
TAREE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

49 Chatham Avenue, Taree, NSW, 2430
P: (02) 6552 2633 F: (02) 6551 0631
E: tvhreception@gmail.com

Stuart Knox Donald Hood Rob Brudar
Renate Barnier Sarah Jones Tara Gillis
Liam Mowbray

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Cattle prices are great, grass is growing and rain is expected in the next two weeks. What a year it's been.

Just as I had despaired of this year's mandarins.....step up Mark Murray. A former winner, from a different tree, this year he had mandas that would have been contenders in a good year. Sweet, not pithy, skin that is easy to peel while driving and thrown out the window. Moorland is a citrus hotspot. Mark's choice of a pearl perch or a snapper is his prize.

More dairy and beef farmers are using fixed time AI. The critical things for success

are submission rate, timing of AI and in the case of sexed semen, quality.

There are many programmes and variations on them. The one you choose depends on a number of factors. In some situations, such as EU accredited beef farms and milking cows, some hormones are not allowed. Secondly, is if you will do any heat detection, because you can increase conception rates, particularly if you are using sexed semen, if you do. Thirdly, facilities are important, especially if CIDRs are used. Lastly is how much money is to be spent. Mostly the more effort and the more money the better the results.

Earlier this year we had several beef herds with vibrio, diagnosed with cervical swabs after reduced conception rates and abortions. One herd had exceptionally poor conception rates, probably too poor for vibrio alone. Yes, there was a drought too. These herds have now used a combination of vaccination of bulls and some females, culling, and better bull control. As well as lots of grass! The first lot of preg testing has been fantastic, hopefully all the herds will recover.

Cattle Diseases of the Month

calvings

prolapses

eye cancers, eyeball and third eyelid

lame cows

vibrio

rotavirus

pneumonia in cows, usually responds to antibiotics such as ceftiofur. Pneumonia in calves, can be bacterial but can also be

secondary to diarrhoea and toxæmia. It can also be viral, especially if colostrum quality is poor, in heifers' calves.

And in the Horses.....

We have had a few overdue mares this month, so much so that we induced one to foal. Induction in mares can be pretty violent and we try to avoid it, unless there is a good medical reason. Induction brings a whole lot of risks and problems with it, more than with cattle. I'd like to think nature knows what it is doing. Overdue foals sometimes have contracted tendons from being squashed in there for too long, which can be treated.

Premature foals are more of a problem and often need plasma transfusions, stomach tubing with colostrum and nursing to get them going.

We have started doing some AIs and so far semen freight has been normal, with overnight delivery.

Horse diseases of the month

- Retained membranes in mares
- retained meconium in colt foals
- Foalings, one dog-sit presentation
- Cuts
- Colics
- foot abscesses
- seedy toe
- mast cell tumour on a nose
- squamous cell carcinoma on a nose, and on a cheek in another horse
- fatal snake bite in a donkey
- * broken leg in a horse on setaria that was receiving calcium supplementation. This

was upsetting for the client, especially since they were supplementing with a good quality mineral supplement. Setaria paddocks are a problem for all horses, particularly pregnant and lactating mares, and growing horses. Big Head is seen commonly.

RUN DATES FOR OCTOBER	
LANSDOWNE.....	THURS 1ST
OXLEY/MITCHELL'S IS.....	TUES 6TH
HANNAM VALE.....	THURS 8TH
DYER'S CROSSING.....	TUES 13TH
WINGHAM.....	THURS 15TH
LORNE/COMBOYNE.....	TUES 20TH
COOMBA AND THE DEEP SOUTH....	THURS 22ND