
TAREE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

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DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the end of the year, and what a year it's been. If you are on the lower Manning you found out why it's called a flood plain. For some it has been a very hard year that we're still recovering from. Add to that the Covid situation, I think we can say we've had drought, fires, floods and pestilence !

A year we'll remember but would like to forget.

This year we saw diseases such as Strep ag. mastitis, Theileria , flood mud scours and pestivirus impact farms. We now recommend pestivirus vaccination for all heifers to establish immunity. Fuel and fertiliser costs are also very high. However,

we also are seeing unprecedented cattle prices, including great bull sale prices, that hopefully will continue well into next year, at least until after my cattle have been sold ! And now there is feed which will get better when the weather warms up.

No doubt next year will have its challenges with La Nina and Omicron. Nine more letters in the Greek alphabet to go. Then what ?

In the latest cattle vets journal there is a good paper on resistance to wormers in Australia. The single 'mectin constituent pour on drenches have been losing efficacy, especially against Haemonchus. The study used up to six different drenches, including injectables. Faecal eggs counts were done pre and post worming.

The result was combination pour on drenches such as the moxidectin/ levamisole mix are by far the most effective across all areas. Their use also resulted in increased weight gain where haemonchus was the dominant parasite. Unfortunately Stomach Fluke, important for our coastal area, was not looked at. The faecal egg counts were found to be variable and not a particularly sensitive method of assessing worm burdens.

Cattle Diseases of the Month
calvings
prolapses
eye cancers
lame cows
pneumonia in calves

abscesses

Phosphorus deficiency on setaria

Theileria in calves

If you want 3 Day vaccine there are some production and shipping delays and increased demand, and we are being told to expect vaccine to be available early January.

And in the Horses.....

This year hasn't been as traumatic for the horses. The flood affected some horses, mainly skin and hoof conditions and a few leg injuries on the lower Manning. Covid and couriers have affected semen deliveries in the last few months.

This month had a very interesting medical case of an aged mare, breathless after minimal exercise and lactating. Her coat and feet were normal but a pituitary tumour was suspected. A tumour can produce ACTH for Cushings disease, and prolactin for milk production. A blood test was done and confirmed Cushings and hence a tumour. She is being treated with pergolide and it will be interesting to see how she responds. I don't expect her milk production to decrease.

Horse diseases of the month

Cuts, some bad ones

Colics

lamenesses

eye ulcers

knee chips in racehorses

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your business this year. Thank you for being understanding of us in these Covid times. We will continue to do our best.

PS Don turns 60 on 2nd January !

RUN DATES FOR DECEMBER

LANSDOWNE.....THURS 2ND

OXLEY/MITCHELL'S IS.....TUES 7TH

HANNAM VALE.....THURS 9TH

DYER'S CROSSING.....TUES 14TH

WINGHAM.....THURS 16TH

LORNE/COMBOYNE.....TUES 21ST

COOMBA AND THE DEEP SOUTH....THURS 30TH