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# TAREE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

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## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

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Last month I said cattle prices were at an all time high, and now they're higher ! And it is especially good to see rye grass growing faster than it can be eaten.

The mandarin competition has come to an end this year. Hard to split this year, but it has been won with a Jonely Island manda from Pat Neal, who will receive a snapper or pearl perch from my freezer. Second place was a perennial winner from Moorland, Mark Murray. No prizes for second.

We have had some drug supply problems, and now, with Victoria shutting down postal and courier services for this week, we have had a hiccup in a semen

delivery. The drug supply issues have been with imported drugs, mainly reproductive hormones. Covid is to blame.

Had an interesting and fatal case of unintended consequences this week of urea toxicity. The cows were on urea lick blocks but had run out of dry feed. They had access to some silage of such poor quality that it hadn't been touched. Urea, without any standing feed, can result in ammonia toxicity. Urea provides the rumen microflora with nitrogen to make them grow and multiply, which improves digestion of dry feed. The microflora then go from the rumen to be digested as microbial protein in the small intestine. If the microflora growth can't keep up with the amount of urea being fed, the urea is broken down into ammonia which then has toxic effects.

Cattle Diseases of the Month  
calvings, one really rotten, one foetotomy.  
Cows are tough.  
prolapses, vaginal and uterine  
eye cancers  
lame cows  
Left Displaced Abomasums, two this month  
cancer on back, frozen off  
rectovaginal tear  
intussusception - first one I know of, it's where the intestine telescopes onto itself and starts to digest itself. Probably secondary to an enteritis and abnormal intestinal motility in this case .  
chronic diarrhoea and weight loss in flood affected cattle on flooded paddocks.  
Negative to fluke, pestivirus, worms and yersinia.

Dingo Bend Angus at Bobin has four 20 mth old bulls still available for sale. See [www.dingobendangus.com.au](http://www.dingobendangus.com.au), or ph Ross and Elissa on 65505035

And in the Horses.....

The best thing about the breeding season is seeing AI foals born without a problem. We've had a couple born so far and it is very motivating.

Retained membranes after foaling - always inspect membranes if possible for missing bits, and wear gloves.

- the membranes need to pass within 12-18 hours. This can be helped by traction, oxytocin or membrane inflation and lavage.

- if a piece of membrane is retained you can get a uterine infection and laminitis, within days of foaling.

- it can be prevented by flushing the uterus and if needed antibiotics and antiinflammatories.

In spring we see some horses develop laminitis. Particular breeds such as ponies and QHs are more prone to it, and also Equine Metabolic Syndrome. There is available testing for insulin levels, and drug treatments for insulin resistance. Mostly it is caused by too much feed and horses becoming overweight. Horses love to eat !

Laminitis can result in hoof damage and pedal bone rotation and sinking, with resulting chronic lameness, so avoid weight gain and obesity.

## Horse diseases of the month

Cuts  
Colics  
choke  
lamenesses - foot abscesses, laminitis  
eye ulcers  
retained membranes  
penis bean  
Cushings

### **RUN DATES FOR OCTOBER**

<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>