
TAREE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

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AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Firstly, congratulations to Curracabark and Knowla studs for their successful bull sales. In these nervous times with FMD they showed producers still recognise quality and how much effort over many years goes into producing bulls. In some ways it really throws out the challenge to apply similar selection pressure to cows.

The mandarin competition is still being led by an ancient tree on Jones Island that came back from the dead.

This month, in two separate dairy herds, strep agalactiae was cultured. In one herd it was completely unexpected and inexplicable. The other herd had bought dairy cows in some months ago and we

think these are the source of the infection. The BSCC had been going up steadily, mostly sub clinical. We cultured ten cows and seven were infected with strep ag.

This is an extremely contagious bacteria and produces high SCCs. Often it is spread by teat washing, but even though we have had wet weather neither herd washes teats.

The plan now is to herd record individual SCCs, then go down the path of drying off with blanket dry cow, culling or treating. We are also doing a vat PCR test to get an idea of the prevalence of various bacteria. Strep ag is treatable and curable and costly.

We diagnosed Salmonella in a dairy cow with bloody, watery diarrhoea. This cow recovered, surprisingly. She is the third cow to have salmonella in this herd and we have recommended vaccination at drying off. This will protect those that haven't been exposed (preventing carriers), protect calves by antibodies in the colostrum and reduce shedding of the organisms by carrier cows. We rarely see Salmonella outside of winter, possibly because of stressful weather, and also because the feed is lower in fibre, higher in energy and more likely to cause ruminal acidosis. Bacteria can then cross the rumen wall into the liver and circulation.

Cattle Diseases of the Month
calvings
prolapses, vaginal and uterine
eye cancers and a removal
foreign body in an eye
lame cows
lots of bull semen tests

And in the Horses.....

No difficult or assisted foalings yet but we had one mare deliver full term twins and another older mare abort a seven month foetus.

This month we had an interesting case of a race horse hanging to the inside and the owner wanting joints to be injected. The cause of the gait abnormality was not determined, as there was no reaction to flexion tests. However, what was thought to be an old and insignificant splint was painful, and on X-ray showed active remodelling but probably not a sequestrum.

Mastitis is usually seen while the mare is in early lactation, but this month we had a mare with mastitis not long after the foal was weaned. Her udder was swollen and very painful, and the milk was indescribable. Some antibiotics, like sulphonamides, get into the gland in high concentrations and mastitis normally responds well to treatment. Stripping the milk out also helps, but most mares find this very painful.

Lumps on lower legs usually are granulation tissue from an injury or abscess, or a sarcoid, and often biopsy is the only way to differentiate them. Swamp cancers also occur, and keratomas on the coronet.

- Rain scald not surprisingly
- Cuts
- Colics
- lamenesses
- laminitis
- foot abscesses
- corneal ulcers and a foreign body
- sarcoid
- suspected Crofton weed toxicity
- OCD in a stifle
- mastitis

RUN DATES FOR AUGUST	
LANSDOWNE.....	THURS 4TH
OXLEY/MITCHELL'S IS.....	TUES 9TH
HANNAM VALE.....	THURS 11TH
DYER'S CROSSING.....	TUES 16TH
WINGHAM.....	THURS 18TH
LORNE/COMBOYNE.....	TUES 20TH
COOMBA AND THE DEEP SOUTH....	THURS 22ND

