



EWES NEWS

Capsule Monitoring

We will be hassling you very shortly about a very important bit of monitoring of your long acting drench investment. We need 10 adult sheep samples from your capsuled/LA treated ewes 60 - 80 days after the dose. **ITS STILL FREE!**

Do lambs and ewes need a drench at tailing?

■ Get organised and do some FECs prior to the big round up. If ewes are skinny and daggy then yes some may benefit but by 6 weeks post lambing ewes are over peak milk and have regained some immune function to fight parasites. Lambs don't always need drenching prior to weaning, but if FECs indicate very high strongyle counts or any nematodirus and/or tape worm eggs then it may be justified.



Dr Om Dhungyel Visits from Sydney



Dr Om Dhungyel, who we continue to work with on footrot vaccine solutions in our fine wool flocks, returned to visit both Omarama and Maniototo recently. Since Dr Om's last visit in July many farms in both areas have had affected sheep swabbed to identify the bacterial serotypes and determine specific vaccine strains for their properties. Dr Om was able to view first hand the work being done and talk to our veterinary team and farmers. We look forward to seeing more of Dr Om as this project progresses.

FAECAL EGG COUNTING REPORTING FORM

Farm Name:			
Owner/Manager:			
Contact:	Email:	Phone:	
Report Class:	FEC monitoring		
Date:	Drenched:	Sampled:	
Drench History:	Product:	Dose:	
Class of Stock:	Breed:	Group:	
Reason for Test:	Check drench efficacy		
Case Vet requested:			



Results

Mol:	Product:
	Date:
	Urea/Lignin:

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Artificial Insemination of Commercial Beef

We have access to top stud bull straws this year. Ask about the options with

■ **ANGUS and HEREFORD**

- ▶ Growth
- ▶ Maternal
- ▶ Easy calving

■ **SPECKLED PARK + other breeds.**

Yearling heifer synchrony and AI has many advantages for management and genetic gain. Beef cow synchro also can condense and advance the calving period, along with faster inclusion of

proven genetics. Our synchro prices this year are very competitive. We oversee all of the programming to optimise the results with an experienced veterinary AI technician and assistant. For a

November - December program, you need to get organised this October with securing the straws, planning around events such as Christchurch show, tailing and Christmas!

Spray on Options for Lambs at Tailing this Spring



Bridget Roulston
BVSc, BSc



	Vetrazin Spray-On	Clikzin	Clik	Clik Extra
Active Ingredient	Cyromazine	12.5g/L Dicyclanil	50g/L Dicyclanil	65g/L Dicyclanil
Volume/dose	5-10ml	5-10ml	5-10ml	5-10ml
Length of action	Up to 6 weeks	6 - 9 weeks	Up to 18 weeks	14-26 weeks
Withholding	Meat = 7 days	Meat = 7 days	Meat = 35 days but 56 days for merinos	Meat = 21 days



Rumensin Capsules for Beef Cattle

Rumensin anti bloat capsules are one of the few ways to prevent bloat in young cattle. The active ingredient monensin also results in cattle producing more energy from the same amount of feed.



Wounds caused by tailing and castration can attract flies. Even small amounts of flystrike can have significant impacts on growth as well as being an animal welfare concern. Adequate protection for lambs is essential. Australian green blowfly issues prior to Christmas appear to be occurring more frequently as each year passes. The ready to use spray on options are effective, easy to use, safe to handle, not flammable (important when there is a hot iron about), and have a wide safety margin in lambs.

There are currently three 'Clik' products on the market Clikzin, Clik and Clik Extra. To put it simply these vary in concentration of the active ingredient Dicyclanil. The newer Clik Extra is a

higher potency formulation, has a short (21 day) meat withhold and a 14-26 week protection claim - fantastic for fine wool lambs. Clikzin is the lower concentration product (protection period 6-9 weeks, meat withhold 7 days). Traditionally Clikzin or Vetrazin spray on are often used in crossbred lambs where a long length of protection may not be a priority. Vetrazin spray on (active ingredient:cyromazine) will not be available next season so Clikzin is a good alternative. The standard Clik is available this season and provides up to 18 weeks protection but still has a meat withholding of 35 days for crossbreeds (56 days for merinos).

New Velvet ID Tags - Luke Smyth BVSc

It's now a regulation that we have a system of traceability for all velvet. Audits by national velvetting standards body or MPI will always look at tag records!

The old numbered cable tie tags for velvet are now null and void. Please do not use them, if you still have some of these tags left over from last season return them to your supervising vet who will issue new tags.

The cable ties have been replaced by new 'wrist band style' tag (a bit like concert admission tags or hospital identification wrist bands). These tags have both a barcode and a unique number, the unique number is underneath the barcode.

These tags are to be wrapped around the velvet in the usual manner between the brow/bez and trez tynes and the ends stuck together. Don't wrap the tags too tightly around the velvet as this can damage the velvet during the freezing and

processing. Put any sticks of velvet which a tag won't stay on (eg manufacturing, spiker, regrowth etc.) in a bag and 'tag the bag'

It is highly likely we will see a further improved tag for the 2020/2021 season which will have an electronic chip as well as the barcode and unique number. This will enable tagged velvet to be traced at every step of the way from farm to export.



