

# 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Drench Sale



Prices slashed  
5th – 8th June



**Eprinex**  
Purchase 2 x 5 litres  
Receive 1 litre FREE

Eclipse 10 litre ~~\$2,547.00~~; now \$2,241.00 **Save \$306.00**  
Eclipse 5.5 litre ~~\$1,420.00~~; now \$1,202.00 **Save \$218.00 + Bonus product**  
Eclipse 5 litre ~~\$1,420.00~~; now \$1,202.00 **Save \$218.00**



Genesis 12.5 litre ~~\$1,745.00~~; now \$1,535.00 **Save \$210.00**  
Genesis 10 litre ~~\$1,745.00~~; now \$1,535.00 **Save \$210.00**  
Genesis 5.5 litre ~~\$809.00~~; now \$650.00 **Save \$159.00 + Bonus product**

Get your winter &  
pre-calving  
drench requirements



New combination oral drench  
**Switch C**  
available in 5, 10 and 20L



**Combat Topline**  
purchase 7.5 litres  
@ 5 litre price

**Purchases throughout the week  
included in draw for a  
Sony 55" Flat screen TV**  
(1 in 100 chances to win)



Member only sale  
Many more products - see clinic and Kaponga depot



**Clinic & Farm Supplies**  
Railway Street, Eltham  
Ph . (06) 764 8196  
[www.elthamvetservice.co.nz](http://www.elthamvetservice.co.nz)  
**Trading Depot**  
Hollard Engineering,  
Victoria Street, Kaponga  
Ph. (06) 764 6686  
**J Larkin** 0274 482 585

## June 2012

Another season comes to an end. Is it just me or does it seem like only a month or so back that the season started? It's been an action packed year and from a farming point of view I suspect a pretty good one with the weather playing its part most of the season. We couldn't really complain about lack of grass this year. That consistent growth meant that Facial eczema came & went without a word (a nice change). Drying off will be complete on the majority of farms by now. Thanks once again for your co-operation with regard to dry cow consults. Sorry to those of you expecting to use CephaForte only to find it had run out - unfortunately this seems to be a growing trend with Bayer since they bought out Bomac - a successful NZ based company making great products bought out by a huge multi-national. Rigid protocol overtakes flexibility and suddenly there are supply issues.

**Welcome to the district to new arrivals.** Call into the clinic to pick up your welcome pack and set up your account and RVM requirements for the new season.

The **Jubilee celebrations** went off very well in April and hopefully the golf day this week adds to the fun. It was great to see former vets, clients and board members at the Jubilee and it was great to catch up. It was particularly interesting to speak to people who actually worked with or knew our founder Alan Leslie during his time at Eltham. He was clearly quite a man.

For existing clients, your **RVM authorities** should turn up in the mail in the next week. As often stated these authorities/prescriptions are living documents and can be added to or changed, generally with a simple phone call. So if you spot something that doesn't seem right please give me a call.

This time of year you start hearing commercials on the radio about vaccinations against calf scours. We have used Rotavec-Corona successfully for a number of years. In the last year a competitor vaccine called Scourguard has been launched in the NZ market. We have looked at both vaccines and weighed up the pros and cons of each and decided that for the time being we will stick with Rotavec despite the odd concern about vaccination lumps that occur. Those lumps can be minimised through careful injection technique and hygiene. We feel we need to see that this new vaccine is working as well or better than the existing one before we make a change. Feel free to chat to one of us if you need to know more. If you plan on vaccinating your herd against Rotavirus again this year please read the article in this newsletter.

In clinic news, congratulations to our receptionist Nicola who not only turned 21 recently but also became engaged. Great stuff Nicola! Sue became a grandma again, this time to identical twin boys, and Joan will become a nana herself in a couple of months.

The offspring of our veterinary team are distinguishing themselves on the sporting fields. Polly's daughter Alice was recently selected to play for the Taranaki Women's Hockey team at the tender age of 14. Jim's son Josh will once again represent NZ in the World Quarter Horse Champs this year, this time in Germany. And if I can be permitted to stick my own chest out it has been a great few months for our son James who was recently admitted into NZ Cricket's High Performance program for the next 12 months as well as selection in the 30 man squad for this year's U19 world cup in Brisbane.

