



# Veterinary Centre MoozNews

## Intracillin LA

Mat O’Sullivan BVSc – VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru

### Changes to dose rates and withhold periods

In September last year changes were made through the ACVM to the labelling of Intracillin LA.

The milk withhold for this product is now set at 156hrs, while the meat withhold remains at 30 days.

The maximum label dose rate is 25,0000 IU/kg body weight which is 8.5mls/100kg. Therefore, a maximum dose for a cow is ...

- 500kg cow is 42.5ml
- 600kg cow is 51.0ml

The label limits it to a singular, i.e. no repeat doses in lactating cows, but it may be used up to 3 times at 48hr intervals in non-lactating cattle (i.e. bulls). We are however happy that where a

second dose is required in a dairy cow it may be given on the proviso that the milk withhold is extended by a further 24hrs.

Although the name of the product infers its formulation is long-acting, its actual period above a therapeutic concentration to kill pathogenic bacteria in many cases is not great (which could also lead to resistance). Much better therapeutic outcomes will always be achieved by using short-acting penicillins i.e. - Propercillin, on a daily basis for 3-5 days at 22,000IU/kg body weight which is 37mls/500kg which is 7.3mls/100kg.



Intracillin LA ACVM A006308

## In this Issue

- Intracillin LA – Changes to dose rates and withhold periods
- LeptoCred and Leptospirosis Vaccinations
- Zoetis Milk Quality Awards
- TeatCHECK – the cow’s early warning system!!
- Mid-Season Metabolic Disease
- UdderNEWS – Act now to control the spread of mastitis
- Post-weaning Care & Relocation of Calves
- Correctly Identifying the Lame Claw
- Lameness is Painful
- Polioencephalomalacia
- Yersinia in Calves



## Veterinary Centre LeptoCred Lepto Assurance Programme

## Leptospirosis Vaccinations

Andrew Muir BVSc – VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru

Traditionally at this time of the year we would be catching up with you all to do an annual Leptocred reaccreditation consult. From this season we will no longer do this. During the RVM/ Herd health consults done over the winter, you indicated to us when you would be vaccinating your cows, heifers and calves for Lepto. We will use this information to contact you and organise how much leptospirosis vaccine you need for the appropriate month.

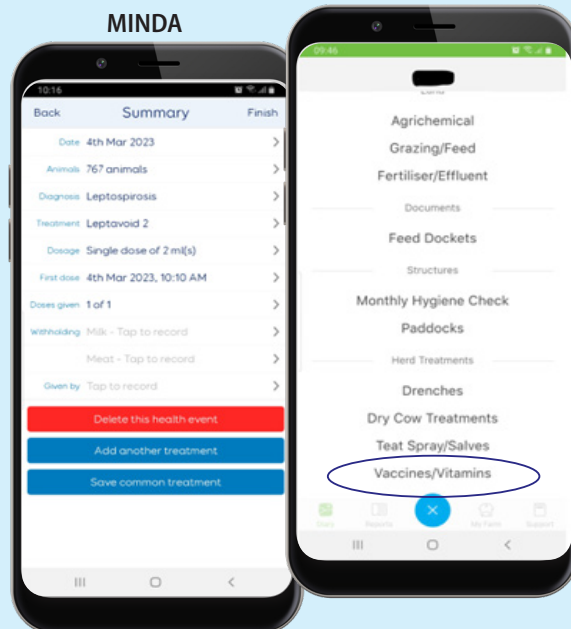
- If you have never done your own Lepto vaccinations and you want to do this season, you will need to do an Leptocred accreditation consult. Hopefully you have been contacted about this already. If

you haven’t, please contact the clinic.

- We will no longer require you to let us know when you have vaccinated your stock. You will have to keep a record.
  - Oceania supplier: record it into your Oceania Recording book in the section “other treatments”. You can record it into MINDA in addition to your recording book.
  - Fonterra: Record it into the electronic Dairy Diary or MINDA as a bulk entry.



### Dairy Diary



# Zoetis Milk Quality Awards

Below is a list of the lowest average BMSCC herds for the 2023-24 season up to the 5th of December 2023. Some of the data will not be what you expect due to late dry off cows being milked through into the current season before being dried off. 40 herds had an average BMSCC 100,000 or less (30 last season).

To try and make the “playing field” as even as possible we decided that we would not list farms where there are two

sheds, and a majority of the heifers go through one shed. Due to space limitations, we have not been able to list everyone who milks the cows, applies teatspray, and finds mastitis cases early, which was requested by many farmers when we rang to check details.

