



MOOZNEWS

Six Week In Calf Rate - Roll of Honour

The industry six week InCalf Rate is 78% and every year we like to celebrate those that achieved a 75% six week in calf rate or better. This season to date our district average figure is 66%, compared to 65% in 2019.

In 2015 24 farms achieved this honour, 15 in 2016, 6 in 2017 8 in 2018 and 18 in 2019.

This season we have 28 farms which is a great lift - well done everyone.

Name	6 Week ICR
Allon & Hannah Wood - Longview Dairies 2018 Ltd	79%
Bernard & Merlyn Lauglaug - Dairy Holdings Ltd Peebles Siding	79%
Ronnie & Hazel Barrientos - Morgan & Hayley Easton - Cayuga Stonyhurst	78%
Grant Tremewan - Maerewhenua Investment Ltd	78%
Jeorges Barroga - Ed & Becca Finlay - Flag Farms Ltd	78%
Lachlan & Roslyn McConnachie - Dairy Holdings Ltd Terrace Top Dairy	78%
Mark & Ciara Hodder - Doug & Ann Hodder - Belvue Downs Ltd	77%
Zanas & Justine Sceglinkas - Dairy Holdings Ltd Cantley Developments Sunrise	77%
Mark Pickering - Dairy Holdings Ltd Steward Dairy	77%
Steve & Fiona Cox - Matt & Julie Ross - Kokoamo Domett View	77%
Will & Katie Sinclair - Adri & Francee Verbakel - Cloverdale	76%
Hamish & Fiona Winter - H F Farming Ltd	76%
Brendan & Avril Lane - Dinnae Ken Ltd	76%
Lorenzo & Myra Cavinta - Karl & Emma Guy - Bonnie Doon Farms	76%
Greig & Rachel Moore - Moore Farms 2008 Ltd	76%
Kent Anderson - Almondell Farms Ltd	76%
John & Phyllis Emslie - Doctors Creek Farm	76%
Mike & Christine Holland - Holland Farming Ltd	75%
Hamish & Rachel McFarlane	75%
Geoffrey & Alicia Sewell - Kowhai Dairy Ltd	75%
Michael & Amanda Williams - Excel Farming Ltd	75%
Simon Chamberlain - Lucien & Lynley Verkerk - Verkerk Dairying Ltd	75%
Ronal Bhagat - Craigmere Farms Pine Hill Dairy	75%
Roley & Yranee Monoy - Dairy Holdings Ltd Awanui Dairy	75%
Ben & Grace Smith - Dairy Holding Ltd Retell Holdings	75%
Braden & Rebecca De La Rue - Corrie & Donna Smit - Corona Farms Ltd	75%
Daniel & Charlotte Montgomery - Matt & Julie Ross - Kokoamo Strachans Road	75%
Paul Gow & Sonia McKerchar - Mountain View Dairies Ltd	75%

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Teatsealing

Teatsealing season is not far away....

We are once again looking for seasonal staff in Oamaru & in Waimate to help with this. If you are interested, contact Neil Kingan, Practice Manager, Oamaru. Ph 03-4345666

Veterinary Centre Oamaru
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Veterinary Centre Palmerston
Veterinary Centre Glenavy
Veterinary Centre Kurow
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Andrew Muir
BVSc., BSc (Hons).

Johne's News

The Johne's results from herd testing are coming in thick and fast at the moment. If you have got your results already you will have been made aware that LIC is offering free lab testing to confirm the high positive samples.

Speaking with LIC virtually 100% of these cows will be positive on the blood sample, which has also been our experience. LIC believes that most changes in results (eg high positive to negative) are due to some kind of reading error of an ear tag or tube.

Therefore it may really only be worth considering doing the additional testing if you think there may be errors. If your herd has ear tags that are hard to read, you have double up ear tags or there are cows with high BWs or pet cows involved it may be worth taking LIC up on the offer to check that the correct cow is going to be culled.

Drenching Cattle This Autumn

Autumn is an important time for the treatment of grazing animals that are facing the combined demands of advancing pregnancy and the seasonal autumn larval challenge.

Trial work has shown the benefits of mitigating the stress that cows are under at this time of year. Sanchez et al. (2004)

The following benefits are associated with treating internal parasites in cattle in autumn

- Body Condition Score response – cows are metabolically more able to gain condition.
- Better body condition score at calving is accepted as a critical factor determining an early return to cycling for both beef and dairy cows.
- Local trial work (on file) shows pasture larval contamination peaks in March and April. This is consistent with documented expectations across the country.
- Milk production response in dairy cows – research shows that treating dairy cows can result in 0.03kgMS/day of increased milk production.

