The Do's and Don'ts of lamb vaccination

It is still best practice to vaccinate ewes within 4 weeks of the start of lambing with a clostridial vaccine (e.g. Ultravac®). The ewes respond to this vaccination by producing antibodies. The antibodies are then concentrated in the ewes colostrum ready for the new-born lambs to absorb them into their system within the first 24 hours of life. The job of the colostral antibodies is to protect the lambs from disease until their own immune systems have time to start responding to the disease causing agents.
Lambs become susceptible to infection once the colostral anitibodies are used up. The length of protection that is provided depends on how much colostrum the lambs get in the first 24 hrs. Twins and triplet lambs must share the available colostrum so are likely to get less than a single lamb. Birth order and how long they take from birth to suckling will also dictate the amount of colostrum each individual lamb receives.
The age that the lambs become susceptible to disease varies greatly. For some lambs this will be at 3-4 weeks of age while others receive enough protection to cover them to 16 weeks of age.
The aim of any vaccination program is to protect animals before they can contract the disease. Docking would be the logical time to start as this is the first opportunity to vaccinate lambs and the majority still have some degree of protection. The second vaccination can then be given at weaning or pre-weaning 4-6 weeks after docking.
The lambs will not be fully protected by their own immunity until after the second vaccination. Waiting to start the vaccination program at weaning would mean virtually all the lambs are susceptible to Pulpy Kidney at a time when they are at the highest risk of that disease occurring.
Clostridial vaccines come with or without Selenium (Se) and/or Vitamin B12. From both a safety and economic perspective "mineralized" vaccines should only be given after testing shows that a deficiency exists.
Treatment of lambs at docking with vaccines containing selenium can cause death due to selenium toxicity and supplementation with either Vitamin B12 or Selenium in situations where no deficiency exists will have no benefit and is simply a waste of money.
Benefits of Ultravac 5+1:

- Cover against the 5 main clostridial diseases affecting sheep in NZ
- Trace element supplementation (Vitamin B12 or Vitamin B12 and Se)
- Added control of Caseous Lymphadenitis (cheesy gland)
- All in one easy-to-give injection.

Farewell from Andrew

After 20 years at Eltham Vets, I'm moving down to the South Island to be closer to family.
It's been an eventful 20 years. I started here right out of vet school in 2000. Since then Eltham Vets has gone from a 6-vet practice, to a nearly 11-vet practice. Al and Giles are the only remaining vets from when I started. I've learned a lot – especially with the post-grad study and research – and I've met some great people over the years, who I will miss. I wish the practice, and you, all the best for the future.
Thanks for the memories!

Christmas hams will be FREE with both sheep and cattle drenches purchased between 1st October and 18th December

Eltham Vet Services

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Veterinarians
Alistair McDougall BVSc - CEO
Giles Gilling BVSc BSc MRCVS
Andrew Weir BVSc, PGDip,PhD
Jim Robins BVSc,BSc,DipPharm
Polly Otterson BVSc,MSc,
Teresa Carr BVSc
Adrian Clark BVSc
Lindsay Lash BVSc
Leon Christensen BVSc
Michaela Abbott BVSc
Office
Joan Hughes Helen Snook
Jill Watson CVN/RAT
Michelle Mcleod
Alex Rowlands

Like and follow us on Facebook

SEPTEMBER 2020

This has been a highly unusual year. You don't need to be a Rhodes Scholar to figure that out. We've had Covid-19, Barrett brothers playing for the North and the South, the USA steadily turning themselves into a Banana Republic and here at Eltham Vets the departure of 2 of our veterinary colleagues.
Yes, that's right, I said two. We said farewell to Erika Pieper in autumn. Now we find ourselves saying goodbye to a vet who has been with us for 20 years.

