
TAREE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

It has been wet and cool still, and not windy enough to dry things out ! But enough complaining because grass is growing.

Which brings me to setaria. I saw a bull with a urethral obstruction, presumably a bladder stone from being fed on setaria. Setaria is high in oxalates, which binds calcium. Horses, in particular young growing ones, can get bony malformation - big head - due to setaria. Cattle less so, but in older animals where there has been time for stones to build up it can be a problem. I saw some bullocks a few years ago that had bladder obstructions. I've not

seen it in older cows, probably because they can pee them out a wider urethra.

Setaria can also contribute to down cows with phosphorus deficiency.

Stomach fluke has been more prevalent in this last wet year. Stomach fluke is not normally a problem, but it's not normally this wet for such a prolonged time. Nilzan - levamisole and oxclozanide - seems to be the only drench that works well on it, but it's oral and in very short supply. The oxclozanide is the important bit. Drenching twice 3 days apart is recommended. Older cattle have developed immunity and are unlikely to be affected but young ones can have weight loss and death. Liver fluke may well be infecting them too. Diagnosis and differentiation from liver fluke is by faecal culture, blood testing and post mortem, in that order ! Both require a snail in their life cycles, but different snails. Feel free to kill snails and ticks.

We have had some locally born and bred Theileria cases in Angus calves that were all on good pasture. However, other calves on the farm on less improved paddocks were unaffected. The calves on rye and clover were scouring and had Theileria, and there were 10% deaths. Tick prevention in all calves, even local ones, and especially Angus, should be done from birth in tick areas.

Cattle Diseases of the Month
Theileria
calvings
prolapses, vaginal and uterine
eye cancers

lame cows
bladder stone

And in the Horses.....

It has been a busy month with horse repro work, follicle testing before service or AI and pregnancy scans.

I had one disastrous foaling where the foetus had been dead a while with the head back. Too swollen and tight to remove even after correcting the presentation.

We've had a couple of mares with mild colic after foaling. The appearance of abdominal discomfort could mean the mare is having normal contractions, or has an infection or retained a piece of membranes. The retained membranes is the most important as it can produce a toxemia then resultant laminitis. Mostly in these cases we will flush the mare's uterus and put them on antibiotics.

We have done several AIs this month, and had two courier problems...

Ticks can affect foals up to 100 kg, but multiple ticks can affect heavier horses. Dog tick collars such as Kiltix work well on foals from day 1.

Horse diseases of the month

Tick paralysis
foalings
Cuts
Colics
lamenesses
foot abscesses
corneal ulcers
retained membranes
sarcoïd
melanomas
sequestrum

RUN DATES FOR OCTOBER

LANSDOWNE.....	THURS 6TH
OXLEY/MITCHELL'S IS.....	TUES 8TH
HANNAM VALE.....	THURS 13TH
DYER'S CROSSING.....	TUES 18TH
WINGHAM.....	THURS 20TH
LORNE/COMBOYNE.....	TUES 25TH
COOMBA AND THE DEEP SOUTH....	THURS 27TH