IT'S BACK!

Genesis™
Autumn 12.5 Litre Herd Pack
Only \$1089



That's just \$1.89 + GST per 500kg dose

IMPORTANT! The only oil based abamectin pour-on providing 14 day persistent activity

GROW SMART MONTHLY REMINDERS: Jess McKenzie BVSc

1. By now R1's should have received at least their first Lepto vaccination, if not their second – have your R1's been Lepto vaccinated yet?
2. R2's should have received their annual Lepto booster also.
3. Regular drenching of R1's should be continuing using a triple combination oral drench (120kg+) or a double combination injectable/pour-on product containing levamisole (Eclipse-E injection/Eclipse Pour on) at 4 weekly intervals throughout the summer and autumn months.
4. Don't forget about the R2's – a summer drench may be necessary for them also – a single active drench product should suffice here.
5. Trace elements - have your R1's/R2's received adequate selenium, copper and B12 supplementation? Trace element deficiencies can be production-limiting in young cattle.

BVD Bulletin Andrew Muir BVSc., BSc (Hons).



Over the next 2 months the final test of the BVD monitor package will be reported. This will only be an antibody result. It is important that the result isn't interrupted in isolation as the following example shows. The final result is high as were the previous 2 samples in the season, the BVD status of the herd hasn't changed since earlier in the season. You will be able to discuss this more fully with your prime vet when the results come out.





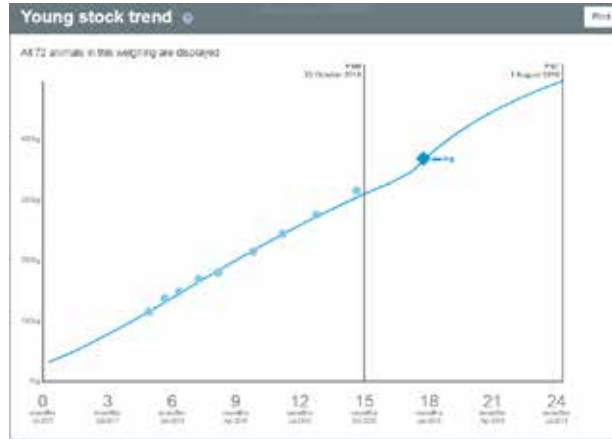
Jess McKenzie BVSc

The graph below shows a group of R1 heifer calves (2017 spring born) which were looked after by the team at The Veterinary Centre Waimate. They are owned by a dairy client of ours who a few years ago purchased a farm 8 hours further north but continues to send his youngstock down to a local grazier. We have been entrusted with looking after his youngstock for the past 4 years and perform all duties for him such as regular weighing, liaising with the grazier about feeding levels, and all animal health treatments such as drenching, vaccinating and keeping on top of trace element supplementation.

It is a relationship that works well and has proved to be extremely satisfying for both us and the client, as can be seen from the graph below:

Weighing R1 heifers on a regular basis provides an 'accurate' assessment of how well the heifers are growing compared to targets. It also allows for 'pro-active' management - if heifers are under target at weighing, action can be taken straight away to get them back on track.

Individual heifer weights may fall either side of the weight-for-age target. It is natural to have variation within a mob and studies have shown



that some healthy heifers may be 15% lighter than their peers. The average weight for a mob however, should meet each target weight-for-age which is a good indication that they are on track to meet the 22-month target.

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

Which for a 200 kg calf gaining 900 grams/day = 6 kg DM + 2.7 kg DM = 8.7 kg DM/day.

If grazing below 1600 kgDM/ha, or for less than 2 hours/day young stock are not being fully fed. There is also something to gain by offering a fresh break every day - young stock do not have the same drive to eat as a milking cow and shifting breaks daily can help to maintain interest and intakes.

Access to water is often overlooked but important to keep in mind - calves tend to do things in groups and submissive calves can miss

out on water intake. This can lead to stratification of weights and some calves falling off the back of the mob. Something to consider is keeping mob size <80 to try and avoid this and ensuring there is good access to water at all times.

Please talk to your Veterinary Centre vet if you have any questions about any of the above or if you would like to get involved with any part of the Grow Smart Heifer Monitoring programme.

