



EWES NEWS

Comment

It has been fantastic to see local farmers being recognized by their industry peers. Success breeds success and those who have won awards are showing that some of the best work in the country is happening in our own backyard. Congratulations to recent award winners in the national hogget competition; Simon and Kirsten Engelbrecht, Gundy Anderson, Kevin and James Cromie, and Mark and Nikki Giles. Congratulations also to Susie Latta for her win at the South Island Endurance Champs and subsequent selection for the World Equestrian Games.

The roadshows went really well last month with record attendances across the venues. There was some great discussion had on the various topics with even better ones had in the relaxed settings afterwards. As Dave stated "much of commerce is conversation" and on that basis the roadshows have been a great success. Read on inside for a summary of the topics, discussion and feedback.



This great shot was taken by Phil Hyndman in the Maniototo in early June.

*"the leading light in
animal health"*

Veterinary Centre Oamaru	Ph 03-434 5666
Veterinary Centre Waimate	Ph 03-689 7213
Veterinary Centre Palmerston	Ph 03-465 1291
Veterinary Centre Glenavy	Ph 03-689 8118
Veterinary Centre Kurow	Ph 03-436 0567
Veterinary Centre Omarama	Ph 03-438 9868
Veterinary Centre Ranfurly	Ph 03-444 1020



In this issue

- Long Acting Anthelmintic Products
- New product Bionic Prime
- Roadshow review
- Clostridial Vaccinations
- Wormwatch
- Farmer of the month



Long Acting (LA) Ewe Anthelmintic Products

LA ewe products are commonly used pre-lambing, and have many advantages for both EWES and LAMBS, including;

- Improved ewe condition - through increased feed efficiency and improved appetite.
- More milk and less bodyweight lost during lactation.
- Less dags and improved lamb weights.
- Significant benefits for twin bearing 2-tooths.

The production benefits of LA ewe products must always be balanced with the risk of drench resistance -

their use can increase selection for resistant worms on your property if not used strategically. Using best practice guidelines mitigates resistance pressure and extends the longevity of existing drench actives.

Best Practice Guidelines for SUSTAINABLE LA Product use:

- Use an effective product: The only way to know how effective a drench family is on your property is to perform a Faecal Egg Count Reduction Test (FECRT). This will allow sustainable product use which will also maximize production.
- Utilise Refugia: Utilising refugia involves not treating selected animals on a property to ensure a balance of susceptible larvae are present on the property. Pick up some "refugia" tags to clearly identify undrenched animals for monitoring. Faecal Egg Counts: Check if capsules or LA injections are still working on your farm. Our veterinary policy is to test all farms we have supplied capsules or LA injection to, at our cost, around 60 days after administration. If eggs are detected use an exit drench or triple active at the end of the long acting treatment.
- Use a triple combination or novel active (Zolvix/Startect) drench on lambs at weaning.

- Exit Drench with a novel drench or triple active at the end of the long acting treatment

Products on the market:

Combination Products:

Bionic: A 100 day combination capsule with continued release of abamectin and albendazole, plus selenium and cobalt. Withholding time 126 days.

Extender SeCo: A drench capsule which releases albendazole (white drench) for 100 days, plus selenium and cobalt. A priming dose of an effective combination drench must be given to the ewes when capsules are inserted. Withholding time is zero.

Exodus LA, Cydectin LA: These products contain a long acting form of moxidectin. It is active against Ostertagia for 112 days and Trichs for 42 days after a single injection.

Cydectin Injection (including Eweguard): A moxidectin injection that is active for 35 days against Ostertagia, and at least 7 days against Trich's. It is best used 2 - 4 weeks pre-lamb. Withholding time is 28 days

Prolavax Ewe selenised is available this season. This product combines B12, selenium and the standard clostridial 5 in 1. There are currently no stock shortages expected with this stock. **Eweguard** is also available in all versions with no shortages..

