

Uddernews



It has been a very odd season to date and presumably it might continue to be odd weather wise. We have a higher than normal number of herds on 16 hour milking for the time of the year. Depending on what happens in the next few weeks there are likely to be more soon and perhaps some cows going on once a day. Obviously cow condition will drive the decision to go once a day for most cows, but it could be worthwhile looking at the following graph and list of cows, out of MINDA Live. This graph plots a cow's PW against her SCC. For the low PW cows with a high SCC which

are not pregnant early you may elect to cull her early or place her on once a day to put some condition on prior to culling. You could even use this tool to see who is not performing (you can also sort by lactation worth) and make them the once a day herd? Having your high SCC cows (or most of them) separate from the rest of the herd will reduce the number of new infections.

To find this tool/data go into MINDA Live click on the Milk icon then the "Best and Worst" tab.

Production vs infection



Consider for Removal

Animal number	Age	PW	LW	SCC (000)	SCC Exceeded	Expected calving date
253	9	-28/77		620		08/08/2019
517	7	-26/68		472		03/08/2019
658	10	-48/77		762		01/08/2019
731	7	0/0		229		31/07/2019
764	8	28/73	-299	240	1/1	11/08/2019
1437	2	-194/49	-280	2223	5/5	07/08/2018

Product of the month

Rapid Mastitis Test Solution



New Supplier
Excellent Expiry dates
Great Price
5 Litre **\$37.90**

Just a reminder of our free delivery service. Orders made before 10am - delivery that day. Orders phoned in after 10am - delivery the following day.



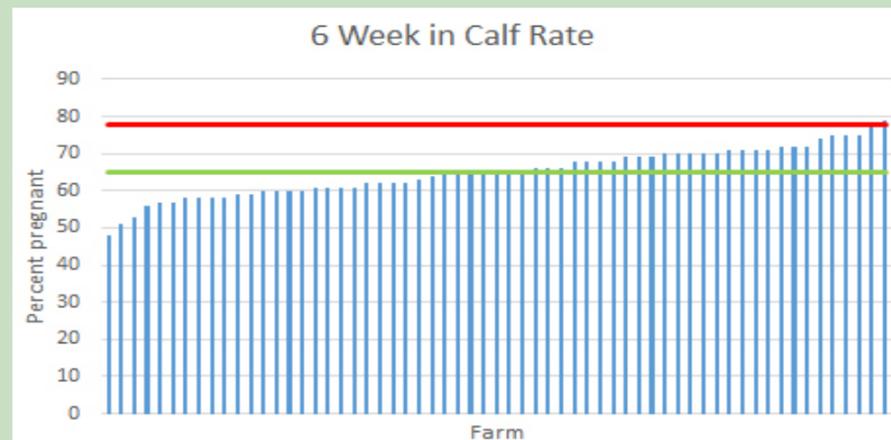
MOOZNEWS

Early Pregnancy Test Results

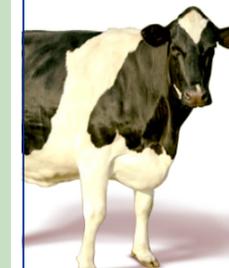
The key measures of optimal reproductive performance are the 6-week in-calf rate (ICR) and the final not-in-calf rate. To achieve the industry target of a 78% 6-week ICR, you need >90% 21 day SR and >60% CR.

The 6 week ICR rates to date have been very variable, with the average 6 week ICR for our area, increasing around 1% to 65%

(the green line on the graph), compared to last season (17/18) which was 64%. The graph below shows the 6 week ICR for farms we have scanned to date (66 Farms). The red line is the industry standard of 78% 6 week ICR- which only one farm has reached to date (25.119). The 21 day Submission Rate has increased 1% this season, to 79%. The 2016/17 season saw a SR of 75%.



