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# TAREE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

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## AUGUST NEWSLETTER

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As I write this it's raining, not very much though. We could do with some, but we are far from the worst in the state, especially the Hunter. Cattle prices are terrible too.

Mandarins are OK though, and one from Coopernook is certainly going to be on the podium.

Last month I had an offer I couldn't refuse, to go to France for a week long 60th birthday party ! Travelling from Paris down south to Carcassonne I saw lots of Limousin and Charolais cattle, wheat, sunflowers, barley and of course vineyards. No Angus or Hereford, and some odd looking ones called Aubrac cattle. They are very proud of this breed, which is a milky beef

breed. The meat is very lean compared to anything here. No marbling at all. They are very good grass converters apparently. I'm not sure if something was lost in translation, but I don't think feedlots exist, at least not like ours ! Different markets and taste to us.

An example of this is their wine, which is all sealed with corks. A winemaker we talked to said all his export wine has screw caps, and wine for French domestic consumption has cork.

The French are very proud and protective of their rural industries and national identity. High bread prices, among other things, led to the Revolution ! We also went to Istanbul on the way back. Turkey straddles Europe to the west, the Middle East, the 'Stans and Asia to the east, and Georgia and Russia to the north. They too are very patriotic and I've never seen so many national flags flown. 24 million people live in Istanbul and I think we saw most of them. An amazing city.

Curracabark and Knowla had very strong bull sales while I was away, which is extraordinary in the current climate, so congratulations there. It's a huge effort especially with drought creeping over the mountains from Scone.

On Wednesday 23rd 5.30 pm Norbrook are presenting a session on mastitis and calf health at Club Taree. Food and drinks supplied. RSVP by the 15th to [tvhreception@gmail.com](mailto:tvhreception@gmail.com).

### Cattle Diseases

Pestivirus in a beef calf - a PI calf

Salmonella in a dairy cow calvings

prolapses, only vaginal

And in the Horses.....

The horse's birthday on the first, so an extra biscuit of hay for the horses. Foalings should be prepared for. A good paddock near the house with lighting, that's dog proof and tick proof should do ! Tick collars can go on foals from day 1. Have a Fleet enema handy for colt foals with retained meconium. A garbage bag and gloves for the membranes.

Foalings happen normally within 20 minutes, with two front feet and head first. Anything different from this call us. Membranes should be passed within 12-18 hours. If retained for greater than 12 hours call us. They can be expelled with traction, oxytocin, and sometimes need to be removed manually then the uterus flushed.

Sophie had some good cases this month. One is a horse that punctured its chest on a gate latch, right into the thorax, breaking a rib and collapsing the lungs. The horse is going well, albeit some leakage still happening.

Sophie also had a couple of horses with diarrhoea. Whether it's cow pat or watery, diarrhoea is one of the most difficult things to diagnose, treat and cure in horses. Cattle are so much simpler.

Faecal samples for parasites and PCR testing are usually the first step. Dietary changes also. Blood samples are also useful. And still answers can be hard to come by. Thanks to Dr Rosemary Cumming at Scone we have their protocol for diarrhoea, right up to refaunation, which is where

healthy horse poo is transferred to the stomach of the sick horse.

Horse Diseases this month  
Cuts, including the chest puncture  
colics  
Diarrhoea  
foreign body in the eye removed  
abscesses  
sarcoïd

<b>RUN DATES FOR AUGUST</b>	
LANSDOWNE.....	THURS 3RD
OXLEY/MITCHELL'S IS.....	TUES 8TH
HANNAM VALE.....	THURS 10TH
DYER'S CROSSING.....	TUES 15TH
WINGHAM.....	THURS 17TH
LORNE/COMBOYNE.....	TUES 22ND
COOMBA AND THE DEEP SOUTH....	THURS 24TH