

Veterinary Centre EwesNews

High Country Tailing

Dave Robertson BVSc BSc
VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru

Worm Control

Ewe drenching at tailing. If you aren't in a hurry ewes can benefit from a drench if they are

- On short permanent grass paddocks
- Are skinny and daggy
- Have not had a capsule or LA treatment.

Pre-tailing egg counts can help you decide, but generally you know if ewes are battling and could do with a drench. Don't drench all of them. I hope you can feel satisfied when you leave a fat, clean ewe as refugia.

Fly Control

Clik EXTRA. Amazing product delivering over 4 months fly protection. Life would be very complicated without it. For terminal lambs or ewes that don't need 4 months protection use ClikZin. It is half the price and gives a good 2 months protection with only 7 days meat withhold.



CLiK

**CLiK Extra has
30% MORE
Actives than CLiK**

CLiK EXTRA ACVM A011384

**CLiK EXTRA
20 Litres
\$1349**
Incl GST

**CLiK EXTRA 20L
SAVE - BUY 2 or More
\$1329**
Incl GST

Vaccine

Multine 5-in-1 with B12 is very popular for lambs at tailing. In a recent farming conversation I had about it the concluding remark was "you may as well used the good stuff".



Randoms

A bottle of antibiotics for lame feet and other infections is useful. Tetravet blue spray also.

BCS profiling

If you are really into targeted drenching or anything to do with optimising ewe performance knowing the flock BCS profile at key points like tailing are useful



Would these ewes benefit from a drench at tailing? FECs, BCS and years of initiative knowledge can help decide... based on ewe condition, dag scores, FEC data (and hassle factor) Andrew and I decided they didn't.



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The Traditional ★ ★ ★
Ham-on-the-Bone
PROMOTION



Yours this season when you purchase indicated quantities of selected drenches from the **Veterinary Centre** by the Big Blue Cross

Malignant Catarrhal Fever (MCF)

Vanessa Love BVSc – VETERINARY CENTRE Ranfurly

MCF is a disease seen sporadically in cattle and deer who have been exposed to the sheep associated ovine herpes virus-2 (OHV-2). MCF causes a variable number of clinical signs and is almost always fatal. MCF in cattle is almost always sporadic, affecting a single animal, in deer it is highly lethal and large numbers can be affected.

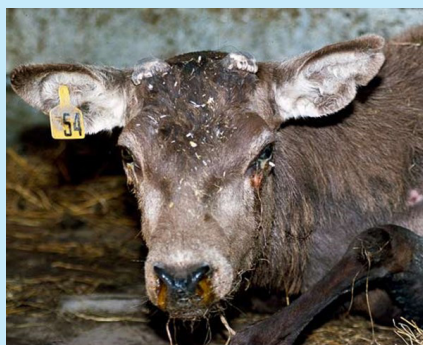
Most cases we see affect the head and eyes causing complete blindness, tremors, nasal and eye discharge and blisters on the nose and in the mouth, the eyes are often a pale blue colour. Less commonly, there are also mild forms causing only diarrhea, weight loss, respiratory disease, oral lesions or skin lesions. Animals that survive are infected for life and may succumb to the disease later, it is rare for surviving animals to achieve significant levels of production. Deer tend to get bloody diarrhoea and die much quicker than cattle.

OVH-2 causes no problems in sheep and cycles within flocks with lambs being infected by the airborne virus between 3 and 6 months old, and actively shedding the virus into the air and through nasal discharge when they're 6 to 9 months old. This means we typically see cases in the summer when lambs are shedding the most virus. After this age shedding of the virus decreases to low rates. The virus can be spread from sheep to cattle at distances over 70 metres. The incubation period in cattle is variable but may be from 2 weeks to 9 months from exposure to onset of clinical signs.

The good news is most cattle are relatively resistant to the virus, hence we only see sporadic clinical cases despite large numbers of cows being exposed to the virus. Bison are 1000 times more susceptible than cattle.

Affected cattle do not transmit the virus to their herd mates, it is only spread from sheep to cattle.

There is no treatment for affected animals and there is no vaccine. Early weaning of lambs and keeping cattle and deer away from lambs in their most infectious period may reduce cases.