In this issue



- Early Pregnancy Test Results
- Vet Certification for Transport
- GrowSmart
- An Interesting Calf Case
- Johnes News
- Reminders in February
- Welcome to New Vets
- Calf Drenching
- Uddernews
- Product of the Month

Vet Certification for Transport

George Smith BVSc

As the mating season concludes many farms will be looking to offload bulls and start making decisions over cull cows. It is during this time we see an increased requirement for veterinary transport certificates. It is a legal requirement that animals are fit for transport. The certificate remains valid for 7 days from the date of examination and the animal must be slaughtered at the nearest processing plant.

What we need from you:

- An area to adequately examine and restrain the animal when required
- The animal tagged with a recordable number for identification

- The location of the processing plant and when killing space has been booked

From a veterinary point of view:

Due to increased scrutiny being placed on transport certificates by MPI, there is strict criteria that we as veterinarians must follow. Below are common conditions requiring certification and the associated requirements.

Penile conditions: Bulls must be able to urinate freely, not have any haemorrhage, swelling, abscessation or discharge from the area surrounding the penis.

Cancer Eye: The cancer cannot be larger than a \$1 coin (2cm), confined

to the eye or eyelid (not spreading), not bleeding or discharging pus.

Lameness: Great emphasis is now being placed on lame animals being transported for slaughter. Lameness is scored 0-3. Grade 2 animals may be certified fit for transport with specific instructions such as reduced pen density. The link below is the Dairy NZ lameness scoring system and I strongly encourage all farmers to view the following video to assess whether the animal is a suitable candidate for certification.

<https://www.dairynz.co.nz/animal/cow-health/lameness/lameness-scoring/>

"the leading light in animal health"

Veterinary Centre Oamaru
Veterinary Centre Waimate
Veterinary Centre Palmerston
Veterinary Centre Glenavy
Veterinary Centre Kurow
Veterinary Centre Omarama
Veterinary Centre Ranfurly

Ph 03-434 5666
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Lauren Strange BVSc

Grow Smart

HEIFER MONITORING PROGRAMME



A case study to show that cattle can grow along the MINDA target line. We often get queries around the MINDA target weights and whether they are actually achievable. We regularly see a seasonal pattern of growth where growth slows over winter and rebounds over spring.

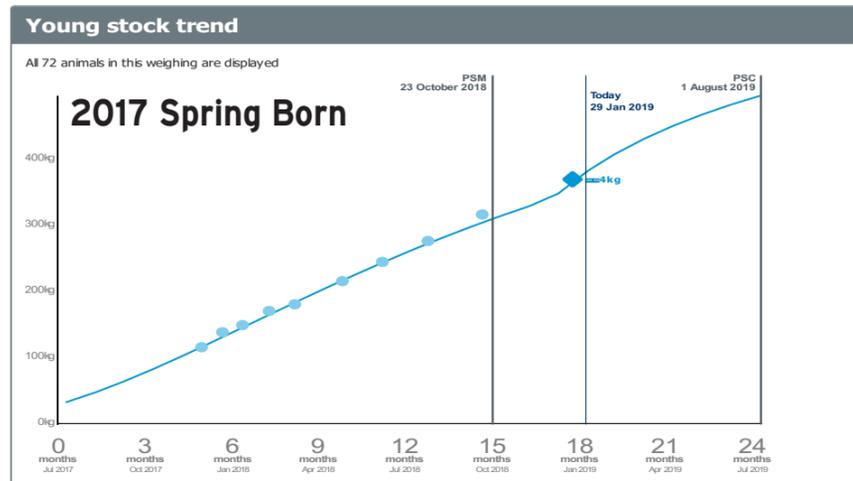
Recently a number of our vets attended an evening discussing the latest research in heifer growth. A Lincoln PhD student has found that milk production, reproductive performance, and survivability in the herd are all positively affected when animals grow along the target line. Surprisingly there is quite a decent "safe zone" around the target weight, but the research clearly shows that lifting lighter animals will give you the best returns. Animals that reach target will achieve puberty 40 days earlier than those which don't. Interestingly, although not statistically significant, pregnancy rates were 4% higher in target animals than those who grew

in a seasonal pattern.

