



Over the Fence

Greetings from Wanganui Vet Services

December 2018 ● Issue 31

News and Views



December 2018

Another year comes to an end and as usual seems nearly over even quicker than before. On the whole 2018 has been a good year for agriculture. Despite the doom and gloom prophesised for the labour led coalition and some challenges such as facial eczema and Mycoplasma Bovis, we have not only come out the other side intact, but are enjoying strong commodity prices in many areas.

I think the climatic change or cycle we are in has brought a few more extremes to farming over the last few years and facial eczema is one disease that the Wanganui area has not had to worry about too much, until now. Every season is different, but we have had two fairly bad years in the last three, so I think it would be prudent to plan for facial eczema and how best to counter it. We will be out in early January spore counting to let you how things are tracking, because as you know the timing of treatment is critical and one week can make a big difference. Facial eczema is preventable, but requires decisive action at the correct time.

Animal Welfare has been an issue highlighted this year as new regulations came into force as at 1st of October this year. I have written an overview of what is now in place, for this newsletter to keep you informed – not to scare you! Please have a read and assess how you and also importantly, how your staff conduct themselves with animals. You will see there are fines for individuals who break these regulations, but much bigger fines for the businesses who employ them. It is important that everyone on the farm is aware of their obligations and abides by them.

Mycoplasma Bovis was a real scare for the industry, but we are quietly confident that the work that has been done will contain the disease and eventually eradicate it. We now have positive farms that have been destocked and confirmed as clear of M. Bovis and the few new confirmed farms are properties where animals have been tracked from infected farms.

If you have questions or are unclear about some of the many issues that you have to deal with, please give us a call at the clinic and we will do our best to help. Sometimes we get queries that come from a different perspective which require a bit of research or clarification and that means we learn more as well!

In at the clinic we have had a few changes over the year with Gemma Pouls starting in January as a mixed animal Veterinarian and Wilna Labuschagne starting in April as our Equine Veterinarian. Both have made a great start and you will no doubt see a lot more of them over the coming years. Next January we have a new Veterinarian, Kady Smith, joining us in the small animal department.

As a group the staff have all sorts of animals ranging from small block holders to tanks full of fish. Without a doubt they are not only passionate about their pets and animals, but really enjoy the opportunity to work in this industry, where they get to meet so many different people with all their own interesting animals and loved pets.

As summer is upon us we will have the BBQ trailer, chiller trailer and marquee at community events around Wanganui. Coupled with our sponsorship and donations of prizes it is fantastic to be out and about contributing to some of the great Wanganui initiatives. We look forward to seeing some of you competing or just having a look around at what's going on.

Wishing you, and your families a safe and relaxing Christmas, and a prosperous New Year.

Tom



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Animal Health Reminders For the next two months :

- Toxovax / Androvax / Campyvax
- Ram fertility checks
- 5 n 1, 8 n 1 or 10 n 1
- Monthly drenching of lambs
- Finish velvetting / tidy regrowth
- Mastitis milk samples for culture
- Drench reduction tests
- Monitor ewe body weight



ANIMAL WELFARE

Last year we highlighted animal welfare as an issue that should be at the forefront of farmers thinking in regards to the operations and happenings on their farm. Our industry has changed markedly over the last few years as regulations and tightening of rules have changed. Cruelty to animals has never been an allowable practice, but now many practices are specifically banned or regulated. As of the 1st of October 2018 new Animal Welfare regulations have come into force which, and I quote, “to make it easier for MPI and SPCA to take action against animal mistreatment. New penalties such as fines will be issued for certain actions. We will continue to prosecute the worst offenders under the Animal Welfare Act 1999.”

Some bullet points;

- **Transport** - livestock may not be fit for transport if they are lame, they have ingrown horns, they are in late pregnancy, they have cancer eye, they have injured or diseased udders. The new fine for not observing any of these is \$500.00. Consult your vet as you may need a veterinary certificate for some animals.