**Veterinarians**  
Alistair McDougall BVSc - CEO  
Giles Gilling BVSc BSc MRCVS  
Andrew Weir BVSc, PGDip (Epi)  
Jim Robins BVSc, BSc, DipPharm  
Polly Otterson BVSc, MSc,  
Teresa Carr BVSc  
Adrian Clark BVSc  
Linley Gilling BVSc  
Lindsay Lash BVSc  
James Bruce BVSc  
Leon Christensen BVSc

**Office**  
Joan Hughes John Larkin BBS  
Jill Watson Sue Morresey  
Nicola Duthie Frank Suter

## INDUCTIONS

**A reminder that if you want to induce cows the regulations require that you meet with a vet to make an Induction Management Plan at least 60 days before induction begins. So if you have not yet made your Induction Management Plan you are running out of time to do so. Remember that we can only induce a maximum of 4% of the herd this year and who knows next year so phasing out appears to be well underway. Please phone the clinic to make an appointment.**

## Spring First Aid Seminar

Due to popular demand our annual Spring 1<sup>st</sup> Aid seminar is back again this winter. Polly, Teresa, Adrian and the team will be holding this year's seminar on:

**Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup> June (limited places left)**

This covers calvings, retained cleanings, prolapses, downer cows, sick cows and calf care. Practical sessions on calving cows and general procedures like injections, milk sampling and calf drenching are included. This course is aimed at new entrants to farming or people who would like to brush up their skills.

The day will be held at the clinic and will start at around 9.30 and go until 3-3.30. The cost is \$175 including GST and includes lunch and a comprehensive folder of notes. If you are interested, please ring the girls at reception to register.

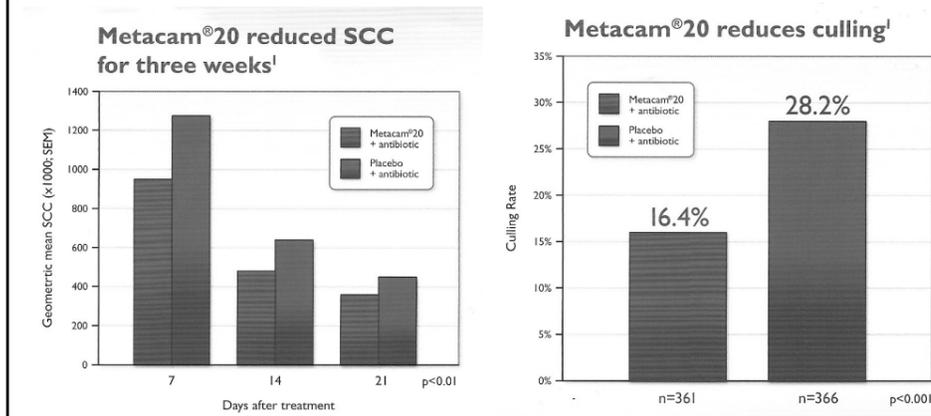
## New Approach to Mastitis Saves Money

Addition of an anti-inflammatory to the treatment of a severe mastitis has been common practice for a while. It stands to reason with a hot swollen, clearly painful udder. But what about routine cases of mastitis?

Adding an anti-inflammatory with an antibiotic for the treatment of mild mastitis not only takes the pain away for cows, but also delivers economic benefits for farmers, a major NZ trial has confirmed. Published in 2009, the trial included herds from Southland, Canterbury, Waikato and Taranaki, with a massive 767 cows enrolled, ensuring reliable findings.

In the study, the outcomes of treating with a course of antibiotic alone vs. a combination of antibiotic and a single injection of the anti-inflammatory, Metacam20, were compared. The results of the trial were encouraging. It appeared to hasten clinical cure, there was a speedier return to quality milk production, from a significantly faster decrease in Somatic Cell Counts in affected quarters and interestingly, the culling rate for the mastitic cows receiving tandem therapy was almost half that of the group receiving antibiotic alone (28.2 vs. 16.4%, an 11.8% difference).

These findings suggest that despite increased treatment costs, there are valuable economic benefits (around 5:1 return on investment) to be gained from using Metacam20 in conjunction with an antibiotic for treating routine mastitis. And also importantly, the cows feel better faster!



If you are interested in adding Metacam20\* to your treatment regime for mastitis have a chat to one of our vets about adding it to your annual RVM prescription.

\*Metacam has an 84 hour milk WHP and a 10 day meat WHP

## David's on the way & he's bringing the whole family

Now that David Lloyd is a respectable family man we needed to put him up in a slightly better class of accommodation than he has been used to when he arrives this winter to scan with his new family in tow. We didn't think that Lynwen or little Nanci would be overly keen on the shearer's quarters he usually stays in so we found him a nice house in the Toko area.

He arrives next week and starts scanning on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June.

I'm sure you will make David & his family as welcome as you usually do.



## Bright Cookies

Congratulations to some clever local clients who featured prominently recently at the Taranaki Dairy Awards night.

Thomas Higgins won the Taranaki Farm Manager of the Year Award and earned the right to compete at the National Dairy Awards in Auckland. Thoroughly deserved Thomas and further kudos for Bill & Gail Gribble who seem to churn out outstanding young farm managers at will. If I was a young farmer wanting to get ahead in this industry I would be knocking on their door and asking for a job.

Congratulations also to Marc Jackson who came second and Bryce & Amanda Savage who came third in the Taranaki Sharemilker/Equity Farmer of the Year category. What clever farmers we have.