Zoetis have sponsored prize money for the top three place getters (\$750, \$500, and \$250) credited to their account.



## 2023 Milk Quality Awards

Business	Farm Owner	Sharemilker/Shed Manager	Avg BMSCC ('000)
<b>1 Le Emari Trust - Willowbridge</b>	<b>Hugh &amp; Darla Le Fleming</b>	<b>Hugh &amp; Darla Le Fleming</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>2 Kowhai Dairy Limited Shed 2</b>	<b>Johno Burrows</b>	<b>Geoffrey &amp; Alicia Sewell</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>3 Pomona Dairy Farm</b>	<b>Geoff Hay</b>	<b>Dan &amp; Cushla McKerchar</b>	<b>57</b>
Waiherd Limited	Paul & Ann-Maree Henshaw	Paul & Ann-Maree Henshaw	60
Mountain View Dairies	Paul Gow & Sonia McKerchar	Vidura Gunawardane	63
Corona Farms Ltd	Corrie & Donna Smit	Matthew & Kylie Bennett	65
Tamac Farms Ltd	Tim & Deborah McKenzie	Tim & Deborah Mckenzie	66
Retell Holdings Ltd	DHL Holdings Ltd	Marty & Nuki Sinkus	68
Lisburn - Infovet - Teschmaker Shed	Hayden & Lisa Watson	Glen & Brylee Constable	68
Rylock Farms	Lachlan & Roslyn McConnachie		71
Cantley Developments Limited - Sunrise	DHL Holdings Ltd	Jeremy & Louise Dyson (Cont. Milker) and Ian Miranda (Manager)	74
Hilderthorpe Farm	Richard & Karen Willans	Richard Alty	77
Ikawai - 36 406	Doug & Lynda McIntyre	Troy & Bronwyn Bradley	78
Blue Cliffs Dairy	Sandy & Jenny McAlwee	Stuart Johnstone	78
Eden Dairies Limited	Chris & Rebecca Eden	Chris & Rebecca Eden	79
Seven Mile Dairy Ltd	DHL Holdings Ltd	Rodney & Kelly Herrick	81
Nimbalkar Farms Limited	Sameer & Radha Nimbalkar	Sameer & Radha Nimbalkar	81
Palmdale Farms Limited	Jonothan & Joanna Dyson	Jonothan & Joanna Dyson	82
Te Waiu Ltd	John & Nicola Guy	John & Nicola Guy	82
Borst Holdings Ltd - Kinloch Farm	Robert & Sylvia Borst	Stephen Jensen & Laura Hill	84
Moffat Family Holdings Ltd	Ryan & Billie Moffat		85
Dogterom Farming - Glenmoa	Otto Dogterom	Julius Sanidad	88
Northdairy Ltd	Ken & Brenda Mcleod	Alex McLeod	88
Vaca Farms Ltd	Bernard & Merlyn Lauglaug		88
Dogterom Thomson Ltd - Bluff Hill Road	Mark & Janene Thomson	Mark & Janene Thomson	91
Smit Dairies Ltd - Rathmore	Steven & Tineke Smit	Steven & Tineke Smit	91
Steward Dairy Ltd	DHL Holdings Ltd	Nilo Quilaton & Stephanie Bagares	91
Bonnie Doon Farms Ltd	Karl & Emma Guy	Lorenzo & Myra Cavinta	92
Borst Holdings Ltd - Alderstone	Robert & Sylvia Borst	Alex & Tina Rintoul	93
Keeling Dairies Ltd	Geoff & Jan Keeling	Mark & Kate Frear	93
Tussocky Road Dairy Farm Ltd	Kent & Anna Spittle	Kent & Anna Spittle	93
Brunswick Downs 2014 Ltd	Trevor & Rebecca Lemmens	Trevor & Rebecca Lemmens	93
Gerald Meyer	Gerald Meyer	Gerald & Janet Meyer	93
Murphy #6	Robin & May Murphy	Romando Angiwan	95
Excel Farming Ltd Dairy #2	Michael & Amanda Williams	Flip Vermaak	96
Murphy Farms Ltd #5 Rivercliff	Robin & May Murphy	Brent & Debbie Tiffen	96
Murphy Farms Ltd #3 (Paul Byrne)	Robin & May Murphy	Kieran & Ashleigh Bryne	97
H H F Partnership	Jackson & Paul Henshaw	Jackson & Sarah Henshaw	98
Hinemoa Riverlands Company Ltd	Quintin Paul	Ben Smith	99
Borst Holdings Ltd - Kauroo Flats	Robert & Sylvia Borst	Alex & Lena Berezin	100

# TeatCHECK – the cow's early warning system!!

**Ryan Luckman BVSc (Dist) MANZCVS (Epidemiology)**  
**VETERINARY CENTRE** Waimate



Last January we launched TeatCHECK, a service where our tech team scores teats, teat spraying, and other mastitis risk factors to pre-emptively find farms that may benefit from making some changes (NOW) to help ensure the cows are dried off at the end of the season in the best teat condition possible.

