

STAFF COMMENT

A huge thank you to everybody that contributed to the Movember cause. The final tally collected by the NSVets participants was a staggering \$6541 as part of the Hokonui Muster team which in total raised \$9274. The Muster team placed 11th in New Zealand for funds raised. Andrew as an individual was placed 43rd nationally. If it was rugby he'd have made the trip to Japan!! What a fabulous effort.



Rebecca recently attended her final block course at Massey University as part of her progress to attaining her Masters Degree in Veterinary Medicine. We are all very proud of her achievements.

Sam walked the Routeburn track before attending the National Velvet Awards. I'm not sure if that was compulsory or a requirement for her but well done to all of our clients who did so well and not only had placings locally but nationally.

Andrew has created a bit of a stir in parts of the country around the need or not to include tapeworm control in your lamb drenches. It is a bit of a contentious subject but all available evidence at this point in time is strongly supportive of his (and NSVets) stance.

Hopefully most have managed to get a little time off over the holiday period – it can be difficult to do this at such a busy time of year. All the very best for 2019!!

Pet Reminders

- Check for barley grass
- Worm & flea prevention and treatment
- Pet Fun Day 24th Jan, Rvd

Cattle Reminders

- Early pregnancy testing
- Check lame cows
- Rotate breeding bulls
- Dairy calves—worm control, FEC, Lepto vaccinate (if not already done)
- Arrange winter grazing

STAFF PET CORNER

This Cute pooch belongs to Julie Black. Her name is Willow... Full Name : Willow Fish Pupper. She is a 5 year old golden retriever with a lot of sass.

Willow has a full time job as deputy mouse hunter in the yard at S Black Contracting, she is closely supervised by her best bud Jojie.

When she is not at work she is either swimming or wishing she was swimming, sleeping or avoiding her human brother Grayson.

Keep an eye out for next months staff pet corner.



Horse Reminders

- Worming treatment for foals
- Check condition of brood mares
- Dental check horses not holding condition

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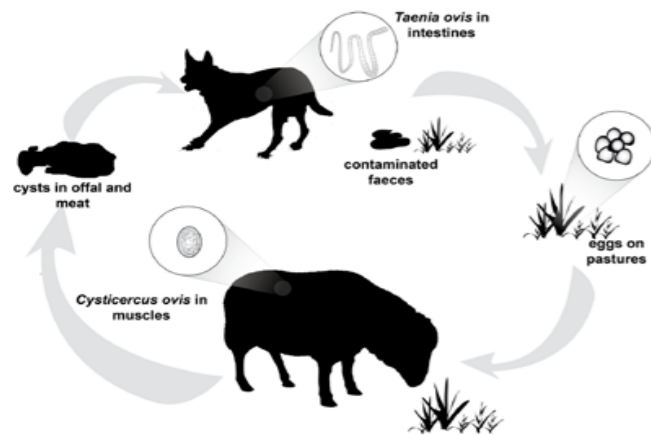


SHEEP MEASLES

T.ovis is of concern for losses to the farmer through downgrading or condemning of carcasses at the works. It is of concern for New Zealand as it is considered a quality defect by overseas customers and authorities. And it just isn't going away. Most of our farmers receive their tablets in the mail. Let us know if you want to be added to this program.

Infection can be almost 3 times higher on farms that purchase lambs in compared to closed flocks. This may suggest that those that sell lambs on, and don't see many kill sheets, are not getting the feedback and may not actually be aware they have the problem on their farm.

Monthly dosing is the cheapest and most effective on farm prevention programme. Yet we hear of some farms on three monthly dosing. The time for the lifecycle to complete (prepatent period) in the dog is 35 days. The wormer only lasts the day. The next day the dog can ingest a cyst, and in 35 days be shedding eggs again. If dosing every 3 months there is 6 weeks where dogs could be shedding before their next treatment. In this time dogs could shed 80000 eggs per day or 4,400,000 eggs!



Guidelines

- Choose a premium dog food over meat
- If meat is fed it must be:
 - * Frozen below minus 10 degrees for more than 10 days or
 - * Cooked above 72 degrees Celsius to the core for more than 30 minutes.
- Treat for tape worm (praziquantal product) monthly
 - * Recommend using a full wormer every three months for other dog worms, which still contains praziquantal (6 monthly if housed above ground)
- Treat dogs in the event of a suspected control break down
- Treat all dogs coming on farm, or view certificates of correct worming

Rochelle Smith BVSc MANZCVS

HELP TOXOVAX® HELP YOU

Toxovax protects against abortion caused by *Toxoplasma gondii*. Toxovax improves lambing percentage, lamb viability, and reduces dry percentage compared with not vaccinating. To be satisfied with how Toxovax performs on your farm this season, here are a few things to keep in mind.

1. Timing is critical: Vaccinate maiden ewes at least 4 weeks before ram introduction. It is made to order so get orders in AT LEAST 8 weeks before ram introduction.

