



CUD

"Cows Under Discussion" or "Something to Chew On"

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Clinic News At time of writing the first (and hopefully only) significant snow for the year has seen our four new 4WD vehicles come into their own. The replacement of our 2WD vehicles means vets have better capability where necessary to get alongside cows out on farm.

We are looking forward to welcoming Alice back on the 18 August. She will work Monday and Wednesday complementing Annie's Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and Steve will be back in time for our first round of Metrichecking, refreshed and ready after spending a few weeks travelling in Europe and the UK.

Metrichecking

Ideally all cows should be Metrichecked 2-4 weeks post calving to ensure that infections in the uterus can be found and treated early in the course of the disease. Treating infections early has shown to give the best outcomes in terms of subsequent 6 week in calf rates & overall empty rate. A compromise that is often used is to have 3 batches of 3 weeks' worth of calving with all cows in each batch checked 2 weeks after the last cow has calved. Each batch is painted a different colour to allow for easy identification.

An example would be -

Batch 1 – Calving 11th August – 1st September –

Paint these cows **Red** and check them on the 15th of September

Batch 2 - Calving 2nd September – 23rd September –

Paint these cows **Blue** and check them on the 8th of October

Batch 3 – Calving 24th September – 10th October –

Paint these **Yellow** and check them on the 24th of October

Please give one of the large animal vets a call if you would like to discuss your Metrichecking options for the spring.

KetoMax 15%

Pain in cattle is well recognised to be a cause of decreased appetite, and inflammation increases the time it takes for some diseases to be cured. We will soon be getting in a new product for pain relief and anti-inflammatory effects in cattle. It has the same active ingredient as Ketofen 10% but has a higher concentration. This means that for a 500kg cow the dose would be 10ml (i.e. 2ml per 100kg) instead of 15ml. Like Ketofen, there is no Milk WHP on this product. There is however a 2 day Meat WHP.

If you have already been prescribed Ketofen, this prescription will also apply to KetoMax. Please speak to a vet to discuss further.

Johne's Testing and Control

I hope that everyone who managed to make it along to our winter seminars enjoyed the talk on Johne's, and hopefully learnt something new about the disease. For those of you who are interested in testing this season, or perhaps doing a Johne's risk assessment consult for your farm, please give Lewis a ring at the Milton clinic and he can sort this out for you. For those of you who tested last year you can expect a call from us shortly about booking in testing for this year.

Testing can start on your second herd test of the year (no earlier than November) due to capacity at the lab.

New Discounts for Members

Clutha Vets offer a 10% Members' Discount on certain products, both as a benefit to Vet Club membership, and as an incentive for prompt payment. We have now extended this Members' Discount to our range of intramammary products, so you may notice this on your monthly statement.

Inductions

We think the news has filtered through to most of you by now - there will be no routine inductions after this spring. This will certainly cut down on the excessive paperwork that has become part of doing inductions (!), but may also create some challenges in keeping to a reasonable calving spread. Planning needs to start now, and may include putting back the Planned Start of Mating by a week or so. There will still be the opportunity for farmers to apply for dispensations to induce cows if their mating performance has suffered from situations outside of their control e.g. AB failure, or a major adverse weather event.

Yew Poisoning

Yew is a common tree found in NZ, especially in parks and gardens, and is often used as hedging. It is highly toxic, in one case killing 34/63 heifers. The leaves, bark and seeds are all poisonous. Stock will voluntarily eat Yew at any time of year, usually the leaves. Dried or wilted leaves are as toxic as fresh leaves. The toxin in Yew mainly affects the heart, and therefore the main clinical sign is sudden collapse and death. Other signs include pronounced excitement, nausea and regurgitation; trembling and staggering precede death. Treatment is very difficult, therefore it is imperative to prevent access of stock to Yew trees. As many garden plants are toxic to animals, do not throw any garden waste over the fence to where stock have access.



Calf Debudding

Calf debudding should be a stress free procedure for both the farmer and the calves, and Clutha Vets painless debudding service for calves over two weeks of age is the answer. At the same time we can also undertake a general health check including checking and treating navel infections, can help with BVD (blood testing) and / or DNA profiling, and can remove extra teats if requested. We do not require labour input from farm staff, but calf-rearers can take advantage of the opportunity to tag the calves while they are sedated. A vet is present throughout the whole procedure. Give us a call if you have any questions, or to make a booking.

Things to do in August:

- Complete Spring consultation, with RVM authorisations and planning for farm actions
- Book in your first round of Metrichecking
- Book in your first round of calf debudding
- Send us your calf rearer's email address to go on the mailing list for our Calf Link eNewsletter. Email addresses to edunne@cluthavets.co.nz or smcnutt@cluthavets.co.nz
- Magnesium supplementation for early calvers
- BVD blood test yearlings

This Month's Retail News

Eprinex Pour On - Withholdings are important! Nil Milk. Nil Meat. Nil Bobby. Great results!
Purchase 3x5ltr Eprinex get 5ltr FREE.

PLUS go in the draw for 2 x \$10,000 travel vouchers on selected Merial Ancare Drenches.
PLUS go in the draw for a trip on the Wanaka Wine Tour.

Cydectin Pour On 25ltr – SPECIAL Only \$2250.00 Inc GST. Nil Milk. Nil Meat. Nil Bobby & only \$4.50 per 500kg dose. Very Limited Stock!

Rumetrace Magnesium Capsules – a great option for supplementation.