## What did we find?

### Teat Condition:

A lot of farms had significant amounts of teat end damage. This is worrying when you consider that there are still five more months of milking, during a period of reducing milk volumes which only tends to increase the risk factors for teat end damage. On average 1 in 4 teats scored were rough – these teats are at higher risk of mastitis, AND will be more difficult to clean properly when drying off with teat seal.

investigate any risk factors that may be affecting teat health. Here we can work through a plan specific to your farm to help make changes that should minimise the impact on the teats over the remainder of the season. Some of the common findings have been:

- High vacuum pressure
- ACR settings keeping cups on too long (haven't been adjusted for stage of season)
- Milking routine (especially in herringbones)
- Faulty gauges
- Insufficient pressure in automatic teat sprayers (+ incorrect angling/ sensors)
- Untrimmed tails
- Staff awareness / training (including cupping technique, teatspray technique etc)

One of the interesting findings has been that some low cell count herds are still starting to see significant amounts of teat end damage. Currently they aren't seeing increases in cell count or mastitis, BUT they have typically had excellent teat spray coverage, good tail/udder hygiene, and low mastitis pressure within the herd. They therefore have a very low mastitis bug challenge at the moment so the damage isn't causing clinical issues. HOWEVER, we are concerned that if the trend continues that they may put themselves at risk in Spring when the challenge markedly increases.

### How do you sign up?

We will be in touch with all farms in the next 2 months to find out if you would like to sign up for a TeatCHECK visit, however if you want to find out your score ASAP then please get in touch. We will be charging \$165 (incl) + travel per farm, which will include the visit itself, a comprehensive report, and some practice wide benchmarking. As discussed some farms may require a further visit from one of our trained mastitis advisors if we need to help diagnose the underlying cause of teat issues – note this would be a separate offering/charge.

### Teat Spray Coverage:

On some farms as few as 35% of cows were getting adequate teat spray on all 4 teats. Only 7/50 farms had a system that was getting "every teat, every milking". Given that we know correct teat spraying will reduce the risk of mastitis by 50%, there are a lot of cows being put at unnecessary risk! These farms were a mix of manual and automatic teat sprayers.

There were also a lot of issues with teat spray mixing, often due to unclear instructions for staff who were mixing at incorrect rates.

### Got a problem, what can you do?

For farms with major issues we recommend a follow-up visit to



Very rough ring 1

# Mid-Season Metabolic Disease

**Luke Smyth BVSc**  
**VETERINARY CENTRE** Oamaru



I dealt with a case recently where a pipe blew out and the tanks were quickly drained. The herd was getting no water for almost 24 hours. The farmer was walking the cows to a pond twice a day, but their water intake was inadequate. The herd had been getting 60g Mag C through the Dosatron. The farm had 31 cows down with milk fever and a further 7 the next day. Blood samples confirmed hypocalcaemia and all cases responded to Calpro 375.

On a side note, this farmer had also stabbed 4 cows that were down because he was worried they were bloated, in reality they had secondary bloat due to rumen stasis associated with milk fever.

Cows that don't drink are far more susceptible to milk fever. Cows need dietary magnesium on a daily basis. A lack of magnesium means the cow fails to regulate her own calcium homeostatic mechanisms and become susceptible to milk fever. Magnesium levels are often low in lush irrigated grass which has been forced with nitrogen.

Before going on holiday.

- Check on the stock water system. Is there an issue with tanks not filling, leaking pipes and troughs.
- Ensure there is a fool proof plan for adding Magnesium to the Dosatron and the Dosatron is emptying fully.