2. Toxovax needs careful storage/handling: It is a live vaccine, with a short shelf life of just 10 days. Keep it refrigerated (2-8 degrees) and, when out on farm, keep it in a chilly bag with cold packs. Mix only what you will use within 2 hours. The 100 dose has 1 vial the 200 2 vials to add. Mix well. Inject 2mL of the mixed vaccine into the muscle of the ewe's neck, not under the skin, and change needles regularly. Don't clean needles with methylated spirits, as it will kill the vaccine. If all else fails, read the instructions inside the box!

3. Set your expectations: In every animal population there will be a small number of individuals (8-10%) which fail to respond fully to vaccination. These individuals may be at risk if they are exposed to Toxoplasma for the first time during pregnancy. If the field challenge is very high (lots of young cats shedding Toxo in their poo), then this could break through the vaccine in some animals. Pest management of rodents and cats is still an important strategy to reduce the amount of Toxoplasma present in the environment over several years.

Get in touch with your vet or with MSD Animal Health if you have questions about Toxovax this season.

BIT OF A LAUGH

A farmer and his pig were driving down the road when a cop pulled him over. The cop asked the farmer, "Didn't you know it is against the law to ride with a pig in the front of your truck?" The farmer replied, "No, I didn't know that." The cop ask the farmer where he was going and he said, "To Christchurch". The cop said, "I will let you off the hook this time if you promise to take the pig to the zoo when you get to Christchurch." So the farmer promised he would. Several days later the cop spotted the farmer with the pig driving down the road and he pulled him over again. The cop said "I thought I told you to take this pig to the zoo when you got to Christchurch". And to this the farmer replied "I did and we had so much fun, I'm taking him to the circus".



Deer Reminders

- Cut velvet re-growth

YERSINIOSIS SCENARIO

Let me paint a picture: A farmer purchases some weaner deer, but the farm of origin doesn't want to deal with a freshly weaned mob of fawns, so they wean on the day of transport. The fawns are separated from their mothers but unfortunately the truck is delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. The fawns arrive just on dusk as the weather is starting to pack it in, so rather than risk injury and damaged fences the fawns are kept in the deer shed over night to settle. In the morning they are given a quarantine drench, before moving them down the lane to join the other fawns that arrived three days prior.

The next day two are dead and several are looking sluggish, separated from the group. Over the next few days several start to scour and a few more die.

What went wrong



Yersiniosis is a leading cause of death in weaner deer. It is often triggered by some form of stress such as

- Weaning
- Transport
- Yarding
- Parasite burden
- Mixing of stock
- Cold windy or wet weather

Management:

Reduce stress immediately – provide plenty of feed and shelter and do not mix mobs. Seek vet advice promptly and if a diagnosis is found, antibiotics may be indicated. Vaccination is not helpful in an outbreak.

Prevention is the key:

Minimise stress - ample food, shelter, good general animal health (worming and trace elements) and avoid mixing stock. Vaccination: Even if you have to pay a little more for vaccinated animals this can help reduce some of the risk – build a relationship with your supplier to come up with plan that works for both of you. The best program for vaccination

will vary from farm to farm depending on weaning, sale and transportation plans so discuss this with our clinic.

Remember, Yersinia is transmissible to humans and other animals so strict hygiene and management changes are required.

Salmonella, parasitism, and MCF are further possible causes of the symptoms mentioned above. The treatment and prevention of which are all different which is why diagnosis is important, again call us to discuss.

BODY CONDITION SCORE

Did you know we offer a condition scoring service at NSVets? Whether you would like a one-off score, a series of scores to track your progress, or simply a recalibration of your own scoring skills, we can help. For dairy farmers results can be uploaded straight to Minda and come with a report providing herd average, a graph depicting the body condition spread of each herd and percentage of cows below target, along with advice on how to get these cows up to target. A score done mid Feb-March determines if your feed plan is working, if some cows need to be dried off early, or if we need to create a OAD/preferentially fed herd. It is never too late to start measuring for success. The service is also available for sheep and beef animals, a good time to measure ewes is right now to identify light ewes for preferential feeding prior to mating!

WORMWATCH JANUARY 2019

The rain has kept up appearances through December and with weaning complete for many of you, larval intake will be rising. Stick to a 28 day drenching interval for lambs and remember to provide a source of refugia to slow development of resistance.

Faecal egg count reduction tests (FECRT)

Those of you that are still interested in a faecal egg count reduction test, remember to keep those 100 lambs undrenched from now on and keep them in with the other lambs, we will be in touch during February to start proceedings. If you haven't contacted us or have any questions, please give us a call at the clinic.

Sheep Reminders

- Monitor trace elements
- Monitor worm burden in lambs
- Check rams
- Vaccinate lambs pulpy kidney
- Dip sheep flystrike
- Vasectomise rams
- Monitor lamb growth rates
- Faecal egg count reduction test (FECRT)
- Organise abortion vaccine requirements