Bionic Prime – New Product



An updated bionic capsule called the BIONIC PRIME is available for the first time this season. The capsule has an additional drench priming dose in the form of an extra tablet held at the tip of the capsule in a bio-degradable cap. The priming dose contains Levamisole and Abamectin, the levamisole being the active not normally in the bionic capsule. It is designed to clear out adult worms where abamectin or albendazole resistance may occur. This year these limited supply capsules are being targeted towards farmers with reduction test data that indicates a primer drench may be of benefit in extending the life of existing actives.



Sheep and Beef Roadshow Summary - Dave Robertson BVSc

We have just completed another successful round of winter sheep and beef road shows. Record attendance, new venues and we have received good



The graphic dairy heifer weight gain demo.

feedback from those attending. Thank you to the all those loyal clients who came along, we really appreciate your continued support. Thank you to the territory and shop managers, Emily, Ashleigh, Donna, Peri, and Chrissy for all the diligent work in organizing venues and getting people along. Highlights would have to be the catering in Middlemarch (Thanks Jodie Tisdall!) and Kevin Kearney's leaking bucket analogy...no one will ever under-feed a dairy heifer again.

Dairy Grazing

We did allow dairy to infiltrate the topic list this year, but the reality is that **dairy grazing**, either cows or heifers can slot into many sheep and beef cattle operations. Through Kevin's displays and Hamish Newton's analysis of financials I think the audiences appreciated the key aspects of the dairy grazing relationship. Knowing what you're starting with, having a target for the end and feed planning (or budgeting) with regular monitoring along the way are essential to staying on-track, or identifying issues early. Our vets have a lot of common sense knowledge and expertise when it comes to grazing cows and growing out good heifers. Our vets are well placed to assist graziers and dairy farmers get good out comes.

Trace Minerals

Phil Hyndman presented a review of **mineral supplementation of sheep**.

Emphasis was on the need for Iodine to the unborn lamb and its role in lamb vigour at birth. Supplementing ewes at scanning (50-100 days pregnancy) is the most critical stage for iodine supplementation in sheep. There was some compelling research presented on the benefits to ewes

having multi-mineral Livestock Survival Drench (LSD) pre-lamb in terms of improving lamb survival. A boost of B12 pre-lamb may also be important in some ewe flocks, as the lamb B12 stores are derived from ewe via the placenta, the colostrum and ongoing milk supply.

The fine wool story was well presented by Nick Hamilton from Merino NZ. There is real promise that the genetic solutions for feet issues are on the horizon. Developing robust breeding values are also a focus for the industry to improve productivity particularly in meat and labour saving traits. Nick presented a good case for focusing on feeding during pregnancy to improve lamb survival and weaning weights. If ewes lose weight in the last 40 days before lambing its has a huge impact on production.

Fodder beet is everywhere in the dairy wintering scene now, but how can beef finishing and sheep farmers use these mega super-charged feeds? Wintering 1000 ewes on 5 Ha for 3 months, finishing 15mth steers to 560kg before Christmas are possibilities with fodder beet. Provided you get

the transition in the first 2-3 weeks right, fodder beet has the potential to really lift productivity of New Zealand live stock systems. Vets and farmers have learnt a lot about this feed and feeding it in the paddock. Much of the data has come through research conducted by Lincoln University.

Parasitism in sheep and young cattle remains a constant limitation to pastoral productivity. The sheep industry now has some solid information around managing parasitism and using drenches sustainably. The Faecal Egg Count Reduction Test remains a corner stone to assessing what drenches to use (and what not to use).

The results give an indication of how sustainable current drenching habits have been to that point.

I realize a lot of farmers want to do the best for the breeding flocks in terms of animal health, but the best production advantages of longer acting products come from targeted application to in-lamb hoggets, twinning 2 tooth or lighter ewes grazing low to the ground. Having animals that are undrenched over the farm, such as singles are very valuable to maintaining a worm population that is susceptible to the drenches we use.

Talk to our vets about targeting drenching this spring, and think about active refugia. We have printed "refugia" tags so you can monitor animal health of undrenched stock.

