Veterinary Centre wesNews

Spring Lambing

Dave Robertson BVSc BSc – VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru

With respect to animal health this October, those cross-bred farmers about to commence tailing might consider the following:

- 1. Parasites: Do ewes need a drench? Egg count some mobs pre-tailing to answer this. Will a targeted drench to light ewes do? 4-6 week old lambs are too young to benefit from a drench unless nematodirus worm species have emerged. If ewes have had long acting drenches take the opportunity to collect 10 samples from ewes to check egg counts.
- 2.Scabby Mouth: prevention with vaccination at tailing is the only way. Check takes 10 days later is very important.
- 3. Clostridial: You can give the first 5 in 1 (or 10 in 1) dose at tailing or pre-weaning lambs. Especially for lucerne grazing systems. Give booster vaccination at weaning. If ewes did not receive pre-lamb 5 in1 then give lambs a shot of Lamb vaccine (tetanus anti-toxin) at tailing to prevent tetanus.
- 4. Feet and eyes: have some Tetravet blue spray and injectable antibiotics handy to treat infections. Treating lame ewes and lambs at this time can limit spread of disease, minimize production loss and relieve suffering. Entropian (in-turned eyelids) is the most common cause of eye infection and ulcers in lambs. A 1mL injection of antibiotics under the skin around the infected lid is the best cure. Puffer powder is commonly requested, but won't fix the rolled in eye-lid.
- 5. Fly protection. Clik or Clik extra is the best fly protection product to apply to lambs at tailing. Giving over 4 months protection in fine wool. Clikzin can be used for a shorter meat withhold (7days). This gives 2 months protection.
- 6.B12 boost to lambs. Some properties are low in cobalt and if ewes have not B12/cobalt pre-lamb then this can be worthwhile.



Animal Welfare Guidelines

Dave Robertson BVSc BSc - VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru

- Transporting lame sheep and cattle Sheep, Cattle deer and pigs must be able to bear some weight on all limbs. Severe lameness can only be moved for treatment. If unsure get a Vet certificate. With lines of lame sheep a vet certificate is required.
- **Dehorning.** To dehorn any cattle local anaesthetic must be used. This includes calves.

To transport animals the horns must be inside the ears. Ingrown horns left unattended are an offence.

The best time to dehorn an animal is as a calf, this includes beef cattle. Using local

plus debudding iron will achieve the best results. We do have a certification process to farmers to administer local anaesthetic and dehorn their own cattle. It does require an on-farm audit annually.

 Castration Can be done with a ring up to 6 months of age, after that local anaesthetic must be used when castrating.



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by the Big Blue Cross

Comments on Capsules **Bionic Plus Hogget**



Dave Robertson BVSc BSc VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru

In the current exceptional circumstances since our detection of this current Bionic Plus hogget capsule payout situation, it has reinforced to us that we need to know our animal health products must perform. Our farming clients together with our supply partners (Boehringer Ingelheim) have tackled this investigation 'head on' to fully investigate the situation as fast as possible. Everyone has accepted the importance to existing markets and the future of our trading reputation. We feel this investigation was handled with transparency and integrity. We appreciate that the resolution of extending the meat with holding period (WHP) by 28 days, will affect different users in different ways, but we are confident every action has been take to ensure our clients and their business partners are not left disadvantaged.

The Buttons have Dropped



Luke Smyth BVSc – VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru

The velveting season is due to kick off very soon, most stags will have dropped their buttons and started growing some reasonable knobs of velvet.

Ideally the stags will have been drafted into mobs weekly as they dropped their buttons. The size of the stag mob should be relative to the facility size as most stress and potential for velvet damage occurs through overcrowding in the holding yards.

All of you will be aware of the new regulations regarding deer sheds and velvet hygiene. But it is a timely remainder to make sure that these standards are being maintained.

All velvet needs to be tagged for export with the black RFID tags. Only those clients who are registered on the Veltrak data base and are compliant with the regulations can be issued tags by the clinic.