- **Dogs** – dogs left in cars under heat stress is not OK and will incur a fine for the dog owner and car owner of \$300.00. Owners of dogs with tight collars that restrict breathing or are causing skin abrasions and swelling, or owners of dogs that have loose collars that could cause an injury can be fined \$300.00. Dogs must be tied on or in a cage when travelling on the back of trucks, utes and trailers when on public roads. Again a \$300.00 fine. Ill-fitting muzzles or tethers can incur a \$300.00 fine. You could face a criminal conviction and a \$3,000.00 fine (\$15,000.00 for the business) if you dock a dog's tail from any age.
- **Bobby calves** – calves presented must be at least four days old, must have dry navels, must have worn hooves, must walk and bear weight, must be free of birth defects and must have no scours or other signs of disease. Calves unfit for transport can incur a fine of \$500.00. Loading facilities must allow calves to walk on and off stock transport and must minimise the risk of injury to the calf.
- **Sheep and Cattle** – transport rules as above. You must not castrate sheep or cattle over 6 months of age without local anaesthetic. You must not castrate sheep or cattle with a high tension band (one that is mechanically tightened), without using local anaesthetic. If you ignore this you could face a criminal conviction and a fine of up to \$3,000.00 (or \$15,000.00 for the business). Mulesing is prohibited, otherwise you could face a criminal conviction and \$5,000.00 fine (or \$25,000 for the business). Ingrown horns - where the tip or side pierces or causes abrasion has a \$500.00 fine. Striking or prodding animals in a sensitive area (udder, anus, genitals or eyes) has a \$500.00 fine. Calving a cow with a moving vehicle or any instrument that doesn't allow immediate release of tension is prohibited. You could face a criminal conviction and a \$3,000.00 fine (\$15,000.00 for the business).
- **Dairy farmers** as above for everything that is applicable. Inserting objects into cows to stimulate milk let-down is prohibited and has a \$300.00 fine. Removing any part of a cow's tail is prohibited and you could face a criminal conviction and a fine of up to \$3,000.00 (or \$15,000.00 for the business). If a cow's tail needs to be amputated due to injury, talk to your veterinarian, as it needs to be done under anaesthetic.

As you can see there are some big changes and some big fines for not abiding by these regulations. For more information or simply to check if you are doing it right go to www.mpi.govt.nz/animalregs or you can email questions to animalwelfare@mpi.govt.nz or you can call MPI on 0800 00 83 33.

Alternatively you can contact us at Wanganui Veterinary Services and check with the veterinary team to make sure you are fulfilling your obligations under the new animal welfare regulations.





RAM HEALTH

Annual ram purchases are a significant annual investment these days and yet too often they are a neglected little mob of stock on the farm. Remember that for optimum performance they need to be in good body condition – not just at mating, but for at least the two months before then too. From start to finish it takes around 60 days for semen to be produced. Some top tips :

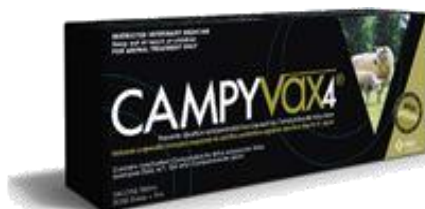
- Vaccinate with Clostridial vaccine
- Monitor worm status / combination drench
- Ensure that we at least palpate all rams annually
- Tidy up all wool on scrotum at least 2 months before start of mating (testicles need to be as cool as possible)
- Check all feet / lameness at least 2 months prior to mating
- Monitor fly strike – particularly on heads after fighting damage
- Feed them well!

POISONING



The sun is out and the vegetable gardens are going in!! Here at WVS we want to remind you to watch your pets around snail and slug bait. In the past few weeks we have seen a number of cases of animals eating these baits, and this can have awful effects. The bait is very tasty to dogs (and the occasional cat!) - in some cases dogs have been known to get an unopened box off a shelf and eat it. It is a quickly absorbed poison, meaning signs can be seen soon after eating and can worsen rapidly. Signs you may see soon after your pet eats these baits are depression, vomiting

or diarrhoea, drooling, and a rapid heart beat with fast breathing. As the poisoning progresses we see spasms or seizures and very high fevers. There is no cure, but if we see an animal soon after they eat a bait we can sometimes make them vomit it out. In many cases they need intensive hospital care and if they survive there may be lifelong side effects. The BEST plan of action is to keep an eye on your pets around all baits or baited areas, and to store all baits securely out of reach, such as in a locked cupboard.



