
TAREE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

47 Chatham Avenue, Taree, NSW, 2430

P: (02) 6552 2633 F: (02) 6551 0631

E: tarvet@tpgi.com.au

Stuart Knox Donald Hood Rob Brudar
Renate Barnier Sarah Jones Bree Moloney
Damian Smith

So now it has rained, and as I write this it is sprinkling again, although the radar app on my phone, which I really like to look at, says it's not ! In a short few weeks we've gone from hardly any feed to silage being made. Feed can be measured from space, with an app. Is there anything technology can't do ? Such as a pull my calf app ?

In a European study of 500 cows with clinical mastitis, cows were treated with an anti-inflammatory - meloxicam , or a placebo, along with intramammary treatment. The meloxicam treated cows had a higher bacteriological cure rate and a

10% better first AI conception rate, and a 10% better 120d in calf rate.

However, there was no difference in SCC between the groups, and at 200d post calving there was no difference in pregnancy rate, or cull rate at 300d.

Mastitis has an adverse effect on fertility, (and milk production !) but the use of anti-inflammatory drugs reduces this effect. The question is should antiinflammatories be used on every case of clinical mastitis ? Probably not, just the ones with lots of inflammation would benefit, as far as reproduction and mammary gland recovery goes. However there is an argument for their use in all cases.

This month we had two cases where beef calves were castrated when their testes were too large, resulting in bleeding and infection. Rings now come in various sizes and have huge advantages when applied properly, particularly at this time of year with respect to heat, flies and Theileria and anaemia.

The spring flush has come a bit late, but now is the time of year to vaccinate for Blackleg and Pulpy Kidney with 5 in 1, and 3 Day Sickness.

Cattle Diseases of the Month
calvings
eye cancers
Theileria
lame cows
woody tongue
prolapsed vagina

And in the Horses.....

This month is our busiest of the year for horses due to the stud season. Als, follicle testing and pregnancy scanning all overlap, as well as the routine work such as dentals and geldings.

We had two interesting surgeries this month. One was a gelding with an unusual abdominal abscess that we have drained and treated via a balloon catheter. This is ongoing but at this stage seems to be a success. The other is the granulosa cell tumour detailed last month and below. For various reasons neither of these horses were referred on for specialist surgery, but specialists gave helpful advice for us to have a go. Truly, these are the joys and challenges of mixed practice.

In another unusual case, an arabian foal had its eye ruptured accidentally by the mare soon after foaling. The eye has healed but is not functional. The foal had episodic fits at a couple of months old. We aren't sure if this is meningitis from the eye, or a type of epilepsy that can occur in arabians. He has been treated with antibiotics and anticonvulsants and the fits have stopped, but we don't know the cause.

We are doing more horse dentistry and in the last month have had to remove two molars. One was easy and one was much harder than expected ! Usually we like to avoid these for as long as possible, and treat with antibiotics if necessary, so the affected roots are easier to dislodge, as access to molars is difficult at best.

Horse Diseases of the month

Colic
eye ulcers
bowed tendon
abdominal abscess
dentals and tooth removal
weight loss
Granulosa Cell Tumour - this was diagnosed last month by Bree, by ultrasound initially then blood test, and we removed it successfully from the mare this month. It was challenging surgery and involved lots of teamwork to do something like this in the field.

Damian became a father for the first time to a girl this month, continuing our reputation as a very fertile work place.

RUN DATES FOR OCTOBER

LANSDOWNE.....	THURS 3RD
OXLEY/MITCHELL'S IS.....	TUES 8TH
HANNAM VALE.....	THURS 10TH
DYER'S CROSSING.....	TUES 15TH
WINGHAM.....	THURS 17TH
LORNE/COMBOYNE.....	TUES 22ND
COOMBA AND THE DEEP SOUTH....	THURS 24TH