



MOOZNEWS

Costs Are Coming Down

We are applying extreme pressure on our suppliers on a regular basis, to get them to respond to the current dairy crisis and get prices down.

Expect to see some significant reductions.

We have always been an aggressively competitive business. Last year, our retail dry cow therapy prices were amongst the lowest in NZ, if not the lowest. (eg Cephravine DC)

Further to this, we will always use the

best information, with reliable products, and work with you and your farm to give the most cost effective solutions.

There are a myriad of options 'out there', and the word 'cheap' is commonly heard.

Our commitment to you is to find reliable solutions at competitive prices to strive to make your farming operations sustainable.



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Inaugural Veterinary Centre Dairy Awards - Date for your calendar

- Thursday 28th April 2016
- 7.30 pm kick off
- Lower Waitaki Golf Club, Hilderthorpe
- All welcome
- Enjoy a fun night out - with some special awards.....
- More details to follow

Rules and Requirements for Dairy Awards listed below

Rules and Requirements for Dairy Awards Evening

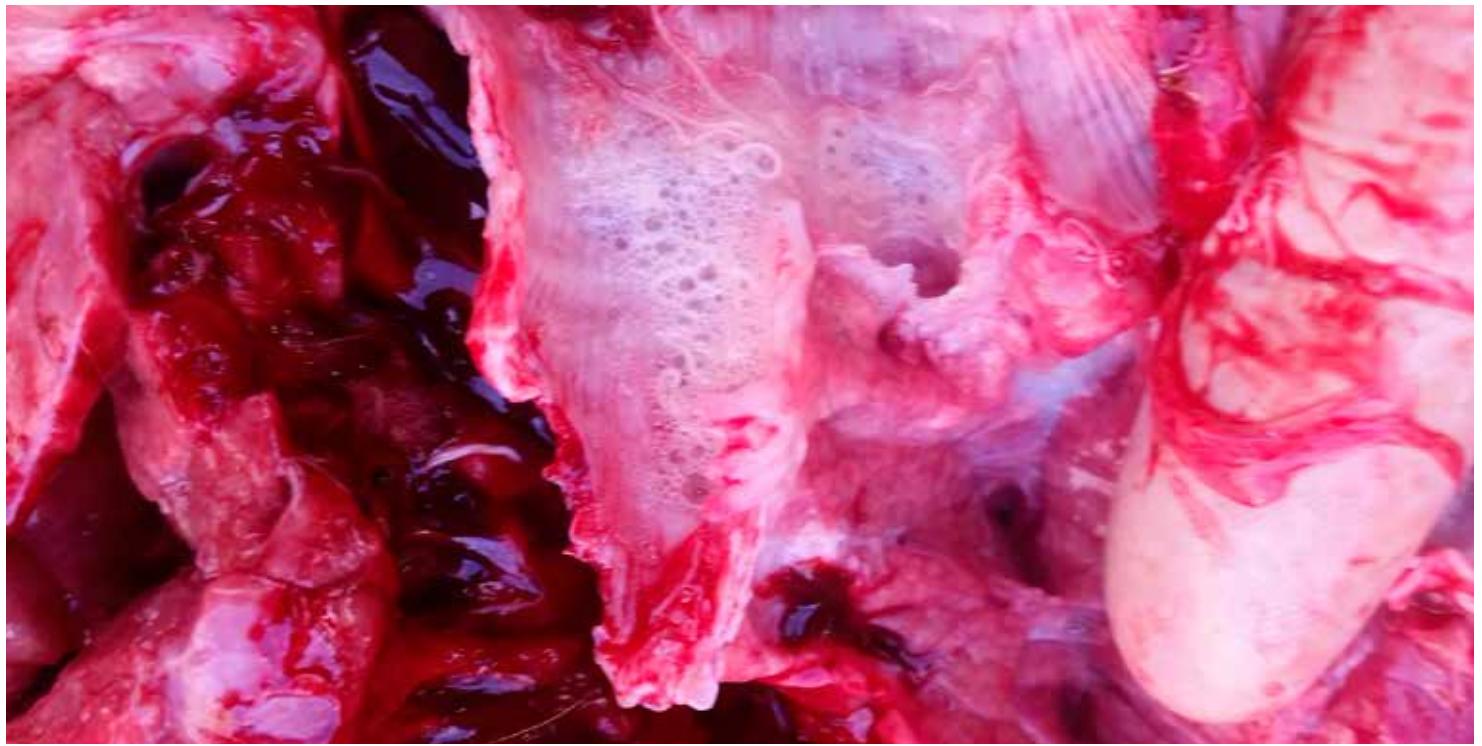
- Farms must be enrolled on Infovet. Clients not signed up will be contacted but sign ups must be completed by the 1st of April. This includes Oceania/Fonterra access.
- Reproductive measures will be taken from the Fertility Focus Report.
- The whole herd must have complete and accurately recorded calving dates from the previous spring.
- A common denominator of 'Herd at PSM' is used for many measures.