## Oral Drench for Calves

### Double Combination

**TURBO**  
**ADVANCE**

**Eprinomectin's broad spectrum killing power and high safety profile for calves of all weights\*!**

(\*over 60kg)

### Actives:

- Eprinomectin
- Levamisole
- Selenium
- Cobalt

### Dose Rate

1ml/10kg



Turbo Advance ACVM A011714

**5L \$459.00**  
**15L \$1,085.00**

Including GST



**Hamish Newton BVSc, PhD**  
Oamaru Veterinary Centre



## Act now to control the spread of mastitis.

Now is a good time to think about controlling the spread of mastitis as mating is over and milkings are routine. At this time of the year, we are more likely to see mastitis behaving as a contagious disease rather than a disease being picked up from the environment. The source of contagious mastitis is infected cows. The difficulty is finding who the infected cows are.

### How do I find these infected cows?

Are your milkers routinely actively looking for mastitis? Are you weekly stripping or paddle testing suspect cows? *One source of information often overlooked is your treatment records.* How many cows do you have in your herd that you have treated two or more times this season for mastitis? The unfortunate truth is that if you are treating a cow for the third time for mastitis this season you are not likely to get a long-lasting cure despite what you culture – this cow has either a damaged/scarred udder that is not allowing the drugs to get to the bugs, or the bugs are “hiding” from the drugs in the cells of the udder. Consider making a cow a 3 titter before treating her for the third time.

Other methods for identifying cows that are likely to be acting as a source of infection include your herd test data. This data will identify most of your infected cows but won't find all of them as a cow's SCC fluctuates over time and there will be some cows that are infected that have SCCs less than even 150.

There are at least two companies that offer screening of all the cows in your herd using culture systems. If you want to pursue this avenue, make sure you consider what you will do with the results –

will you be able to use the information (think “can I cull all the Staph positive cows?”). LIC can use your herd test samples to screen cows, for *Staph aureus*. You can select which cows get tested. This test can sometimes be useful if you are not able to cull all your high SCC cows and are looking to identify only those that are infected with *Staph aureus* for culling.

### What can I do right now?

If you do perceive you have a problem use any, and all, sources of information you already have to start identifying cows that are acting as a reservoir of bugs so they can be managed to reduce the risk they pose to their herd mates. If you don't perceive you have a problem, take the time this month to reduce or eliminate the known risk factors for spreading mastitis for the rest of the season.

- Is over milking occurring (check your Fonterra Farm Insights Report)?
- Are any 3 titters well marked?
- Are you wearing gloves?
- Is the rubberwear due to be changed?
- Are the teats “healthy” (get a “TeatCHECK visit” done).
- After teat spraying is there a drip of teatspray on all four teat ends?
- Is the teatspray being made up correctly and regularly?

If you act now, you will reduce the rate which the BMSCC rises at the end of the season so if the season allows you can milk more cows for longer.

## Post-weaning Care & Relocation of Calves

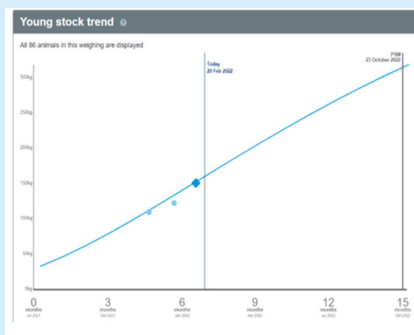
**Jess McKenzie BVSc (Dist.) – VETERINARY CENTRE Waimate**

Post-weaning the aim is to have calves that continue to gain weight - they should never lose weight or remain static. Some animals don't thrive post-weaning so it is a good idea to weigh them 7-10 days post-weaning to make sure they have gained weight. Any that haven't may need continued access to calf meal, regardless of weight or age, or examination by a vet.

**Relocation of calves** can be a stressful time – transportation and settling into a new environment is a worrying time for them! It can result in growth checks and be a trigger for other animal health issues including pneumonia, parasites and scouring (*Yersinia/Salmonella*) if things are not well managed.

The graph below is an example of a well-managed growth check in a group of R1 dairy heifers – a distinct check in growth is evident for 2-3 weeks after relocation to a grazing block despite everything else being well managed. Growth rates dropped to 400 grams/day for 2-3 weeks and once settled they quickly got back up to 700 grams/day.

Although no disease or other ill-effects were encountered in this example – largely due to continued good nutrition and animal health - it likely depicts a very common scenario when young calves are moved or placed under any form of stress. This is important to keep in mind.



### Post-Weaning Reminders:

#### 1. Ensure continued good nutrition post-weaning

As a rule of thumb, the amount of feed to OFFER youngstock from weaning to post mating is:

3 kg DM per 100 kg liveweight

+ 3 kg DM per 1 kg liveweight gain/day

Example - For a 150 kg calf gaining 700 grams/day = 4.5 kg DM + 2.1 kg DM = 6.6 kg DM/day offered.