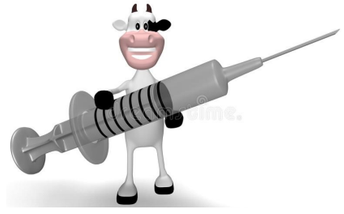
Andrew Weir will be leaving us at the end of this month to take up a position with a dairy practice in Dunsandel. He is moving south for family reasons. Andrew has been with us since 2000 when he came here as a new graduate. During the 20 years he's been here he has become a father of 3, taken up research, done a PhD and become one of New Zealand's leading authorities on BVD. And, more often than not, he's been the most intelligent person in the room. The work he has done in BVD research has added enormous value and kudos to this practice and helped us all with our own understanding and knowledge of this disease. The profession as a whole owes him a debt of thanks for the work he has done and continues to do in control of BVD. No doubt that will continue in the years to come. We don't often lose a vet who has been with us for 20 years, so his decision has come as a bit of a shock. On behalf of everyone here Andrew, I would like to thank you for your contribution to this practice and wish you and Kath all the very best as you embark on this new adventure in Canterbury. Good luck mate.

In the meantime I can tell you that we've been active in our search for replacements for Andrew and Erika. Initially we thought we wouldn't need to replace Erika, but it has become apparent that having that extra vet was hugely beneficial so decided we would find someone to replace her towards the end of the year. Of course Andrew was unexpected, but we have been successful finding someone to attempt to fill his shoes.
Ashley Mellow will be joining us from Dannevirke at the end of November. He's been in practice for 4 years now and is ready to move closer to home and make a long-term commitment to a dairy practice. Many of you will know his family - his dad Ross farmed in the Kaponga area for many years, and now farms near Waverley. We think he will be a great fit here and a big contributor to this practice going forward. He essentially replaces Andrew as another large animal vet.
Lillian Chin will join us early in the New Year from a mixed practice in Gore. She's been out 3 years and replaces Erika and will be a welcome addition to our team as we start bringing a bit more youth into the ranks. She will also do a bit of small animal work along with her dairy work.
Hopefully both she and Ash will find Eltham the sort of practice they can see a long-term future with.
We figure if Lillian can handle 3 springs in Gore, Eltham should be a doddle! We'll let them both introduce themselves when they arrive.
So, we'll be slightly short-staffed for a month or so from October; please bear with us as we try to fit you all in, but by December we'll be back on track for a full complement of vets ready to go in 2021. Which, surely will be a better year than this one……

Your **executive** remains the same following this years **AGM** early July.
Board members are:
Phil Muir, Chairman
Simon O'Sullivan, Deputy Chairman
Andy Best, Drystock representative
Gordon Glentworth
Daryl Johnson
Shawn Matthews
Jeanette Rowlands

2020 Scholarship

This year's recipient of the Michael Higham Memorial Scholarship is William MacDonald.
The award is given every year to a 4th year vet student for the final two years of study.
William saw practice with us in August & will see practice with us again throughout his last two years of study.



It's time for calf blackleg vaccinations
See Covexin 10 article page 4.
Please call the clinic to book in vaccinations or purchase Covexin 10 if you wish to vaccinate yourself.

The Value of Early Intervention

How long are you going to mate for this season?
If you start mating on the 20th October your calving start date is around 29th July.
A Christmas day conception results in a 3rd October calving and pulling the bull out on New Year's Day means your last calving will be on the 10th of October. That's just over a 10-week mating period. If you go to the end of January then you will still be calving after the start of AB and we're getting back into the pre-induction days of the 1960's & 1970's.
Do you really want that?
So let's settle on a 10-week mating period as a fair compromise. You'll still have some cows calving late, but if you get all your ducks in a row the bulk of the herd should be in well before the end of September allowing sufficient lead-in time to mating. **With the help of early intervention.** We've banged on about this for years but the biggest return on your investment (and that's what it is) with cidrs, etc, is when you use them pre-mating, i.e. **starting about 7-10 days before you begin AB.**
I'm not going to do numbers because last year someone much smarter than me rang up to tell me my calculation was incorrect, and the return was x rather than y. I defended myself by saying the figures weren't mine but were from many sources from many studies done over many years. He still wasn't convinced. So instead I'll just tell you the basic trends:

- 10 days prior to AB the costs of treatment will obviously be higher because you're treating more cows. But the income from earlier conception & more days in milk, more AB calves, etc. means you get a positive return on investment.
- If you hold off until the end of the first week, you'll still get a positive return, but it will less than half what you would have got if you had treated 7-10 days before the start of AB.
- If you wait 21 days there will be fewer cows to treat so your costs are lower but your return on investment is negative because of lost days in milk, less replacement calves & so on. So it will cost you to delay until the second round.