Veterinary Centre Dairy Farmer Autumn Seminar

Date: TUESDAY 28th April
Venues: 2.30 pm Papakaio Community Centre
7.00 pm Waimate Veterinary Centre, High St, Waimate



Andrea Murphy
Dairy nutrition consultant
Best practice dry-off protocols to minimise mastitis risk and maximise cow health



Dr Neil Chesteron
NZ's leading lameness expert.
Strategies for prevention of White Line Disease (WLD)

All Welcome



Uddernews



Data to Aid Culling Decisions

Many of you will now know your final empty rate and have a pretty good idea of how many “voluntary culls” you will have. If you have the luxury of being able to cull cows because you have a more replacements than empties and obvious culls (poor udder, age, temperament, poor feet, repeat mastitis etc.), there are now two tests available, run on your herd testing samples, to identify Johne’s disease carrying cows,

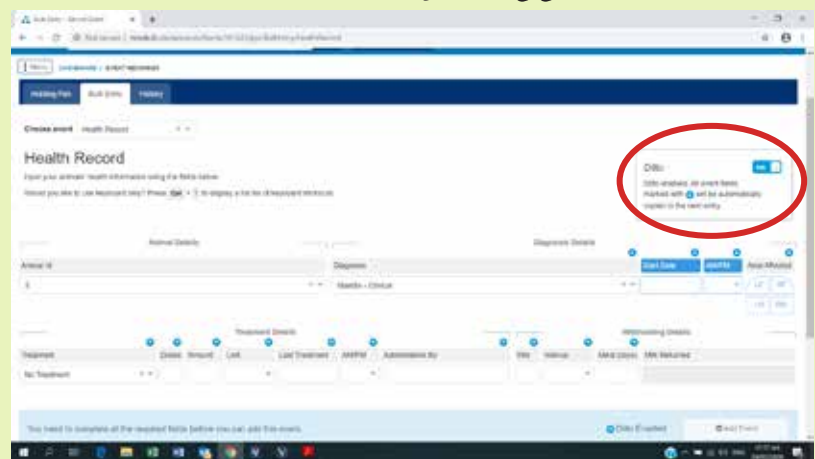
and cows that are carrying the mastitis bug *Staph aureus*. If you think you are having too many cows with Johne’s (if you have had this thought before now, you will have had too much Johne’s), or if you want to drive down the number of cows carrying *Staph aureus* discuss these tests with any of our vets and we can organise them for you.

Clinical Mastitis Data to Make Dry Off Decisions

Sooner than we think we will be sitting down with you to make decisions around dry cow therapy. We will make better decisions if we have access to your mastitis records electronically. So here is my annual plea to please get your mastitis records into MINDA or Insight. We get the vast majority of the information we want by knowing the following

1. The cow
2. The date
3. And the diagnosis (Mastitis clinical)

So if you are daunted by the task of entering the data from the farm diary just entering these three bits of data



accurately will make a big difference. From sales records we can look at what drugs were used and when. Remember

to use the “Ditto” function so the diagnosis etc. copies into the next record.

A Mating Commentary - Mat O’Sullivan

The calving/mating period for the 2019/20 would by many be described as ideal. Yes, feed got a little tight in late October/November, but quality remained good and we did not have the nightmare rains of last November. There were plenty of reports of high pre-mating activity. Good cow condition, calving patterns tightened a little as well this year and the incidence of dirty cows/per herd was also back. The average 3 weeks submission rate for our clients however remained at 80% (80% in 18/19 and 78% in 17/18 season). This is still 10% lower than the industry target figure of 90%. To

attain an industry target of 78% in-calf for 6 weeks - 90% is crucial.

Pregnancy rates in the first 3 weeks averaged 44% in our practice - which sits lower than the target of 53%. For six weeks the average was 66% (up from 65% last year target 78%).

This season we had 28 farms in the practice achieving a 75% or greater for six weeks. This is a top effort and well done to all those in the honour list above. This group has grown from 18 last season.

Some of the newer tools used by our top farmers this season, were the utilisation of early season OAD milking

of colostrum cows and better metabolic management through the use of calcium supplements and strategic feeding. This helps minimise condition loss and promote egg quality.

In-shed heat detection systems are increasing and have in the past proved reliable tools for those doing extended AI - providing they are properly maintained. We do find regular issues with tail paint only systems in extended AI/no bull herds where pregnant cows are often repeat mated. This increases the risk of pregnancy loss.

It is a little too early to give final not in-calf rate data.