#### 2. Aim to have continued growth rates of at least 600 grams/day to keep young stock on track.

- Regular weighing is important – it is the only way to get an ‘accurate’ assessment of how well they are actually growing.

#### 3. Parasites/drenching – regular drenching of R1's should continue.

#### 4. Trace elements – selenium, B12 and copper are generally requiring a top up by now.

#### 5. Lepto vaccination – Jan sensitiser/Feb booster (unless 7 in 1 has been used).

Any calf with a dirty bum, empty tummy or appearing depressed/dull should be pulled out to examine, treat and potentially isolate ASAP. Common calf conditions seen in this age group include *Coccidia*, *Yersinia*, B1 deficiency, pneumonia, drench gun injuries & pink eye – some of which are contagious so prompt treatment/isolation of individuals can limit effects on the mob.

Any concerns on anything, don't hesitate to give us a call. We are here to help and happy to give advice when needed.

# Correctly Identifying the Lamé Claw



**Mat O'Sullivan BVSc**  
VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru

Over the years I have witnessed multiple occasions where farm staff have attacked hooves with knives, grinders and hoof trimmers before correctly determining the site of lameness. This will have frequently resulted in an exacerbation of the overall lameness in the cow.

Before putting any lame cows into the crush, it is important to determine which leg is affected. Our vets tend to record these on a recording sheet. Look for:

- obvious swelling (and hoof shape)
- weight bearing while standing still (the lame foot will be positioned so not to carry as much load)
- a head nod while walking in the case of front leg lameness
- the stride length and speed (the lame leg will have a short stride before taking weight, then the sound leg swings through with a longer stride and is weight loaded for longer).



Once you have determined the lame leg, have tied it up, washed it down and checked for footrot, use hoof testers to confirm where the lameness is located. This simple tool works by squeezing and putting pressure on the claw. Watch for a repeatable pain response which is easy to recognise in the hind legs by a tensing of the 'hamstring' muscles and the front legs by a tensing of the shoulders. Cows with sole bruising will often have very soft hooves and you will see that the testers easily depress the sole. If there is no response to either claw to hoof testers, then chances are you either have the wrong foot or the cause of lameness is located further up the leg.

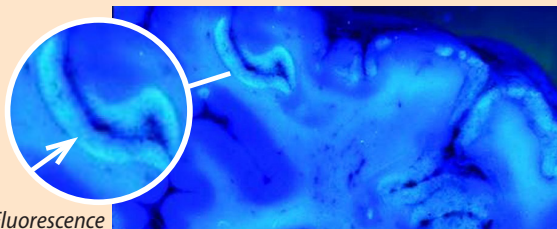
## Lameness is Painful

Get them off the painful claw as quickly as possible. Cow slips and hoof blocks are ideal. The use of anti-inflammatories to reduce pain, swelling and speed recovery should be routine. Ketomax can be used once daily for 2-4 days and has no milk-withhold period. For products with one off treatment, Rimydal LA (no milk withhold) or Metacam 40 (84hrs milk withhold) are excellent choices.

## Polioencephalomalacia (PEM, B1 deficiency)

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 stalky, higher DM diet, to a lush, low fibre diet. A high dietary sulphur intake, especially with brassicas, 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.



Fluorescence

The brain of a calf with PE, fluoresces under a UV light.

# Veterinary Centre MoozNews EXTRA

## Young Stock Drench

The leading cattle drench for the control of internal parasites in R1/R2 Cattle.



**ECLIPSE**  
POUR-ON for Cattle

Actives:

- Abamectin
- Levamisole

Dose Rate  
1ml/20kg

**SAVE**  
Short Dated  
Promo Feb 24

2.5L

Normally  
**\$689.00**

**\$629.00**

5L

**\$1,299.00**

**\$1,099.00**

Eclipse Pour-On ACVM A009270



## Timely Reminders

### Yersinia in Calves

In December-January we start to see outbreaks of Yersinia in weaned calves. Yersinia bacteria are commonly found in the intestines of most calves. Stress associated with parasites, trace element deficiencies and BVD may result in an overgrowth of this bug in the intestines. Overgrowth results in severe scour. Large percentages of a mob are often affected severely checking growth rates. Mortality rates of 5-10% are not unusual. Isolation of affected animals and treatment with neomycin antibiotic for 3-5 days is an effective treatment/control.