The main message is that the earlier you treat, the bigger the return on investment. If you wait until the end of the first round there is no return on investment and the whole thing is costing you money.
These figures are calculated for farm owners. **If you're a 50/50 sharemilker then the only time you'll get a positive return on investment is if you intervene before the start of AB.**
These numbers are based on the usual assumptions of milk production, extra feed costs for more cows calving early, added value of an AB heifer calf & pay-out. There is enough evidence out there after many years of early intervention to back these assertions up so if you're serious about having a compact calving & getting more income from more days in milk, then early intervention really is a no-brainer.
Either that or we go back to the days of 3-4 month calving spreads and mating into March.

ARE YOU RECORDING YOUR AT-RISK COWS

Remember them? They include any cows that had: RFMs, metabolic diseases e.g. milk fever, assisted calvings, prolapses, twins, dead calves, sick cows and cows in poor body condition at calving.
There's loads of research showing benefits from checking these cows in batches 2-4 weeks after they have calved.
Waiting longer means pus may be gone but inflammation is still present meaning chances of a cow conceiving is lowered.
New Zealand research has shown that cows with untreated endometritis have:

- Lower 28-day submission rates (74% vs 94%)
- Lower 28-day pregnancy rates (26% vs 51%)
- Higher empty rate at the end of the breeding period (26% vs 7%)

Appropriate treatment can result in very significant cost benefits through:

- Improved submission and conception rates
- Improved six week in calf rates
- Extra days in milk
- Fewer empties
- More AB calves
- Less wasted semen

In an environment when we need to focus on high submission and conception, shorter mating periods and lower empty rates we cannot afford to miss infected cows.
Please don't leave your cows to be metri-checked until you're treating your non-cyclers. By then it's far too late and by the time they are treated & ready to conceive you've completely missed the boat.
Ring the clinic to book your early metrichecks.

Preying Lion.

While walking through the jungle a man walked into the path of a hungry looking lion.
He fell to his knees and began to pray for salvation from the terrifying beast.
All of a sudden the lion bent down, right next to him and stared to pray as well.
The man was astonished at the sight.
"It's a miracle!" he shouted
"Excuse me" said the lion. "Would you mind keeping quiet while I am saying grace?"

Research shows attractive gains from post-calving drenching of dairy herds

Dairy farmers could make significant economic gains by drenching animals soon after calving.
New Zealand trials using eprinomectin show that treated cows produced an extra 0.6 litres of milk per cow per day and first calvers were in calf up to 12.9 days earlier than their untreated herd mates.
The extra milk yield equates to about $50 per cow per season, generating an extra $14,000 of farm income for the average herd of 280 cows. (Calculated using a payout of $7/kgMS)
Dr Justin Hurst of animal health company, Boehringer Animal Health, believes farmers need to pay attention to this research, which challenges the traditional view that drying-off is the best time for drenching.
"Drenching soon after calving rather than at drying off makes a lot of sense. We know it's far more feed-efficient to improve the condition score of a lactating animal than a dry one, and good condition is critical for cows to get back in calf. Post-calving drenching is likely to yield a production response which will not only pay for the drench but increase the chances of an early and successful pregnancy as well."
The 12.9-day pregnancy advantage shown by the trials could also generate another $90 per heifer, based on 12.9 days of additional milk production at a conservative 1kgMS/heifer/day and a $7 payout.
Dr Hurst says traditionally older style drenches were not given pre drying off because milk and meat had to be withheld.
EPRINEX® Pour on for cattle is specifically designed for lactating dairy cows. It not only has nil milk and meat withholding, but with extensive trial data from NZ and around the world, has achieved a label claim for "increases milk production".
Additional international trials have also shown other specific advantages of EPRINEX, including increased grazing time of up to 50 minutes per day and a concurrent increase in the consumption of high-quality pasture.
With such substantial data, farmers can have confidence that by using EPRINEX they can get results to improve their productivity.