Ram soundness. Veterinary breeding soundness checks and Brucellosis accreditation is an important bit of ensuring the genetic product will deliver...and great chance to discuss all things animal health and farming.



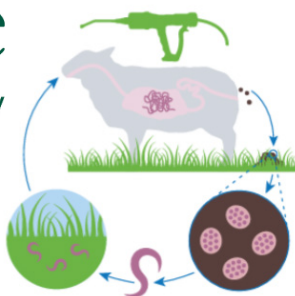
Many stud ram hoggets are getting soundness checks this month prior to sales. Our super Ranfurly vet Vanessa checking some Stonehenge Suffolks and Halfbreds. It is a great chance to see the next crop of genetics and catch up on seasonal animal health issues.

Workshop wormwise national worm management strategy workshop

Dave Robertson
with Beef + Lamb NZ

to be held at
East Otago Event Centre, Waikouaiti
Thursday 24 November 2022
10.30am – 1.30pm

Register now ...
Beef + Lamb website or
Veterinary Centre Oamaru
Phone 03 434 5666
Email events@vet111.co.nz



Drenching should be just one small part of a parasite management plan.



Russell & Kate Smillie from Wairua Merinos, Haka Valley, are getting excited about hosting their first ever on farm ram sale this January. 17 micron horned merinos, a selection of polled merinos and a rediscovered product: the border-merino half bred.



Get Bulls Sorted

Dave Robertson BVSc BSc – VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru

With beef cattle mating not far away, make sure bulls are sound prior to going out.

FEET that are over-grown or cracked need to be attended to reduce the risk of lameness during mating. I know there is a stigma with getting feet done on bulls, but hoof maintenance at this time can save having to find replacement bulls (which are not easy to come by) or have empty cows turn out at preg testing!

Boost bulls for BVD. We sell convenient 10 dose packs of BVD vaccine aimed at farmers who do the bulls each year. If there is one group to vaccinate routinely it is the bull team. Review your programme for the rest of the herd. Are you controlling with vaccine OR monitoring with blood test?

Top up bulls with selenium. Do this at least 1 month prior to service.

Get bulls **Veterinary Service Tested**. Bulls over 5 years of age are the greatest risk of sub-fertility issues. But younger bulls can have issues also. It always amazes me the faults we find at a service test at this time of year...



ACVM A008237

Products of the Month

Selovin LA

SELOVIN LA ACVM A009509

Selenium (as Barium selenate) 50mg/mL

Benefits:

- Protects against selenium deficiency in cattle for up to 12 months and in sheep for up to 18 months
- Ensures adequate selenium levels to maintain fertility, immunity and prevent production losses associated with selenium deficiency



UP TO
12 Months
CATTLE PROTECTION

ACVM A009509

Beef Cows Post-Calving – Pre-Mating

Dave Robertson BVSc BSc – VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru

If you are into early calf marking it is a good chance to assess cow condition, give BVD or any minerals lacking prior to mating. The biggie of course is from November to January beef cows really need feeding to crank their calf growth rates and back in-calf again. Beef cows have the capacity to consume and amazing amount of feed. 18kgDM of quality feed per day is required to put weight on and lactate optimally. I don't know what that number looks like on a hill block, but I think it would involve grass that they wrap their tongue around and the grass leaves stretch from one side of the mouth to the other. From where I have been recently it was hard to supply a picture with this statement...



Sandy Sutherland, Hills Creek – sorting out bulls prior to mating



TOXOVAX

Start to Plan!

Make sure it's here when you need it!



Toxoplasma is present on 100% of New Zealand farms and can cause abortion storms.

ToxoVax

- ✓ Controls the risk of Toxoplasma. **Live** vaccine.
- ✓ Up to 8% higher lambing percentages (3% national average).
- ✓ Vaccinate at least 4 weeks prior to first mating.
- ✓ One shot gives a lifetime immunity.
- ✓ **MUST BE ORDERED AT LEAST 4 WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF TREATMENT** to ensure availability.

AVAILABLE ONLY UNDER VETERINARY AUTHORISATION. ACVM No A04769. Schering-Plough Animal Health Ltd. Phone: 0800 800 543. www.msd-animal-health.co.nz NZ-CVX-201100004 © 2020 Intervet International B.V. All Rights Reserved.