Toxovax Orders

Toxovax must be ordered early to guarantee supply.
The vaccine only has a short shelf life and is only manufactured on demand.
Orders must be in at least 3 weeks before requirement.

COGLAVAX 8

Eight ways to protect your sheep

Last year we had the opportunity to sell Coglavax 8 for the first time. As one of three or four clinics in New Zealand who Ceva offered this product to, we could see the potential benefits of this vaccine for the sheep market, but also needed to assess how farmers thought it worked.

Coglavax is a good option for providing extra cover against a raft of possible clostridial causes of sudden death in sheep. Diagnosing which of these bugs has caused the “blood poisoning” death of your sheep can be difficult and technically fraught. Getting sheep well covered against as many of the common and likely causes of blood poisoning makes sense and the use of vaccines with a greater range of cover is now accepted in most livestock systems in New Zealand.

We see a real place for this added cover in sheep systems using high value feeds in particular. Unexplained and sudden deaths of adult sheep and lambs on crops such as plantain, lucerne and brassicas are common enough and very frustrating. Highly metabolisable feeds, which they all are, sudden changes in feed (after yarding or changing breaks and paddocks) and exposure to soil, all add to the risk.



Coglavax adds extra cover for a variety of the clostridium perfringens strains not covered by standard 5 in 1 or some of the other vaccines. As a part of a well-designed vaccination programme, Coglavax is recommended for protection against clostridial disease anywhere in your sheep programme but in particular as protection for high value animals on high value crops.

So far Coglavax has performed well where it has been used. Most of the farmers using Coglavax are protecting ewes and lambs on high value feed and they are not experiencing the problems they were previously, when they were only using 5 in 1. If you are grazing lambs on high value crops or pasture then we strongly recommend using Coglavax to protect them.



What's Up

For all you Summer and Winter cropping needs, contact Bruce Baldwin to discuss your options
027 663 2565



FLYSTRIKE CONTROL

Flystrike control has become a little more complex over recent years, with products being withdrawn from market and some new products coming to the market, and in particular combination products being released. Also, and most importantly, resistance to flystrike protecting chemicals has become an issue.

Much gets blamed on the Aussie Green Fly, maybe because of the name, but more likely because they can strike 'clean' wool where other flies strike contamination like dags and blood. However the fly causing most of the resistance problems is the European Green Blowfly (*Lucilia sericata*). The group of compounds they are resistant to is the benzoyl phenyl urea group which encompasses chemicals such as Triflumuron and Diflubenzuron. In the face of resistant flies, these actives are of little benefit for fly control, and in Wanganui we have confirmed the presence of resistance and have plenty of farmer feedback indicating product failure.

What should you use? Chemicals that have no known resistance such as cyromazine and dicyclanil or combinations such as cyromazine and ivermectin (Cyrizin KO) or cyromazine and spinosad (Cyrex). Dicyclanil is only available in a ready to use, spray on formulation more commonly known as Klik or Strikeforce S. Just released to the market is Klik Extra with an unsurpassed protection period and is available here at Wanganui Vet Services. Whatever you do, read the label or seek advice.

DRENCH TESTS

Now is the time to start planning for a drench test while we have a good representation of most important worm species in faecal samples. We need 12-15 lambs per active to be tested, and we need them to have reasonably high faecal egg counts, which normally means leaving this group undrenched for some time (6-7 weeks). Call us at the vet clinic to discuss and arrange a drench test.

THE STORY OF LILY THE CHICKEN.....