IF MASTITIS BUGS WERE PEOPLE:

Staph aureus
Like a stalker. Contagious, sinister, devious, hangs out in noses and on people's skin. Spread via milking cow-to-cow by cross infection, and from workers to cows during milking, rushed teat sealing and dry cow infusion.
Control: gloves, clean hands, effective post milking teat spraying, identification of infectious cows and milking them last, not feeding milk from these cows to calves.
Difficult to cure and to control, be very vigilant - does not always cause clinical mastitis but causes a lot of udder damage. Most agree that weeding these cows out of the herd is a good move. Often infections are sub-clinical and remain undetected for a long time so staph avoids culls this way.
Strep uberis
Like a messy teenager - loves a mess, always hanging around; environmental - hangs out in muddy and dirty environments in large groups such as feed pads, under trees in summer, dirty raceways and loves cows that have to walk through manure. Dirty cows increase risk of infection. A hard one to control if it's muddy.
Strep dysgalactiae
Sneaky opportunist, semi contagious but generally easy to send on its way if discovered; loves damaged teats.
Pseudomonas
Slimy creep; hates dry, clean, and sunshine. Hides in dark wet places or areas contaminated with splashes from places such as dirty drains, dirty teat salve, dirty teat wipes or dirty wet areas in the shed. Can be spread from water - e.g. hosing around cups off. Can be serious and sometimes fatal. Very resistant to treatment.
E. coli
Jekyll and Hyde - mild or mean - spread from the gut in manure, may be prevalent in low grade cases all season and around mating times. Means exposure to manure somewhere. Can cause serious mastitis in some cases. Keep teats away from manure to avoid this one.
Serratia and Enterobacter
Hillbilly - Lounges in the sawdust, rotten wood, or the barn; loves straw, drains, effluent and is shed from the gut in manure. Can survive and has been found in contaminated diluted teat sprays. Can be contagious from cow to cow during milking. Didn't mean to cause a problem, but if it gets in can cause long and chronic cases of mastitis. Completely resistant to treatment.
CNS
Mischievous big brother and sometimes possibly protective like a practical joker - from the cow's own skin, this opportunistic bacteria is thought to be harmless, and transient, not normally requiring treatment. In some studies, including one in NZ, cows with CNS produce more milk. It is now thought that where implicated in mastitis, CNS may be found but is not the agent causing the infection. Control new infections by keeping teats in great condition.

COULD IT BE COCCIDIA?

As every farmer and calf-rearer knows, raising replacements can be a challenge. Diarrhoea is one of the costliest problems, so sorting out the cause is key to calf welfare and profitability.
One of the most common, but easily treatable, causes of diarrhoea is Coccidiosis. The parasite is a major problem for young calves and can spread quickly through a herd with devastating short- and long-term effects. Coccidiosis can be clinical, showing some or all of the following symptoms:

* Dark green to blackish diarrhoea
* Abdominal pain and straining
* Presence of blood and threads of fibre in stool
* Fever and lack of appetite

However not all calves will show symptoms of infection. A subclinical case can be invisible, but the damage is still being done. Plus the continued shedding of Coccidia 'eggs' (oocysts) and escalating environmental contamination can lead to clinical coccidiosis in the mob.
It's important to remember that when clinical signs are seen, serious damage to the calf's gut has already occurred, reducing her ability to absorb feed and liquids and opening a way for other bugs to cause infection. Even when the disease is treated, the gut does not fully recover for several weeks, and appetite may be suppressed. Longer term effects include poorer milk production at first lactation.