Important dates for the NVSB Programme

- **Supervisory visits:** These need to be completed by December 15. Supervisory visits need to be completed annually and can't be rolled over.
- Return of drugs and record books for reconciliation: This must be done by March 31st. No velveting drugs are allowed on farm after this date.

Naturo rings.

- Velveting of spikers is being closely monitored at the DSP's and noncompliance is being followed up by MPI.
- It is vitally important that only Naturo rings are used and that they doubled over and applied correctly at the base of the pedicle. If cable ties have been used to apply the ring make sure the long tail is cut off at the cable tie clip.
- The velvet must be cut above the pedicle/coronet junction.
- Naturo rings can only be left on if the spikers are going to slaughter within 72 hours of the ring application.



Application of Bionic Plus capsules at 'The Rocks' is a team effort.... Lynnore Templeton, ET (Ezekiel Turner), and Sophie Paul



Treating Ewes at Tailing



Lucy Cameron BVSc BSc VETERINARY CENTRE Waimate

Tailing time is a great opportunity to see how ewes have been coping with the demands of lactation, and many of you will be considering drenching some that did not get a long-acting drench pre-lamb. By 6 weeks after lambing peak milk production has been and gone for the ewe, and lambs are now eating more and more pasture. Their immunity, which relaxes around lambing, is building up again giving them a better ability to fight parasites.

So in theory things are looking up for the ewes, but this will be heavily influenced by the conditions they are facing – what is the current and future feed situation, what condition are they in, and how much stress are they likely to be under. You can use FECs to help with your decision, but in adult sheep they are a rough guide only – there is a pretty poor correlation between FECs and worm burden so don't get too excited unless counts are in the thousands.

Drenching the light ones as they go through, or certain mobs that are under more pressure could be the way to go. You may have to put up with a few more dags, but if they are in good nick with plenty to eat, they won't suffer from a lack of a drench.

As for ewes that had a long-acting drench pre-lamb – now is an ideal time to take 10 faecal samples to check egg counts. An exit drench may be necessary, which can significantly reduce the risk of developing or increasing resistance on your farm.



Case Study: White Muscle Disease

Jasper Meek BVSc – VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru

History: This month we were called to a Central Otago farm to examine dry hoggets which were going down/dying during and after shearing. These hoggets were never mated and had been on swedes since May. Hoggets were in reasonable condition and were all bright and lively when brought into the yards for shearing. They were held off feed for 24-48hours prior to shearing.

During shearing 3 hoggets went down and would not stand up. They were bright and alert but unable to rise. Hoggets were taken back to the swedes after shearing. Along the way, several animals were slow or went down so were left behind. Hoggets on this farm have been managed this way for multiple years with no issues.

We arrived on farm the day after shearing. There were roughly 10 hoggets dead and 5 affected but alive. The 5 hoggets alive were either upright but unable to stand, or recumbent and unresponsive. One of these was euthanised and post-mortemed. There were no abnormal findings on gross examination other than the presence of blood in the urine. SMCO toxicity or 'red water' caused by brassica crops is a common cause of this as well as low phosphorous.

Top differentials for the cause of death included SMCO toxicity (although gums are pale and these were all the normal pink), metabolic (low magnesium/calcium/phosphorous), Listeria, Clostridials, and Internal parasites (although given Startect prior to going onto crop and all in good condition so unlikely).

Initial blood results confirmed both animals tested had low calcium so hypocalcaemia was suspected, which is rare in dry animals

but not unheard of. A few more animals had gone down over the last few days so one of these was treated with calcium with no improvement. The next blood result showed elevated heart and skeletal muscle enzymes, indicating damage. Selenium levels were requested on the two blood samples which came back as 71 and <60 (reference range 140-3000). Histology showed swelling of muscle fibers which, in light of elevated muscle enzymes and low selenium, was suspected to be due to White Muscle Disease.

White muscle disease is a clinical manifestation of low selenium which results in degeneration or necrosis of muscle. It is most commonly seen in lambs within the first few days or between 3-6 weeks old, but according to the lab is occasionally seen in hoggets after prolonged periods on brassica crops.

Diagnosis: These results are very supportive of an underlying selenium deficiency and WMD. Low calcium from with holding feed and the stress of shearing may have also played a role here.

