
TAREE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

JUNE NEWSLETTER

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Still the rain has been very patchy, unusual for the coast. The storms earlier this week delivered between 0 and 120 ml in our southern area, continuing drought or a reasonable season depending on where you are. Some farmers managed to spread urea before the rain which will give a good return.

With rye grass, it may be 25% protein, and cows only need 17%. And protein drives palatability. So, high excess dietary protein is converted to urea and ammonia at an energy cost to the cow. Milk Urea Nitrogen will indicate this, as well as a strong ammonia smell when they pee in the

dairy. Stronger than usual that is. This is when you can feed poorer quality silage as the cows' rumens, via their brains, will be looking for fibre. There is also fibre in grain. Milk solids will give a good indicator of diet, as milk fat is determined by fibre, protein by energy.

The winter diseases we see that are associated with high nitrogen, low fibre diets include grass tetany (low magnesium in young rye), nitrate poisoning and diarrhoea from various causes. Salmonella also can be a problem and some farmers vaccinate their cows for this to reduce Salmonella in the cows and calves. Salmonella is usually seen as diarrhoea and pneumonia.

There are now available injectable long acting wormers, that will also kill ticks. By long acting I mean up to 4 months for some parasites and nearly two months for ticks. This is good for theileria prevention and control. It could reduce the risk of buying cattle from tick free areas and introducing them here, especially in spring and summer.

However, these drenches will over time select for resistant parasites, especially because they are so long acting. For Cydectin Long Acting there is a milk w/h period of 80 days, meat 56 days, ESI 108 days and it cannot be used in cattle for live export.

I had some good mandas the other day, still green tinged but very tasty. This year's prize will be some fillets of sweetlip.

Cattle Diseases of the Month
calvings
eye cancers
lame cows
calves with scours, unknown cause

And in the Horses.....

Cracked hooves are a common problem. They vary between horses within the same environment, and between environments, as well as diet and disease factors. Shoeing and trimming help reduce cracking. Diet wise, Biotin can be added, and you need 15 mg daily and it will take at least three but more likely nine months to see a real difference, but it does work, as long as the diet is adequate. In older horses Cushing's disease can exacerbate poor hoof condition.

Low and inappropriate antibiotic dosing has led to bacterial resistance to antibiotics world-wide. In a review paper in the April Aust vet J. of antibiotic use in horses in Aust, new higher doses are now being recommended for shorter times. For example, penicillin is now 35 ml per 500 kg twice daily. Trimidine and Sulprim are now 2 scoops per 200 kg twice daily. Gentamicin is 33 ml per 500 kg once daily and higher in new born foals. We will be altering our drug labels in some cases.

Still on drugs, there is now an injectable form of omeprazole, a treatment for gastric ulcers, that is very effective. But it has just been banned in racehorses while

investigations are underway into testosterone being detected, originating from a bottle. The company that manufactures it keeps samples and does not have anabolic steroids, so it will be interesting to see where the testosterone contamination came from. The manufacturer is a reputable company, not an on-line source.

Horse diseases of the month
Cuts and Colics
lamenesses
foot abscesses
sarcoids
sidebone, causing lameness in the pedal
pedal bone

RUN DATES FOR JUNE

LANSDOWNE.....	THURS 6TH
OXLEY/MITCHELL'S IS.....	TUES 11TH
HANNAM VALE.....	THURS 13TH
DYER'S CROSSING.....	TUES 18TH
WINGHAM.....	THURS 20TH
LORNE/COMBOYNE.....	TUES 25TH
COOMBA AND THE DEEP SOUTH....	THURS 27TH