Ensure that any culls or deaths which occurred before the PSM have been removed from your records to enhance your FFR.

- Herds that contain greater than 35% heifers will not be eligible as these have unfair advantage over a herd with a standard age distribution.
- Clinical mastitis events for the season to date must be entered by the 1st of April
- The Judge's decision is final.

Just a reminder of our free delivery service. Orders made before 10am - delivery that day. Orders phoned in after 10am - delivery the following day.





Lungworm – The Perfect Storm

Vets from our Waimate clinic were recently called to a farm where 4 calves had died, one calf was recumbent, and about 40 others showed signs of coughing and respiratory distress. The history was consistent with lung-worm, and this was subsequently confirmed on post-mortem (see photo) where large numbers of adult worms were present in the large airways of the calf. We rarely see clinical lungworm cases, but this case saw a perfect storm; wet weather, long drenching intervals, and calves on the same paddocks for multiple years.

The lungworm lifecycle, much like gastrointestinal worms, revolves around the ingestion of L3 larvae from pasture. Grazing paddocks which have previously held calves (as in this case) will obviously increase the risk of infection. However L3's from lungworm are relatively inactive compared to their gastrointestinal cousins, and are incapable of travelling more than 5cm from the cow pats they are carried in. Instead they rely primarily on a

mushroom (*P kleinii*) which grows in the cow pats and bursts to disperse the larvae as far as 3m. The recent wet warm weather has been perfect mushroom weather, and has therefore increased the risk of lungworm.

A routine drenching programme normally limits lungworm as they are highly susceptible to anthelmintics. In particular pour-on abamectin compounds (such as Eclipse) have a persistence efficacy of over 14 days. In this case, in an effort to reduce costs the farmer used an oral abamectin/levamisole drench 8 weeks apart. We traditionally recommend 4 weeks between oral drenches and up to 6 weeks for pour-on products at this time of year.

This case highlights the need to be aware of drenching intervals in young stock, particularly with the warm, wet weather we were experiencing. As in all diseases prevention is much better than cure. In this case the farmer has lost 4 calves, has another 40 severely compromised, and the whole mob will

have reduced growth rates - severely outweighing the cost of an extra drench. Talk to your Prime Vet about a Young Stock Health Plan if you don't already have one in place.



Farewell to Leila Haghghi

In February, we farewelled Leila Haghghi from Oamaru. Leila, from Adelaide, has been with us for two years. After a brief visit to Australia in March, Leila and Blair head to the UK to start their OE - with a potential plan to do some vet work in London. We thank Leila for all her work and wish her and Blair well wherever their travels take them.

Lepto✓cred

Veterinary Centre Lepto
Assurance Programme



Please remember to contact
your local Blue Cross clinic
and update your lepto records
as stock are vaccinated. It will
certainly help our Lepto team to
keep your records up to date.

Six Week In Calf Rate - Roll of Honour

As most of you will now be aware the dairy industry target for 6 week in-calf rate (ICR) is 78%. The average six week ICR in both New Zealand and our practice for the 2014/15 was 67%. We have done an aged pregnancy test on ~90% of our client base over the last month or so, and are collecting some valuable data to contribute to on-going improvement.

We would like to congratulate the 15 farmers in our practice who have achieved a 6 week ICR of 75% or greater. Our honours list has dropped by 9 farms from 24 farms last year. This general drop in 6 week ICR is now being backed up by some very high empty rates. These higher empty rates are going to put significant pressure on voluntary culling options as we progress towards dry off.