We had an interesting surgery recently, when Lily was presented with a "bulge" in her lower abdomen. After doing an xray, Dr Hein Stoop performed surgery, and removed a 280 gram mass of old eggs. Around 10% of an average chickens body weight! Lily came through the surgery really well and was sent home with pain relief to recover. We are pleased to report that Lily has recovered extremely well, and is back doing what chickens do best. It just goes to show that here at Wanganui Vet Services, we are able to cater for all types of animals - big, small and feathery. Well done team. 😊

HOLIDAY HOURS

Dec 17th – 21st	8.00 – 6.00 OPEN
Saturday 22nd	9.00 – 12.00 OPEN
Sunday 23rd	CLOSED
Monday 24th	8.00 – 6.00 OPEN
Dec 25th – 26th	CLOSED
Dec 27th – 28th	8.00 – 6.00 OPEN
Saturday 29th	9.00 – 12.00 OPEN
Sunday 30th	CLOSED
Monday 31st	8.00 – 6.00 OPEN
Jan 1st – 2nd	CLOSED
Jan 3rd onwards	Business as usual!



And just in case you missed it on TV,
see the episode from Seven Sharp online :

www.tvnz.co.nz/shows/seven-sharp/clips/after-a-visit-to-the-vet-meet-whanganui-s-most-expensive-chicken

Have a Merry Christmas!



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NEW CLiK™ EXTRA

A new benchmark in blowfly strike prevention.

EXTRA STRONG

CLiK Extra contains 30% more dicyclanil, the same proven active ingredient in CLiK Spray-On.¹ Dicyclanil is an extremely potent insect growth regulator that interrupts the lifecycle of blowflies.² It prevents emerging larvae from moulting into damaging second stage maggots, thereby preventing flystrike.

EXTRA ASSURANCE

CLiK Extra protects sheep against blowfly strike for 14 to 26 weeks. That means you can have extra peace of mind that your sheep are protected against flystrike until the next management procedure.

EXTRA FLEXIBILITY

CLiK Extra Spray-On is a ready-to-use spray-on formulation that can be applied to sheep with any length wool from four weeks after shearing. With a short 21-day meat withholding period, CLiK Extra is ideal for protecting docking wounds.



CLiK™
EXTRA

Extra strong, extra assurance

- Prevents blowfly strike for 14 to 26 weeks
- 30% more active ingredient than CLiK¹
- 21-day meat withholding period
- Ideal for long-term blowfly strike prevention or protecting docking wounds

CLiK™
SPRAY ON

Season-long blowfly strike prevention

- Prevents blowfly strike for up to 18 weeks
- Rain Lock™ formulation technology
- Protects docking wounds
- Apply to sheep with any length wool

CLiK™
FRESH GELS

CLiK™
SPRAY ON

CLiKzin™
SPRAY-ON

Active ingredient	65 g/L dicyclanil	50 g/L dicyclanil	12.5 g/L dicyclanil
Application timing	4 weeks wool	Any length wool	Any length wool
Length of protection	14 to 26 weeks	Up to 18 weeks	6 to 9 weeks
Wool withholding period	2 months	2 months	2 months
Meat withholding period	21 days	56 days (Merino) 35 days (Other)	7 days



CLiKzin™
SPRAY-ON

Short on withholds, strong on blowfly protection

- Prevents blowfly strike for 6 to 9 weeks
- Same proven active ingredient as CLiK¹
- 7-day meat withholding period
- Ideal for protecting sheep intended for slaughter, lambs following marking or late-season use



Specialist
QUALITY
SEASON After SEASON

Pick up one of our specialist products from your local veterinary clinic to get your hands on a premium ham on the bone or continental carve leg ham.

Only available from your local vet with qualifying purchases. While stocks last. See back for qualifying purchases.

WVS

WANGANUI VETERINARY SERVICES

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**TAKE ONE (TWO
OR EVEN THREE)
FOR THE TEAM!
THIS CHRISTMAS.**

BOSS®
BONUS HAM BONAÑA™



1 x 10L



BOSS® is a registered trademark of Alleva Animal Health Limited. BOSS® Pour-on is approved under the ACVM Act 1997, No. A10817.
*Complimentary ham only available while stocks last. Complimentary ham received may vary from the advertised image.
Qualifying purchases: Purchase 1 x 2.5L of BOSS pour-on and receive 1 free ham. Purchase 1 x 5L of BOSS pour-on and receive 2 free hams. Purchase 1 x 10L of BOSS pour-on and receive 3 free hams.



WANGANUI VETERINARY SERVICES

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