

---

# TAREE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

---

---

## NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

---

49 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 Verdich Tara Gillis  
Corinna Fullarton

The drought continues to bite hard, except for a thin coastal strip. More drought related conditions are being seen, such as tetanus in a horse and in a castrated calf. Anthrax has been seen out west. Green cestrum poisoning here. Barley grass seeds stuck in a horse's mouth. Down cows due to poor condition. Grain poisoning. RSPCA cases. Water drying up from rivers never known to run dry. And then some clients have been affected by fires. It has been said before, but life wasn't meant to be easy ! But surely not this hard.

Now people have either destocked or are feeding to keep cattle and horses alive.

Cattle have to be kept in condition at least good enough to meet fit to load criteria, or carriers will not take them. If cows have calves on them early weaning is a necessity. But, if the weaned calves are less than 100 kg they are more likely to get gastrointestinal and respiratory diseases. Also check the teeth on these cows and cull the broken mouthed ones if you can't feed them, or even if you can.

Metabolic diseases such as pregnancy toxemia and phosphorus deficiency are always exacerbated in thin cattle. Lick blocks can help but they really need feed. However, there have been cases of quality hay fed to cattle used to rubbish hay resulting in nitrate poisoning, which is a cruel unintended consequence. As is grain poisoning, urea toxicity etc.

There have been early cases of Pink Eye, due to dust and stocking density around feeders. If Piligard vaccinated animals get pink eye Coopers will fund swabs for isolation of strains not covered by the vaccine.

Similarly we have had clients with more mastitis in dairy cows, probably due to flies, dust, lack of ground cover etc.

What a miserable newsletter, sorry folks.

Cattle Diseases of the Month  
calvings, including a caesarian for a curly calf, likely Akabane  
milk fever  
eye cancers

lame cows  
prolapses, uterine and vaginal  
ticks  
hydrops - this is where a cow will fill up in her pregnant uterus with an abnormally large amount of fluid, with just a small calf swimming around.

And in the Horses.....

We are at the halfway point of the stud season and it too is drought affected. Body condition is so important for mares to conceive and maintain a pregnancy, and to feed foals. When buying horse feed make sure, if it is intended for cattle, that it contains no urea or rumensin, both toxic to horses.

We had an interesting case in a mare post foaling with a very high heart rate, muscle tremors and pain. Causes include uterine contraction, retained membranes, milk fever and bleeding. This mare recovered well with pain relief treatment.

Foals are often born with either contracted tendons or deviated fore limbs. The contracted tendons can be treated if they are preventing the foal from walking, with tetracyclines and careful use of antiinflammatories, within the first 48 hours. They are mostly seen in big foals out of warmbloods and thoroughbreds.

The deviated fore limbs can be helped with confinement, hoof trimming or glue-on extensions. Surgery is also an option but generally we wait until they are several

months old to see what improvement has occurred.

Horse diseases of the month  
Cuts and Colics  
lamenesses  
eye ulcer  
ticks - use a Kiltix collar on foals until they reach 100kg  
retained membranes  
protein losing enteropathy

### **RUN DATES FOR NOVEMBER**

<b>LANSDOWNE.....</b>	<b>THURS 7TH</b>
<b>OXLEY/MITCHELL'S IS.....</b>	<b>TUES 12TH</b>
<b>HANNAM VALE.....</b>	<b>THURS 14TH</b>
<b>DYER'S CROSSING.....</b>	<b>TUES 19TH</b>
<b>WINGHAM.....</b>	<b>THURS 21ST</b>
<b>LORNE/COMBOYNE.....</b>	<b>TUES 26TH</b>
<b>COOMBA AND THE DEEP SOUTH....</b>	<b>THURS 28TH</b>