Going forwards, this farm is going to look to short acting oral products such as LSD to raise and maintain selenium levels. Both short acting and long acting injectable selenium products are also available and can be a useful tool for supplementation.

If concerned about selenium levels at any point, a small cohort of 5-10 animals can be blood tested which can give a good indication of selenium levels at a flock level.

Faecal Egg Counts for ewes treated with long acting pre-lamb products

The Veterinary Centre is again offering a faecal egg count service for farmers who used longacting (LA) drench products in their ewes before lambing. Sample 60 to 80 days post insertion. This is an essential bit of monitoring for your capsule investment.





Will James BVetMed MRCVS - VETERINARY CENTRE Waimate

Ki Ora everyone,

I have been working in the UK for 3 years after graduating from the RVC in 2019, before realising I was missing out on all the fun of the New Zealand lifestyle and calving seasons! I am a keen sportsman and enjoy the outdoors especially hunting and fishing but will try my hand at anything, I have already joined the Waimate squash club as it seems like the entire team of Waimate Vet Clinic!

My main area of interest is in beef and sheep advanced reproduction and nutrition. I did a fair bit of beef AI back home so enjoyed learning about EBVs and bull fertility and I have started to develop my embryo transfer skills. For my time here I am looking forward to learning about the New Zealand way of sheep and beef farming and the challenges you face. Looking forward to getting stuck in and meeting everyone!



Hamish Elliot, Murray Elliot, Don McKenzie and Luke Potts – Tailing in the Haka Valley





Getting Set-up for Mating



Vanessa Love BVSc - VETERINARY CENTRE Ranfurly

Beef breeding season is right around the corner, so now is the time to get set up for a successful mating period. Two important things to consider are BVD and trace elements.

BVD is highly prevalent in our countries beef herds and can have profound effects on pregnancy rates as well as affecting the growth rates of calves born due to exposure to the virus.

If you want to vaccinate your breeding herd, now is the time to do it, followed by a booster shot one month later if they have never been vaccinated before. An annual booster is recommended. This protects the cow and calf through the duration of pregnancy and prevents the birth of persistently infected animals. If you wind up behind the 8 ball, it is safe to give at any point in pregnancy, but the most bang for your buck comes from giving it prior to mating.

Ensure all bulls bought were BVD tested and vaccinated prior to purchase, and consider boosting their BVD vaccine at the same time as the cows.

Trace element status is important, particularly selenium levels prior to mating. A boost in spring

Beef Cattle

Dave Robertson BVSc BSc - VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru

As Part of our interest in optimising beef cow performance the Veterinary Centre are involved with a beef cow synchronisation trial with over 800 mixed aged cows this year.

We do get reasonable conception rates with the existing programme with an expectation of around 60% hold rate – but we would always like more!

Example of a Standard AI syncro program for Beef Cows Here is a guide of what is required for a September 1 calving date.

October Planning and animal health	Discuss if Al is a going to work for you. Feed to gain weight 1 month pre-mating. Boost with multimin (Se, Cu, Zn, Mn). BVD vac (if in a program). Source semen.
Nov 14	CIDR 1 Cows BCS >5.5. Calved at least 6 weeks.
Nov 21	CIDR out
Nov 24	AI
Nov 26	Bulls in
Jan 23	Bulls out
Feb 28	Preg test

Beef Cow Feeding post Calving

November to January is a critical feeding period for beef cows that drives most of what is required to produce a good calf.

One of the main causes of poor 1st service conception rates in beef herds is delayed resumption of cycling activity. This is related directly to previous calving spread, fat reserves and spring feeding levels. Yes a cow can eat crap for 9 months of the year, but in the spring they need quality and a surprising amount of it to tell the system its OK to get back in-calf again.

Replacement Beef Heifers Requirements

Worm control

Combination drench (Eclipse pour-on or injectable) or oral (Alliance mini dose) are good options. September and November are typical months to drench yearling cattle, depending on the type of

is a good idea, particularly if they haven't had any prior to winter. Selovin LA lasts 6 months, a good cover for the mating period.