## Ladies Night!!

**We are having a Girl's Night Out on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June.**

The evening is aimed specifically at ladies who may not have a huge input into their herd's fertility but would like to know more and become more involved. (Lets face it, if we girls get involved, it can only improve!) We will discuss body condition scoring, heat detection, cow health, bull management and more. If you are already involved in your herd's mating come along, you will learn more.

Empty rates are climbing, inductions levels are dropping, what's happening in your herd?

Polly, Teresa and Linley will be talking and Rochelle from Littlemisscupcakes will teach us her decorating tricks.

Check her out on Facebook. Supper and drinks are provided. This evening is FREE. Come along and bring some friends. Please ring the clinic to let us know you are attending.

## Important information you need to know about Infectious Scours

Its time to start thinking about the calving season again! And although it has been a busy year, there's a lot of value in being prepared for what challenges may lay ahead. Scours is something most dairy farmers have experienced at some stage, and anybody that has been through a severe outbreak will know how much of an impact it can be on the family, and the income.

For the first month of life, calves that encounter high levels of "bugs" (viruses, bacteria or protozoa such as rotavirus, coronavirus, *E. coli* or cryptosporidia) have an increased chance of going on to develop scours. With a large number of farms testing positive for rotavirus alone, it's quite likely they will come into contact with at least some of these bugs. During this time, their only real defence is from the antibodies passed through colostrum from their mothers.

Calves are the most genetically valuable animals on your farm, so every death or reduction in growth rate will reduce your chance of achieving the goals and expectations that you've set for the season. When death rates are high the financial effects can be severe, even surviving calves can have long-term damage to their gut that will reduce their growth rates, so costs can be ongoing.

Unfortunately "damage control" is about all you can do in the midst of an outbreak, so it makes sense to focus on prevention. Good hygiene and facilities will help to limit the number of bugs calves are exposed to, but it's just as important that calves have sufficient immunity to cope with what bugs they do encounter.

It's vital that newborn calves receive high-quality colostrum within the first few hours of life. Not only does it pass protective antibodies on to calves, it also plays an important part in their development. Calves that don't receive enough colostrum are much less likely to be resistant to disease.

*What can you do to improve protection for your calves?*

Vaccinating the herd with Rotavec® Corona stimulates cows to produce colostrum with boosted antibodies that target rotavirus, coronavirus and *E. coli*. This results in increased protection for your calves from infectious scours for at least four weeks after birth. In addition to initial colostrum feeding within 6-12 hours of birth calves should be fed at least 2-3 litres of stored colostrum every day as part of their diet for a minimum of 3 weeks. This ensures they have extra protection during the period they're most at risk.

Treat your whole herd with one shot of Rotavec Corona 3 weeks before the planned start of calving. Individual cows can be treated 3-12 weeks before their expected calving dates. And, where there's a wide calving spread, split herds can be vaccinated separately.

In conjunction with good hygiene, housing and colostrum management, Rotavec Corona will significantly increase the protection your calves have against the major causes of scours. Talk to us today – we'll put together a vaccination programme that's right for you and your farm.

## New Option for Old Working Dogs

Of all the body parts of a working dog, it's perhaps the joints more than any other that suffers the most. Years of punishing hill climbing, sprinting across paddocks and leaping on and off the back of vehicles inevitably take their toll, resulting in the slow but steady onset of degenerative joint disease, more commonly known as arthritis. The condition has two important negative outcomes: it reduces the dogs' working lifespan and it threatens its performance and quality of life. Arthritis is no less painful to dogs than it is to humans and can thus significantly impact agility, endurance and willingness to work. It can affect one or more of the three major joints



including the hips, knees and elbows. Once present, it is relentlessly progressive and steadily becomes more severe over time. While effective treatment has long been available, treating the working farm dog has been a challenge, especially due to the need to administer treatments on a daily basis. A new option has, however, just become available that is as at least as effective as currently available options but requires only monthly administration after 2 initial doses given 14 days apart.

Called TROCOXIL® Chewable Tablets for Dogs, the product has recently been launched in New Zealand. Extensive studies performed by the manufacturer demonstrate it to be highly effective whilst having a comparable safety profile to currently available once daily treatments. A developing understanding of arthritis suggests that the longer treatment is administered, the better dogs do (i.e. treatment benefit steadily increases over time, rather than quickly reaching a plateau). With a monthly inter-dose interval (after the initial loading dose regimen) TROCOXIL makes it easy to extend the length of treatment and therefore maximise its benefit.

Importantly, the product is well priced, particularly when considered against the possibility of extending the working life of the dog. Perhaps just as importantly, we have no doubt that it will improve the welfare of arthritic dogs, and enhance their quality of life in their golden years.

If you have ageing working dogs on farm that limp, look a little stiff and tired after work or aren't as enthusiastic as they used to be, arthritis could well be to blame. We now have an exciting new treatment option for them, so please get in touch and we may be able to get them back to more of their old selves!

TROCOXIL is a registered trade mark of Pfizer Inc. ACVM Registration No. A010459. RVM; Available only under Veterinary Authorisation.