The good news is that studies have shown that early, preventative treatment with Baycox C oral drench not only stops Coccidia, it can result in earlier first service and higher conception rates. In other words, treating calves well before they display clinical symptoms is vital to your farm's prosperity. The key though is timing - if they haven't yet been exposed to coccidia then Baycox won't work. So we want to know they have been exposed but get to them before that exposure becomes production-limiting.
The first step to tackling Coccidia is to talk to us. Get some samples into us from 4 or 5 calves and we'll get them tested while calves are still in the sheds. If the tests come back positive, treatment with Baycox C is recommended one week before the time you would usually expect to see clinical cases.
Baycox®C is easy to administer and usually works with just a single dose.
So protect the welfare and worth of your calves by talking to your vet today.

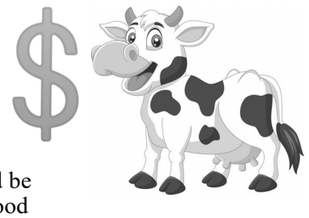
Treating your Calves for Worms this Season

So it's getting to that time when you empty the calf pens, wean them, and turn them out onto pasture. Then you start thinking about worms. Before doing what you've always done, take a moment to make sure what you've always done is still the correct thing. Here are some basic rules that all farmers should go by:

- **Use combination drenches**
  We used to say rotate drenches, but now we say use combinations as research has shown this is best for production and preventing resistance. You should always use combination products (double or triple) in cattle under 15 months of age. The only exception to this is very young calves where safety margins may be an issue due to their size. That is why we still offer Dectomax injection in calves before Xmas because it has a very wide safety margin. After Xmas when all your calves should be comfortably over 120kg you should use combinations.
- **Give the drench properly**
  Dose accurately for weight, take your time and do it right. Pour-on, injectable and oral drenches can all be given poorly so make sure you do it correctly.
- **Take care with young calves**
  Don't mix drench in with the milk. It can be fatal.
  A few seasons ago we had a tragic case of mass poisoning as a result of this, so it does happen. We know that some of you still subscribe to this method as an easy way to drench calves as they are transitioned onto grass. Believe us - you are playing Russian Roulette & eventually you will kill calves.
  Avoid products containing abamectin in calves under 120kg.
- **Take care with yourself**
  Choose a drenching method that works for you and doesn't unnecessarily put you at risk of injury.

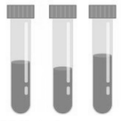
There has been a lot of research published in recent years that has changed the advice given around drenching. Unfortunately, that can make it confusing for the farmer who has been told one thing, only now to be told another. If you are in any doubt, talk to us to discuss your particular requirements.
Dan & John have all the info you need to make the right choice.

PREMATING BLOODS



Why do premating blood tests?
The short answer - ***to have happier, healthier cows and make more money***
The long answer:
1. If your farm has trace element deficiencies.
Most of the Taranaki ring plain soils are deficient in **selenium** and require annual selenium supplementation. Too much selenium is toxic so levels should be monitored to ensure enough selenium is present, but not too much. Liver or blood can be tested.
High levels of iron, sulphur and molybdenum in Taranaki soils interfere with cows' ability to absorb **copper** - most notably in the Ngaere swamp area but also elsewhere. On these farms blood, or preferably liver, samples are needed to show levels in the animals..
Many New Zealand soils are **cobalt** deficient to some degree. Blood and liver vitamin B12 levels are directly related to cobalt status.
2. If you have specific health problems.
Some health problems can be caused, or made worse, by trace element deficiency. **Zinc** is required for a healthy skin and a strong immune system, deficiency can cause increased lameness and high somatic cell counts. **Iodine** is required for a strong response to cold and stress, vigor in newborn calves and expression of oestrus behaviour in cows. **Calcium, magnesium** and **phosphorus deficiencies** or imbalance cause problems with milk fever and grass staggers. **Selenium** deficiency reduces fertility and can increase the number of cows with retained foetal membranes. **Copper** deficiency leads to anaemia (thin blood which carries less oxygen) which affects all the body organs. **Cobalt** deficiency reduces appetite.and causes anaemia too.
3. If your cows are not yielding as expected.
As well as trace element status, blood tests can also tell us a lot about the energy status of the herd and the balance between energy and protein in their diet. **B-OHB** levels tell us about energy status and **blood urea** reflects protein intake.
4. Peace of mind.
Blood testing a cross section of the herd 4-6 weeks out from mating can reassure you that your cows are well set up going into mating and give you time to correct any imbalances or deficiencies before mating starts.
A week into the second round of AB is no time to discover a problem!