Copper is vital for the growth of the developing fetus, especially later in pregnancy and maternal levels tend to decrease over winter. Coppermax is a 2ml dose unless deficiency has been found on blood tests, and increases copper levels for around 12 weeks.

If you have any questions around BVD or want to book in trace element testing prior to mating please give your local Veterinary Centre clinic a call.



Talk to your vet about BVD vaccination ...

- 30 day broached vial claim
- 4 weeks to 6 months be-
- tween sensitiser and booster
- 12 months foetal protection
- ACVM A008237



pastures they are on.

Minerals

Selenium and Copper are the main ones to top-up prior to breeding. If you don't know whether they need to supplement do some bloods to check. Marks-min or Multimin is popular as an all-round, shorter acting mineral option.

Disease control

BVD vaccination starts with a September sensitiser and October booster. Alternatively blood test all heifers to see if any carriers are present. Cows can be boosted at calf marking.

Clostridial booster 5 in 1 or 10 in 1 is also recommended.







- Contains Dicyclanil (65gms)
- Effective against Fly (Blowfly)
- Length of protection
- 14 to 26 weeks protection

Withhold Periods

- Meat withhold 21 days
- Wool withhold 60 days

Application

Ideal for protecting docking wounds. At docking apply between 5ml and 10 mls over the crutch as per diagram A.

DIAGRAM A

For breech and body protection on all breeds from 4 weeks wool.

Body weight (kg)	Total Dose Volume (mL)	No. of bands x volume per band (mL)	No. treated (5 L)	No. treated (20 L)	
10-20	20	2 x 10 mL	250	1000	
21–30	25.5	3 x 8.5 mL	196	784	
31–50	30	3 x 10 mL	166	666	
>50	36	4 x 9 mL	138	555	
2 bands	31	Ands A	4 banc		





75mg/5ml Dose

25mg /5ml Dose

none

75mg/7.5ml Dose

24.75 mg/7.5ml Dose

10.5mg/7.5ml Dose

Note: Prolaject B12 2000 Selenium - 5ml cow dose is 88.6c +GST

Cu - Copper

Se - Selenium

B12

Veterinary Centre Spring Sheep & Lamb Order Form '22

Place your Tailing Orders early to ensure products are supplied when you need them

COMPANY	CONTACT NAME
FARM NAME (if different)	PHONE
DELIVERY LOCATION	

I would like to be contacted by a vet to discuss the animal health program in my flock.

			CALCULATO			
Product	Pack Size	Dose Rate (ml)	Number of Doses (Animals)	Total Quanity Required (ml)	Packs (Units) Required	Date Required
CLOSTRIDIAL VACCINE						
Multine 5-in-1 Plain Label Dose Rate: 2ml per Animal at Docking with 2ml Booster at 4-6 Weeks and Annually	500ml	2ml				
Multine 5-in-1 B12 Label Dose Rate: 2ml per Animal at Docking with 2ml Booster at 4-6 Weeks and Annually	500ml	2ml				
Multine 5-in-1 B12 Selenised Label Dose Rate: 2ml per Animal at Docking with 2ml Booster at 4-6 Weeks and Annually	500ml	2ml				
Covexin 10-in-1 Label Dose Rate: 1ml per Animal at Docking with 1ml Booster at 4-6 Weeks and Annually	100ml	1ml				
Injection Applicator Gun	EACH					
Needles for Applicator	EACH					
DOCKING/TAILING VACCINE						
Lamb Vaccine Plain Label Dose Rate: 2ml per Animal	500ml	2ml				
Lamb Vaccine Selenised Label Dose Rate: 2ml per Animal	500ml	2ml				
Injection Applicator Gun	EACH					
Needles for Applicator	EACH					
SCABBY MOUTH						
Scabigard (250 doses per pack) Label Dose Rate: 0.02ml per Animal	250 Dose	1 Dose				
Scabigard Applicator Gun	Each					
Phenax (150 doses per pack)	150 Dose	1 Dose				

SCABIGARD REMINDERS

Please follow the below points to ensure the vaccine stays live! Scabigard cannot be returned. Keep vaccine at 2 - 8° • NO BLOOD – Ensure you do not draw blood when

• When applying dip ensure you DON'T APPLY over the scabigard scratch.