Calves Feeding



Moving Sheep



Footrot Flats



Ewe Mastitis

Dave Robertson BVSc BSc
VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru



I have not written too many articles on ewe mastitis, possibly because there is not a lot we can do about it when discovered. The classic signs from a distance are:

- Lameness /stiff gait.
- Sitting down when other ewes grazing.
- Shelly gaunt lambs hanging around a ewe.

Closer inspection

- Udder swollen and purple/blue. Cold. Watery bloody discharge. This is black mastitis.



Blue Bag

There main course of action when cold and blue is to cut the teat off to drain the poison out. Administering long acting antibiotics and some anti-inflammatory drugs may have some benefit to keeping her a live. The vet only footrot antibiotic is actually the most potent for treating ewe mastitis. I have never found cow tube treatments any use. Removal to a hospital paddock for monitoring is a good idea.

The cause has often been reported to be Staph aureus bacteria, but there are other bacteria types that can cause sheep mastitis. If you have had some causes getting laboratory culture could help tease out the risk factors of the pathogen. If you are seeing any higher rates of mastitis, joint ill or pneumonia it might be worth investigating.

Common risk factors for sheep mastitis are:

- 1 – 6 weeks into lactation. Usually higher producing multiples.
- Teat damage (chewing, cracks, scabby mouth).
- Recent cold snap.
- Mob stocking/ higher densities.
- "Dirty" paddocks. i.e. that have over hanging shaded trees, swamp areas or common dirty camp areas.

Checking udders 1 month after weaning is advised to prevent the subtle cases slipping through for another season.



Itching in Working Dogs

Notice your working dog itching and scratching more than normal? Fleas, allergies and infections are the most common causes.

Itching is a really common problem among farm dogs. Itchy dogs can present in a number of ways including scratching, biting or licking at one or multiple areas of the body. The 3 most common causes of itching are parasites, allergies and infections.

Parasites in dogs

Fleas are small insects that feed on animal blood. Their saliva is very irritant and often causes an allergic reaction in dogs. They are also zoonotic, meaning they can also transfer to and infect humans.

The lifecycle of fleas makes them difficult to eliminate as the majority of their time is in the environment as eggs. A single flea on a dog can lay approximately 2000 eggs in her lifetime. Eggs drop into the environment and then hatch into larvae.

Step one is to eliminate fleas on the dog. There are a number of products available, most of which last for approximately 1 month (e.g. Advocate). Always read the packet or consult your vet for advice on which product would suit you best. Step two is to use a product on bedding/housing that can eliminate fleas in the environment.

Other parasites include mites, which can cause mange in dogs. These often cause severe itching and painful lesions. Treatment should be started as soon as possible, so contact your vet if you have any concerns.

Dogs and Allergies

Allergies in dogs can stem from a variety of factors just as in people including long grass, certain foods and washing powder. Allergies can develop at any age and it can sometimes be difficult to pinpoint what is triggering the allergy. We use clues such as the location of itching and seasonality to help us figure out what could be the cause.

Treatments include anti-itch medications and control of flare factors.

Skin Infections

Skin infections are an overgrowth of bacteria or fungus, which is often secondary to an allergy or parasite infestation. We normally treat these with a combination of topical and systemic antibiotics plus anti-itch medications.

Itchy dogs can really be a nightmare to treat so the sooner you get them seen the better! If you notice your dog itching excessively don't hesitate to call us and set up an appointment. A dog that is busy scratching is not busy working!

When we don't know what the animal is allergic to, the traditional treatment is with steroids which dampen down the immune response but can have potential side effects, some of which can be quite serious. Newer treatments include Apoquel, a daily anti-itch tablet that doesn't have the side effects that steroids can have or Cytopoint, a canine monoclonal antibody against the enzyme that creates the itch, which is given as a monthly injection.



Seresto ACVM A010750, Advocate ACVM A009119, Apoquel ACVM A011921, Cytopoint ACVM A011348, A011443, A011444, A011445

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- 7 Day Meat WHP
- Mix 2L to 1000L of Water

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