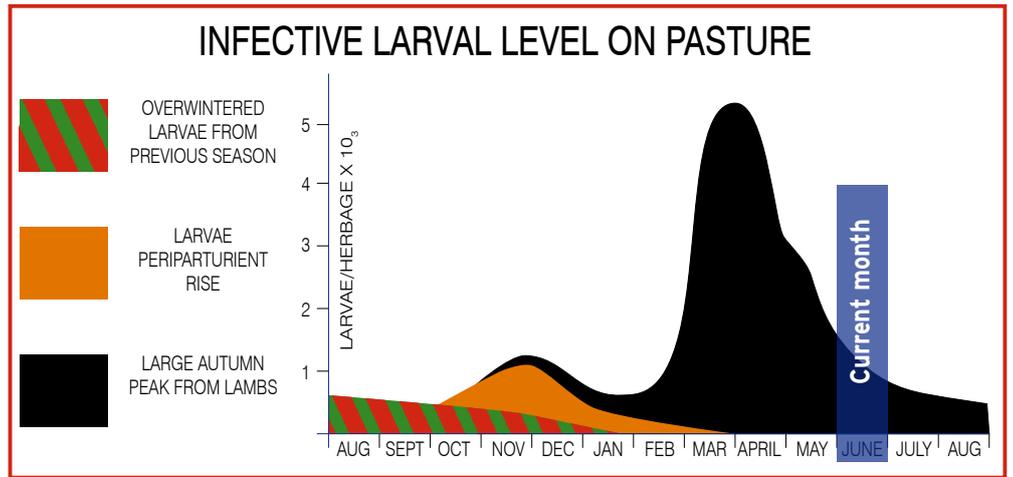


Nick Hamilton from Merino NZ speaking in Middlemarch.

Worm Watch

Dave Robertson BVSc, BSc

- Stock are grazing close to the ground. Remember most worm larvae are in the bottom 20mm of pasture.
- Perform a faecal egg count of ewes at scanning to determine the worm burden. Drench lighter ewes. (BCS<2.5).
- Stress e.g. nutrition/inclement weather, etc, significantly reduces an animal's ability to handle a worm challenge



Clostridial Vaccination - Ryan Luckman BVSc

Pre lamb 5 in 1 vaccination provides cover for newborn lambs against clostridial diseases such as Pulpy kidney, Tetanus, Blackleg, black disease and malignant oedema.



Farmer of the Month

John Anderson he is the 4th generation farmer as the farm has been in the family for 90 odd years.

Seasons Preview

Weather is worse than usual, everything is a bog. Currently just keeping the food up to the stock.

Right Now

Rams are out, working on farm maintenance and trying to keep dry.

Sheep and Beef Industry

Meat prices should be looking much better than 12 months ago, Wool prices aren't looking to well at the moment.

Off Farm

Waiting for the weather to get better, looking forward to Quail Bird Shooting.

1. Previously vaccinated ewes

- should receive a booster shot around 2 to 3 weeks prior to lambing.
- This will result in a significant rise in antibodies in the ewe. These are then transferred to the lamb by way of colostrum in the first 6 hours following birth. Protective cover for the lamb will last 2 to 3 months.

2. Replacement lambs, and late store lambs

- should receive a 5 in 1 sensitiser in January/February (later in some areas),
- followed by a booster after a further 4 to 6 weeks.
- They then, as with ewes, only require an annual booster prior to lambing.

3. For unvaccinated or vaccination cannot be verified (e.g. recently purchased stock with unknown history) ewes

- then lambs should be vaccinated at tailing with "Lamb Vaccine".

Lamb vaccine is a 2 in 1 that will provide immediate short term protection, specifically against tetanus, through the high risk tailing period.

Clostridial 5 in 1 verse Lamb Vaccine

There are several advantages in vaccinating ewes with 5 in 1 rather than lambs with lamb vaccine. These include

- For multiples one shot vaccinates 2 or 3 lambs
- The ewe is also protected through pregnancy and birth
- 5 in 1 protects the lamb from birth and through the tailing period.
- Tailing is a busy time and administering a lamb vaccine makes it even more challenging.
- Lamb vaccine protects against just 2 diseases vs 5.

If you want to discuss the best vaccination programme for the stock on your farm contact one of our veterinarians today.