Name	6 Week ICR	# Cows
Zanas & Justine Sceglinkas - DHL Cantley Developments Sunrise	78%	707
John & Phylis Emslie - Doctors Creek	78%	412
Kevin & Jo Dellaway - DHL Peebles Siding Dairy	77%	611
Mike & Christine Holland	77%	768
Karl & Emma Guy - Waitaki Ventures #2	77%	819
Wayne & Diane McKenzie - Manager Tim McKenzie	77%	574
Graeme Puttik - Backline Dairies	77%	991
Hamish & Fiona Winter, H F Farming #2 - Manager Shaun Kelsen	76%	392
Hayden & Lisa Watson, Lisburn Farm - Managers Glen Constable/John Zimmerman	76%	1723
Nick Webster, Hillbrook - Manager Sarah Smart	75%	733
Corrie & Donna Smit, Corona - Manager Jason Hunt	75%	753
Joe & Rebecca Laming, Fortitude Farm	75%	440
Ewan & Leanne Hollever - Oceanview	75%	806
Rod & Nicky Hayman, Springbank Farm - Manager Richard Paver	75%	773
Hugh & Darla Le Fleming, Willowbridge Dairies - Manager Dan Coles	75%	344

Pregnancy Testing – Rechecks and Infovet



- Cows designated as rechecks should be submitted for retesting after a minimum of 40 days since bull removal and a

maximum of 60 days after the first test.

- All rechecks will be aged again on Infovet. This is also necessary for a detailed Fertility Focus Report.
- Even if you did not use Infovet to age pregnancies at your first test we recommend this be done on your 'Recheck' group of cows.
- Full reproductive reports and management reports will be available once rechecks have been tested. (Both from Infovet & MINDApro)
- Reports available at the conclusion of pregnancy testing are; Fertility

Focus Report, Incalf graphs, Weekly due to calf report, accumulated grazing days, and aid in cow culling

Please contact the clinic if your preg test results have not appeared in MINDApro.

Do not attempt to manually enter your results into Minda from a hard copy as this will result in duplicates in LIC database.



Uddernews



As mentioned earlier in this newsletter we are running a completion to identify and recognise quality milk production and great reproductive results. This requires good records for us to find the best performers however the most compelling reason for maintaining good mastitis records should be that they will help you save money. At the end of the season with good records you can make good decisions about which cows get which dry cow product. Not all cows within a herd are at the same risk of developing a dry period mastitis

- having an infection when she calves. We can by combining herd test data with mastitis treatment data classify cows as either infected, or not likely to be infected. Infected cows obviously need to be cured and protected against new infection, but cows not likely to be infected should be protected against new infection. In many herds with a history of good mastitis control throughout the season, significant dollar savings can be made that will not cost you in terms performance or later costs, but only if mastitis data is

recorded electronically.

Also with good electronic recording a new report similar to the Fertility Focus Report called, unsurprisingly, the Mastitis Focus Report will be able to be produced. This report like the Fertility Focus Report will be able to identify from the patterns of mastitis and changes in cows' SCC results where problems are occurring.

Lameness

The wet weather has resulted in large numbers of lame cows on many farms. As a result of this some farms have ended up with cows with infected joints at the level of the top of the hoof. Infections of the pedal joint require long courses of high doses of antibiotics or toe amputations in order to come right. While for the individual cow they are serious, what is probably more important is to consider why these infections occur. The majority of the time they are secondary to white line infections. The infection progresses into the joint if

- The lame cow isn't detected early enough.
- The cow isn't treated early enough when she is seen.
- The cow isn't treated appropriately when her foot is lifted.

If you are seeing any infected pedal joints on your farm consider where the problem is likely to be occurring. Are your staff seeing lame cows early enough? Do they know how to detect that a cow is lame? What are they doing when they have found them? Or have they received enough training in how to treat them?

BVD Bulletin



Over the next couple of months we will begin to receive the final test of the BVD monitor packages. This test will only measure the level of BVD antibody in the bulk milk sample, it doesn't measure if there is any virus. The test allows us to see if there has been any incursions of virus into your herd since mating. It is important that the result isn't interpreted in isolation, but the previous results are considered and the history of the farm. Your Prime Vet will discuss this more fully when they call with your results.



Johne's News



It is worth considering what you do with the cow that you think has Johne's. The first thing to do is get her examined and blood tested as there are many reasons for a cow to start scouring and lose condition other than Johne's. While awaiting results you want to keep her somewhere so that she does the minimum amount of damage. By this I mean if she is a Johne's cow she is spreading millions of bacteria in every gram of faeces which have the potential to infect calves. You definitely don't want to put her in calf pens or anywhere else that calves tend to run. Finally If you are going to consider sending her to the works she has to be a body condition score 3.0 or greater. Practically she will have to be greater than a 3.5 as they lose weight so quickly. Discuss this fully with the vet who comes to examine her.

*"the leading
light in animal
health"*

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Veterinary Centre Glenavy
Veterinary Centre Kurow
Veterinary Centre Omarama
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