For further information please visit: www.sheepvax.co.nz

• USE IN INNER THIGH ONLY (NOT EAR)

scratching

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PAR Prescription Animal Remedy

CENT

		CALCULATOR				
Product	Pack Size	Dose Rate (ml)	Number of Doses (Animals)	Total Quanity Required (ml)	Packs (Units) Required	Date Required
TAILING SUPPLIES						
Docking Rings (Orange)	Pk/500					
	Pk/2000					
Docking Rings (Blue)	Pk/500					
Docking kings (blue)	Pk/2000					
Shoof Ring Applicator (Plastic)	Each					
Shoof Ring Applicator (Metal)	Each					
Leader Ring Applicator (Metal)	Each					
Disinfectant	5 Litre					
FLYSTRIKE TREATMENT (Spray-O	n)					
CLiK EXTRA Spray-On (See Label for Dose Rates)	20 Litre					
CLiKZiN Spray-On (See Label for Dose Rates)	20 Litre					
CLiK Spray-On (See Label for Dose Rates)	20 Litre					
CyroShield Spray-On (See Label for Dose Rates)	20 Litre					
Spray-On Applicator Gun	Each					
FLYSTRIKE TREATMENT (Showeri	ng, Dipping	or Jetting)				-
Cyrex Liquid (See Label for Dose Rates)	10 Litre	•	kes 5,000 Litres of S	olution		
CyroShield Liquid (See Label for Dose Rates)	10 Litre	e 10 Litres Concentrate makes 5,000 Litres of Solution Approx 2 Litres of Solution per Sheep				
PRE-WEANING LAMB DRENCHES						
First Hi-Mineral Oral Drench Label Dose Rate: 1ml per 5kg	20 Litre					
Oral Drench Applicator Gun	Each					
SHEEP & LAMB (Over 20kg) DRE	ICHES					
Matrix Hi-Mineral Label Dose Rate: 1ml per 5kg	20 Litre					
Coopers Scanda Selenised Label Dose Rate: 1ml per 10kg * NOTE - REPLACES Arrest Hi Mineral	10 Litre					
Coopers Converge Label Dose Rate: 1ml per 10kg * NOTE - REPLACES Switch Hi-Mineral	10 Litre					
Coopers Alliance Label Dose Rate: 1ml per 10kg * NOTE - REPLACES Matrix Mini-Dose	10 Litre					
Oral Drench Applicator Gun	Each					

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			CALCULATO	R				
Product	Pack Size	Dose Rate (ml)	Number of Doses (Animals)	Total Quanity Required (ml)	Packs (Units) Required	Date Required		
B12 and SELENIUM								
SMARTShot B12 Label 0.5ml - lambs for slaughter animals Dose Rate: 1.0ml - lambs for ewe replacement	500ml							
SMARTShot B12 PLUS Se Label 0.5ml - lambs for slaughter animals Dose Rate: 1.0ml - lambs for ewe replacement	500ml							
Injection Applicator Gun	Each							
Needles for Applicator	Each							
LAMB MILK REPLACER								
Milligans Lamb Whole Milk Replacer	20kg							
AnLamb Lamb Whole Milk Replacer	20kg							
Sprayfo Lamb Whey Milk Replacer	20kg							
Milligans ExcelPlus Colostrum 15% lgG	600g							
Lamb Feeder Milk Train 4 Teat	Each							
Lamb Feeder Bucket 10 Teat	Each							
Sundry								
Lamb Woolovers	Pk/10							
Sprayline 200ml - Blue	Each							
Sprayline 200ml - Green	Each							
Sprayline 200ml - Orange	Each							
Sprayline 200ml - Purple	Each							
Sprayline 200ml - Red	Each							
Sprayline 200ml - Yellow	Each							
Sprayline 400ml - Blue	Each							
Sprayline 400ml - Green	Each							
Sprayline 400ml - Orange	Each							
Sprayline 400ml - Red	Each							
Sprayline 400ml - Yellow	Each							
Other Sundry			-					

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