The graph below shows one of our GrowSmart client's 2017 born heifers who have been successfully grown along the target line. This shows it is achievable with the right management. We have weighed these heifers monthly since weaning. At each weighing animals that were

growing at less than 0.6kg per day were drafted from the main mob. They were then given extra feed and time out from the pressure of the mob. Keeping animal health treatments up to date also maximised growth rates.

If you're keen to look into our GrowSmart options contact your Blue Cross Veterinarian.



An Interesting Calf Case ...

George Smith BVSc



Recently we have seen an increased incidence of Polioencephalomalacia (PE) more commonly known as thiamine or B1 deficiency. B1 deficiency is primarily seen in calves and young stock throughout the summer period. Calves often present with depression, head pressing, blindness, wobbliness and staring at the sky. The aforementioned symptoms are a result of swelling in the brain as thiamine is a key regulator of fluid accumulation.

In early December we saw a large mob of calves showing typical signs of B1 deficiency. As prognosis is significantly improved with prompt treatment, severe cases were treated with injectable thiamine with the remainder of the mob prophylactically treated with a

thiamine drench. Injectable thiamine is rapidly excreted from the body, however excretion rates are reduced via oral administration (drenching). In this case, some of the mob of calves relapsed with B1 deficiency within 4 weeks of oral drenching of thiamine which is very unusual. A full investigation was performed involving a post mortem examination of dead calves and faecal testing (egg counts and Yersinia culture). Consequently B1 deficiency was re-diagnosed (see picture right - brain fluoresces under UV light) in combination with a significant growth of Yersinia. Infected calves were redrenched with thiamine and injected with Oxytetracycline to control the Yersinia infection. At present there have been no further relapses and there is uncertainty as to whether the concurrent infection

of Yersinia played a significant role in the relapse of B1 deficiency post drenching.



Andrew Muir BVSc BSc (Hons)

Johne's News



At this time of the year the LIC laboratory gets very busy running Johne's tests. If you are considering testing your herd for Johne's at

your next herd test, I would suggest getting it booked in, otherwise you run a high risk of not being able to do the testing or the testing will be

done much later in the season which can cause delays when you want to cull cows. Talk to your Prime Vet to organise this for you.

Reminders in February

■ **Heifer pregnancy testing.** It is still possible to date your late heifer pregnancies. Please book in as soon as possible though.



(earlier in season) that promoted larval survival on pasture. This season older animals have been affected as well. Lungworm is sensitive to most drenches - contact your Blue Cross Vet for advice.

■ **Pink Eye** - The practice is seeing an increasing number of cases of Pink eye. This is a contagious disease of calves spread primarily

by close contact with infected animals and by flies. Vaccination with Piliguard (A8192 RVM) can be a cost effective control method although vaccination must be given prior to disease occurring. In the affected animals topical ointments or sub-conjunctival injections with appropriate antibiotics are usually effective in curing the affected animals.

■ **Lung worm.** We saw numerous cases of lung worm outbreaks in January. Lungworm typically affects younger stock but we have had environmental conditions

Calf Drenching

An important premise of rearing good quality heifer replacements is to have a robust drench program set up which prevents the population of worm larvae building up on the pasture. Combination drenches are preferable in young stock due to emerging ML resistance to Cooperia, which is one of the common worms found in young calves.



Welcome to New Vets in Oamaru



Emmy Armon

After 5 years in the Mighty Manawatu at Massey, it was about time I moved back to the South Island. As a new resident in Oamaru, I'm looking forward to joining a netball club, hitting the slopes, and getting out in the bush to go tramping. I really enjoy all the Dairy work that Oamaru has to offer. I'm excited already to get stuck into some calving later in the year, as well as getting involved in the animal health aspects of the dairy calendar. I also am looking forward to getting to know the farmers around the district.



Celia Van Kampen

I have recently graduated from Massey and made the move south to Oamaru. I was brought up in the sunny Hawkes Bay, so looking forward to exploring a different part of New Zealand, and getting to meet a new group of people. I am excited to get into some dairy work, in particular I am looking forward to the challenge of calving, and working alongside farmers to achieve their goals. When I'm not at work, I can usually be found skiing, playing netball, attempting to surf, or enjoying a cup of tea in the sun.