Old style numbered cable tie tag



New barcoded wrist band style tag for 2019 season

Feeding Working Dogs for Optimal Performance

With long days and high work loads just around the corner, it's time to think about the most important farm asset - working dogs. These elite athletes will run up to a marathon per day and good nutrition is essential!

So what do they need in a diet?

- High fat (at least 20%). Dogs use fat as their main energy source. Feeding a good diet around **8 weeks before peak season** improves fat burning ability by 20-30%, reducing fatigue at the end of the day.
- High protein (>25%). Working dogs put a log of wear and tear on their bodies and protein is essential for healing. Feeding dogs high protein diets results in 8x less muscular injuries.
- Joint support. Working dogs are hard on their joints which can result in arthritis. A good diet should have joint support in its formula such as glucosamine, chondroitin sulfate (building blocks of cartilage).
- Energy content (ideally >4000cal/kg)

Summary of Nutritional Info for Working Dogs Foods			
Product	Fat (%)	Protein (%)	Energy (kcal/kg)
BlackHawk Working dog	22	32	4090
Eukanuba Premium Performance	>20	>30	3912
Pedigree Working Dog Formula	15	24	3600
Proplan Performance with Optipower	21	30	3850
Royal Canin Endurance 4800	30	32	4549
Tux Energy	18	20	3750

All this information and more is clearly listed on the back of dog food bags.

Home Kill: This can be considered a great source of fat and protein supplement, although it does have many vitamin and



mineral deficiencies. Most working dogs will do best when fed a mixed diet of sheep meat and a premium food.

Body condition score (BCS): Dogs with a BCS of 4/9 will perform better than any other score. If you run your hands over your dog, the ribs should be easy to feel, but not jutting out. The hip bones should be covered and not bony and the waist should be nicely tucked in.

Feeding times: Feeding immediately after exercise will help to repair muscles and store energy for the next day. Dogs should not work for at least 8 hours after a meal to prevent stomach discomfort and potential bloating. Weight loss over a busy period is not uncommon, especially in young dogs. In these cases, dogs may benefit for a small handful of premium food when they are let off in the morning.

Housing and Bedding: It is easy to under-estimate how much energy can be lost to keep warm in a kennel. A draft free, water-tight kennel with a small door and bedding will reduce food requirements significantly.



Sarah Boys BVSc

BVD Key Points Pre-mating - Dave Robertson BVSc

BVD and Breeding bulls

With breeding bulls the most important things with BVD control is to ensure

1. **Your bulls are not carriers of BVD.** This carrier state is called persistently infected (P.I.). The antigen test for P.I. status is usually done by bull breeders prior to sale. If unsure get your bulls blood tested.

2. **The bulls do not get a transient infection (T.I.) of BVD during mating.** If naïve bulls are introduced to a herd of cows with calves at foot they can get the "flu-like" symptoms which effects semen production for up to 6 weeks. To prevent this situation you can

1. **Ensure the cow herd with calves is clear of P.I.'s**
2. **Vaccinate bulls with a BVD booster prior to mating.**



What you can do with your bulls prior to joining

■ Check their status with source to ensure they are blood test antigen negative

■ Booster vaccinate if they have had vaccine prior or start with a 2 shot vaccine programme 4 weeks apart.

We do sell smaller vials of BVD vaccine for bull teams. If you were going to do one easy thing for BVD control it would

be vaccinate service bulls each year.

Heifers

Have they had exposure? To find out we run a pooled antibody test on 10-15 samples to check for herd exposure. This is a different test from the antigen test for P.I. status.

If yes and exposure is high - then vaccinate or eradicate prior to mating. If no - focus on biosecurity, especially during 1-4 months pregnant state when exposure can result in P.I. formatting.

Lining Beef Heifers up for Mating

Targets for October

1. Gaining more than 800g/day. This is achieved by feeding more than 3% of liveweight in kgDM of quality spring grass. e.g. for a 270kg heifer that is 8-9kgDM. Not always easy to find in a slow-cold spring, unless you are organised with some Italian or youngish grass saved up.
2. The target weight is 300kg+ going to the bull for Angus and Hereford. Heifers are not really meant to get compensatory growth if stunted during the winter so if they are less than 270kgs at the point of joining, it is best to leave them out to become the fattening mob for autumn cash flow.

3. Drench with combination drench. Mineral boost with copper, selenium +/- B12 1 month before mating. MULTIMIN is a good all-round option to top up levels prior to mating.



Abamectin Toxicity in Young Lambs

For most farmers the first drench of the new lambs will still be a few weeks away. However it is a good time to remind clients of the potential toxicity of abamectin to young stock.

Avoid using abamectin containing drenches (Matrix/Switch/Coopers Alliance) in the following scenarios

- Pre weaned lambs
- Lambs less than 20 kgs in weight.
- Dehydrated, weak or ill thrift young lambs

If drenching in any of these scenarios stick with Arrest or Scanda selenised as your best combination option. However as soon as lambs pass these milestones you can include the ostertagia killing power of abamectin in your lamb drenching plan.

And a note on selenium toxicity

In young lambs it is important to stick to prescribed selenium dosage. In selenised or hi mineral products there will be 1 dose of selenium included in each dose of the drench or vaccine. It

is not safe to double dose selenium to lambs such as giving a selenised B12 and a selenised oral drench. The risk of selenium poisoning to young stock is much greater than with older animals regardless of dose to weight ratio.

