
TAREE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

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APRIL

NEWSLETTER

Not long ago I was gloating about how on Moto we'd picked up all the showers and how good it is when it's dry. All my fault that we've had 150 mm. My punishment for pride. So back to the usual swamp.

Last year it was hydroponic rye grass. This year paddocks have been sown and attacked by crickets. I dug a hole to fix a leaking fitting, put a drum over it and came back half an hour later to check it. At least twenty crickets were in there. These are a choice of protein in some countries, so I was thinking.....

However, I have no use for army worms. We need to train them to eat Parramatta grass.

On a serious note, there was a news report last week saying Indonesia had declared FMD as endemic. This is a problem because a big part of Australia's strategy has always been to fight FMD offshore to keep a buffer. So I assume this strategy will be re-assessed at higher levels than us.

You would think the worry will be if it gets to East Timor and PNG, but over 30 tonnes of illegal food imports were found in Sydney, which reinforces the view that the highest risk of FMD entry is Sydney, not northern Aust. We are much closer to Sydney.

In the last thirty years there has been a big reduction in metabolic disease in dairy cows, although production has increased. We used to see lots of milk fever cows until the use of springer rations became widespread. Dairy rations now all contain supplementary minerals. This month a dairy farmer had cases of milk fever, not necessarily in fresh cows, when milkers were on setaria paddocks. Frustratingly, this farmer already provides increased amounts of dietary calcium and phosphorus and gets advice from a nutritionist. It's likely that the amount of oxalates in setaria varies with growth and season, making it bind more calcium at times, but this is hard to measure.

Cattle Diseases of the Month

Buffalo fly making a late appearance

Theileria

calvings

pink eye

possible 3 Day cases

down cows on setaria paddock

Ross and Elissa Elphick, Dingo Bend Angus, have some bulls for sale. Two 23mth, one 30 mth. ph 65505035

And in the Horses.....

A huge change since Covid has been the way people send pictures of lumps, eyes etc. Sometimes we can even provide a diagnosis if the pictures are good enough, and they can be useful as an update. With colic however, visual descriptions are not as precise as having heart rates and gut sounds. A stethoscope is really useful for that information on things you can't see. Even a cheap one. Otherwise we need to see the horse. Colic is just a term for abdominal pain, which can be caused by other things than gut problems.

We sometimes see bleeding noses in horses and there are a few possible causes. It can be exercise induced, where the blood is coming from the lungs. This is more common in racehorses. Ethmoidal and squamous cell tumours will bleed, mostly from one nostril. Injuries and foreign

bodies also occur. Scoping these horses can be difficult while there is bleeding.

Horse diseases of the month

Cuts

Colics, one euthanased

choke

lamenesses

foot abscesses

granuloma on leg - looked like a sarcoid or swamp cancer. Biopsy revealed the truth.

pedal bone rotation

RUN DATES FOR APRIL

LANSDOWNE.....THURS 6TH

OXLEY/MITCHELL'S IS.....TUES 11TH

HANNAM VALE.....THURS 13TH

DYER'S CROSSING.....TUES 18TH

WINGHAM.....THURS 20TH

LORNE/COMBOYNE.....WED 26TH

COOMBA AND THE DEEP SOUTH....THURS 27TH

