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# TAREE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

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## MAY NEWSLETTER

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April was a recovery month for some and continued a great season for others. Infrastructure damage and losses, stock losses, feed losses, mastitis and lameness, drop in production all made for a challenging month. Support from the LLS and Dairy Australia has been great.

We have a few clients that have been hit hard, but none more so than two unnamed farmers. They both have properties up river and ran out of feed and water in the drought, had to hand feed and truck water, then were burnt out, then brought their cattle down to the islands and then had their properties go under. And no

complaints, just grateful for the help they have received.

The mastitis in dairy cows has been mainly *Strep uberis*, an environmental bug that can be treated and cured.

*Pseudomonas*, not surprisingly a bacterium found in water, has also been cultured. It is very hard to cure because it has wide resistance to antibiotics.

For those buying silage from out west, considering the mouse plague, it will be worth vaccinating for Botulism. Hay is not a problem with botulism but quality and weeds are. We don't normally stock the long range botulism vaccine so it must be ordered in. It is also a good idea to make sure cattle are up to date on their 5 in 1 / 7 in 1 vaccinations.

This month we took some blood samples from an extensive beef herd near Gloucester, and looked at phosphorus, copper, zinc, calcium, magnesium and selenium . All were normal with the exception of selenium that was in the low to responsive levels.

Selenium is deficient on the coast, and is required for immune function. Mastitis, retained membranes, muscle disease in calves and reduced fertility are all influenced by selenium. Selenium can be supplemented in fertiliser, lick blocks, pour ons and injections. However, its influence is hard to quantify when there are no clinical cases.

Cattle Diseases of the Month  
calvings  
ruptured uterus  
prolapses

eye cancers  
lame cows - solar ulcers, septic joint  
cow down with radial nerve paralysis, got  
up after 2 weeks  
pestivirus

I don't normally write much about sheep and goats, but we have had lots of worm problems since the wet weather. Rotating paddocks and drenches is essential, as is not overstocking.

And in the Horses.....

Foot abscesses have been the main cause of lameness after the wet weather. Some of these can be avoided by routine trimming and shoeing if necessary. We have also had some bad laminitis cases where the pedal bone has sunk and rotated, possibly exacerbated by soft soles from the wet weather.

Eye ulcers are one of the most common and occasionally serious conditions we treat. You can get abscesses in the cornea, called stromal abscesses, that require antibiotics that penetrate deeply. When some horses resent treatment with eye drops we can put in a lavage system, where the eye can be treated via tubing that goes from the neck to the eye.

Horse diseases of the month

Cuts  
Colics  
cellulitis  
foot abscesses  
laminitis  
eye ulcer, stromal abscess

Cushings Disease  
melanoma  
abdominal testis at gelding  
hernia repairs  
squamous cell carcinoma, treated by  
freezing and then cream.

Tara Gillis has left us, returning to SA to be close to family. Next month we have a Sydney Uni grad starting, Sophie Stanojevic.

### **RUN DATES FOR MAY**

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

