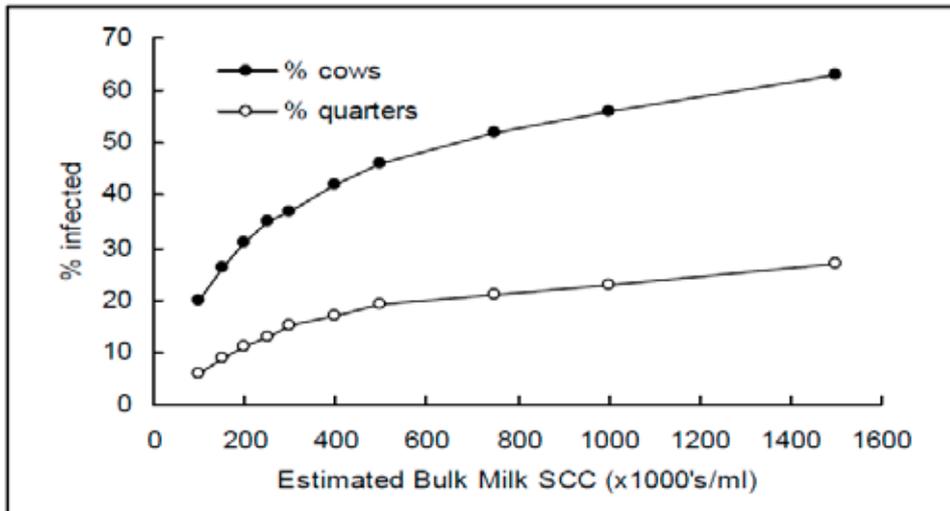
We are now half way through the season and many of you will have pulled the bulls out, the last of the calves have gone, and there are only the milking

cows on the farm. We have recognised the farms that have an average season to date BMSCC of less than 110,000 on the front page but many of you

will have higher bulk milk somatic cell counts than this time last year (41 of you have an ave BMSCC for the season greater than 200,000). The graph to the left shows that once the BMSCC is 200,000 then 30% of the cows have an infection. Many farms have also treated more mastitis cases this season than last season. For these reasons it is a good time to put plans into place to manage this as the BMSCC will start to rise in the next month or so as the milk volume starts to decline. You do not want to be in position where you have to dry off cows to manage the BMSCC rather than drying cows off based on body condition score and predicted calving dates.

Small things add up and make a big difference.

**Figure 1. Percent of cows and quarters infected compared with the bulk milk SCC, from Holdaway (1996).**



- Is the teatspray getting on to the teats?
- Is the teatspray being made up correctly?
- Are all of the teatspray droppers working?
- Are treatments being given correctly?
- Are treatments being recorded correctly?
- Are you treating cows that are likely to respond?
- How are you managing your known high SCC cows?
- Are the three titters easily identifiable?
- Have you changed the rubber ware yet?

Take the time make sure your milkers are milking the way you want them to.

- Is the backing gate being used correctly?
- Is the vacuum being broken prior to cups taken off?
- Are the cups being removed before over milking occurs?
- Are milkers wearing gloves?

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## Lepto✓cred

Veterinary Centre Lepto Assurance Programme



It's that time of the year again when we need to start thinking about Leptospirosis control on your farm. Many of our clients are now part of The Veterinary Centre 'Leptocred' programme.

It is vital for the dairy industry that we continue to have a robust programme

that strengthens Leptospirosis protection and at the same time allows you flexibility with vaccine use. The annual reaccreditation consult is an essential part of this process. It is also a pertinent time to take a step back and look at leptospirosis management on your farm and throughout the dairy industry.

We require all existing Leptocred officers to make a time to sit down with one of our vets for their 2015 audit and reaccreditation for 2016. We'd like to get these consults completed by mid January before we reach our peak workload of early pregnancy testing.

## Welcome to our New Vet, Bridget Roulston



Bridget is off a dairy farm in West Otago and has joined the friendly team in Oamaru. Although keen on mixed practice, she is passionate about the dairy industry and really enjoys the dairy work ( especially rearing replacements, reproduction and nutrition). She loves going on adventures and finding fun new activities such as shooting, scuba, snowboarding, tramping (or whatever seems like a good idea at the time) but also values spending time with friends and family. Bridget is very excited to meet the Veterinary Centre's dairy clients and hopes to add value to their farming operations.