EMERALD

MOOZNEWS



Red Drugs – Prescribing for our Future

Ryan Luckman BVSc

The WHO (World Health Organisation) has increasingly recognised antibiotic resistance as one of the biggest global threats to humanity. Already 99,0000 people in the US alone die from multi-drug resistant bugs they pick up in hospitals!

As part of this initiative, the WHO has recognised a group of **CIAs (critically important antibiotics)** that the human world is now highly reliant on as a last line of defence in some diseases. There is now a global effort to preserve these antibiotics, and one part of that effort is to reduce the use of these CIAs in animals (we've just seen recently in Wuhan how closely the animal and human world can interact!).

For our purposes the main CIAs that we are worried about are; Tylan, Tylofen, Excede LA, Excenel RTU, and Mastalone. The Vet Council of New Zealand, who decide on the framework in which veterinarians operate, recently changed the legislation in line with this global movement so that New Zealand vets MUST ensure that these critically important antibiotics are only used in specific cases, backed up by evidence, where no other drug choice would be satisfactory or efficacious.

The official actions required by prescribing veterinarians in relation to drugs such as Tylan, Excede LA, and Mastalone are as follows;

1. *Restrict use to situations where first line antibiotics have been shown to be ineffective.*
2. *Restrict use to cases supported by bacteriological tests or where the prescribing decision is supported by studies or references that are recent and independently peer reviewed.*
3. *Veterinarians must document in the record their reasons for deciding to use the antibiotic. They must document the diagnosis (confirmed or suspected) and the results of any diagnostic tests that led to the decision for treatment, the name of the product and details of administration.*
4. *The maximum period of supply for authorisations is 4 months for Critically Important Antibiotics (CIAs)*

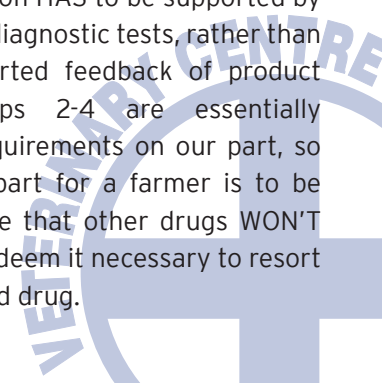
NOTE: Cost and/ or convenience are not likely to be considered medical principles.

In simple terms this means that we can only prescribe red drugs for farms where we can document or prove that other green or orange drugs won't work. This documentation HAS to be supported by laboratory/ diagnostic tests, rather than farmer reported feedback of product failure. Steps 2-4 are essentially logistical requirements on our part, so the critical part for a farmer is to be able to prove that other drugs WON'T work if they deem it necessary to resort to using a red drug.

The Future . . .

Supporting the reduction in use of CIA's is ultimately helping us all as a society. However, there will definitely be farms and situations where the use of these drugs are highly warranted, for animal welfare and efficacy reasons (a higher efficacy will ultimately reduce total antibiotic use on a farm).

We will be discussing the logistics and prescribing requirements for red drugs with those still using them at our milk quality reviews, BUT if in your experience you perceive a need to continue with the use of any of these red drugs on your farm then contact your prime vet earlier to discuss whether booking in for an Antibiogram, milk cultures, or milk PCR's (to assess treatment failures) would be a prudent plan in gathering data to satisfy the prescribing requirements of the VCNZ.

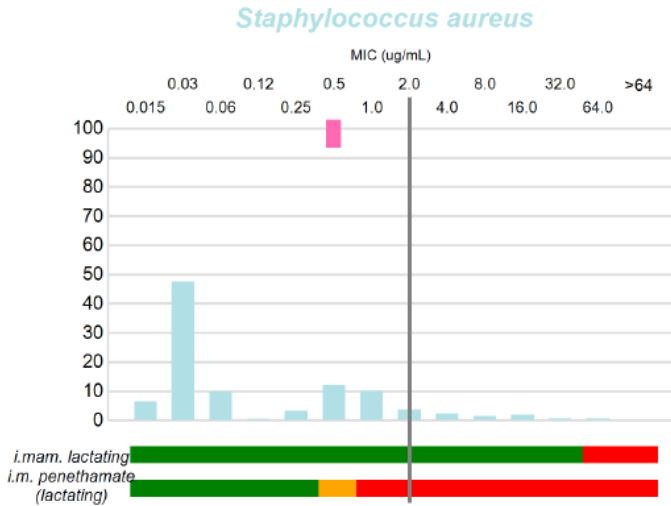


Example:

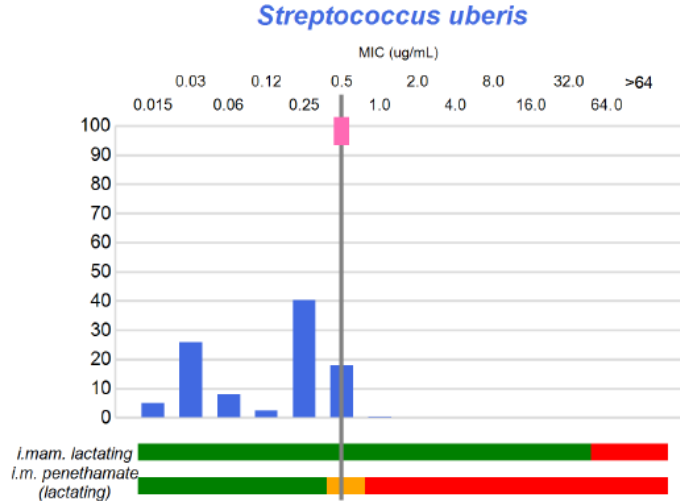
This farmer wants to use Tylan (a red drug) rather than Penethaject (a green drug) for multi-quarter mastitis cases in Spring. The farmer notes that “penethaject doesn’t work”, and he often “loses quarters”. This statement ALONE wouldn’t satisfy the first requirement from the VCNZ.

However, in this example case the farmer had requested an antibiogram on his farm in Spring 2019. An Antibiogram looks at the susceptibility of Staphs and Streps on your property (cultured from a bulk milk sample) to the commonly used mastitis antibiotics. On this farm benzyl penicillin (penethamate - represented as the bottom line on the graph) falls into the red (resistant) and orange (marginal) zones, so there is a strong possibility that the only alternative “green drug” for multi-quarter mastitis (Penethaject or Mamyzin) might not work.

Penicillin

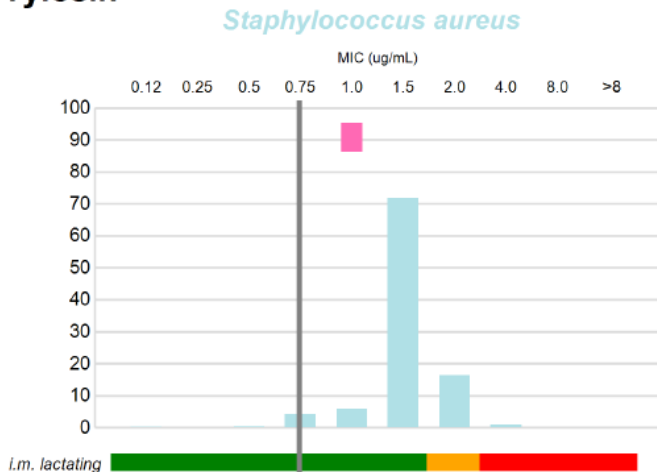


Penicillin

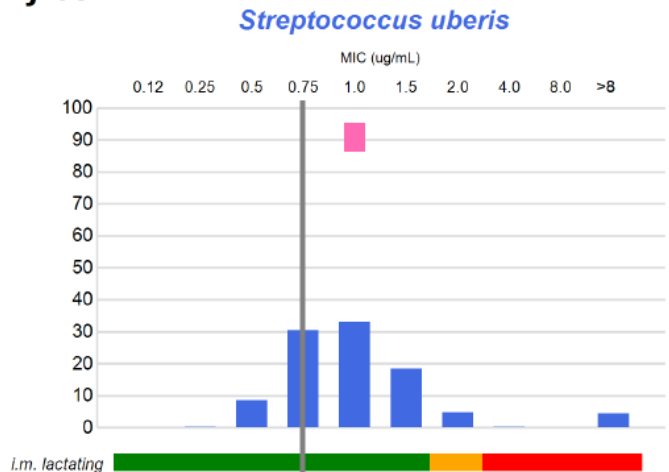


Conversely, it appears that if Tylan were to be used it is likely to reach levels well above the MIC (minimum inhibitory concentration) required to kill both Staph and Strep.

Tylosin



Tylosin



NOTE: Any prescription for Tylan would have to be for the specific definition of “multi-quarter mastitis”, and the prescription would require revisiting after 4 months.

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