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# TAREE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

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## JANUARY NEWSLETTER

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Happy New Year. It has been a wet start to the new year and I challenge anyone to claim bigger mozzies than those on Moto !

After last year's widespread 3 Day Sickness I wouldn't expect it this year to that extent. However, there has also been lots of rain up north and there are lots of insects around. This year at least vaccinate heifers and bulls. Last year we did a cost benefit analysis on 3 Day vaccine in dairies and it was worthwhile doing all cows. The vaccine cost and time administering it was far outweighed by deaths, time treating down cows and milk production losses.

The wet weather has seen a spike in pneumonia cases in calves and cows as well as mastitis. One of Liam's cases were calves with Theileria and Mannheimia pneumonia. The latter can be vaccinated for if the prevalence warrants it, either dry cows or calves. They probably had the Theileria first then got a secondary pneumonia.

Still on Theileria, there are various treatments, such as Baycox, transfusions and oxytet, that have been used with variable results. For prevention, a few of our beef clients are using the long acting Cydectin injectable to break the tick lifecycle, seemingly with excellent results.

Cattle Diseases of the Month  
pneumonia in cows  
calvings, including a ruptured uterus with the calf free in the abdomen  
breech twins  
prolapses  
eye cancers  
lame cows  
Theileria in calves  
pneumonia in calves  
pink eye

The LLS have had a lead poisoning case in the Hunter in a calf. Old batteries are very palatable. And all cohorts will have to be tested.

By the time you read this Liam will have ET flushed four cows, the start of his ET career.

And in the Horses.....

We had a couple of cases of calcium deficiency this month, in horses on setaria. I suppose this is due to the flush of growth, and maybe oxalates are higher in fresh growth. Oxalates are compounds that are high in setaria and they bind calcium. Bone is remodelling all the time and as it becomes weaker symptoms such as Big Head appear. Lameness from microfractures, and broken legs, also occur. This is mostly in horses with a high demand for calcium such as young horses and pregnant mares, and horses introduced from other areas onto setaria paddocks.

To prevent calcium deficiency we have always said to add 50-80 g dolomite to feed daily if on setaria, but this is probably not enough. Calcium and phosphorus levels in blood are not reliable indicators of bone density. There are Ca and P lick blocks, and better balanced dietary supplements such as the Jenquine range available, as well as lucerne hay. Setaria is very difficult to get rid of. Make sure any lick blocks used are not for cattle, as these often contain urea and rumensin, which are both toxic to horses.

Horse diseases of the month

Cuts

Colics

foot abscesses

stick poking out of abdomen - removed

successfully

choke

weight loss

laminitis, bad enough to require euthanasia

ringbone

Big Head

grass seed in eye

remove a fractured tooth

remove abdominal testis

squamous cell carcinoma on nose, has

taken three cryotherapy treatments and is

nearly cured

### **RUN DATES FOR JANUARY**

<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>