What does it cost?



Depends how many tests you do. We usually bleed ten animals. The core tests are magnesium, copper and selenium. Cobalt/B12 and iodine are cheap to supplement and pretty safe too so it may be cheaper to supplement them than to test for them.
To get the best value for money, discuss with your vet which tests should be done to answer the questions or concerns you have about your herd.

Which cows?
The test results are only as good as the cow selection and this is where things can go wrong. The closer the sampled group is to a true cross section of the herd, the truer the results will be. If the sampled group are all fat six year olds, the test results are likely to be better than the herd really is. If the sampled group are all scungy heifers, the results are likely to be worse than the herd really is. The sampled group should have the same age structure as the herd and the same range of condition. They should all be calved more than three weeks. Holdovers and sick animals are not suitable.
Results
The lab usually takes about 6 working days to do the tests. You should receive a phone call from your vet within 7 working days of sampling. You should receive a written interpretation and copies of the lab results within 14 days of sampling.

Nutritech Vettrace 4 & 5

Nutritech Vettrace products have been specifically designed for our dairy cows, to help supplement those trace elements important for production, reproduction and immunity.

Purchase Vettrace October - December & go in the draw for a Stihl Chainsaw & Weedeater

Nutritech provide Eltham Vets with two trace element products that can be used to help improve trace mineral status during mating. These include:

Vet Trace 4: Iodine (10mg), Selenium (5mg), Cobalt (10mg), Organic Zinc (360mg)
Vet Trace 5: Iodine (10mg), Selenium (5mg), Cobalt (10mg), Organic Zinc (360mg), Organic Copper (125mg)

Chat to Daniel, John or your vet for more information.

Multimin Pre-Mating

A successful mating period is all about preparation and most farmers are conscious of the need to have the herd on a rising plane of nutrition and intervening to treat non-cyclers and cows with endometritis before mating. What is sometimes forgotten in the rush to get everything right in this period is the trace element status of the cow, which can have as much of an effect as anything else.

Calving and early lactation are times of great stress for the cow (and farmer of course), and the result is often more animals suffering from diseases such as mastitis, endometritis and lameness. The immune system has to work harder when under stress, and there is a higher demand for the trace elements that are an essential part of the immune response – primarily copper, zinc, selenium and manganese. Add to this the loss of nutrients through increasing milk production, and the result is that cows often exit early lactation with significantly less of these critical trace elements than they had before calving.

There is also an increased need for trace elements during mating. Manganese is now recognised as hugely important for producing a healthy egg to ovulate, zinc is essential to build the lining of the uterus for this egg to implant into, and selenium has a role in fertilisation of the egg, as well as ensuring the survival of the embryo in the early stages.

Many cows and herds enter the period when they most need trace elements at a time when their resources may actually be running low after calving. To optimise the chances of a successful mating, trace elements often need to be supplemented beforehand. While it's obvious that intervention is needed if tests show a deficiency, local research has also shown the benefit of supplementing trace elements prior to mating even when levels are within the normal range prior to treatment.

In 2007, a study conducted in New Zealand in over 2000 cows across 6 herds investigated the effects of injecting with Multimin (containing copper, selenium, zinc and manganese) four weeks prior to mating. Supplemented cows got in calf over 3 days earlier on average, lost less pregnancies and had 3.3% higher pregnancy rates overall.

Getting the trace element status of your herd right prior to mating should be a priority for all farmers. Oral supplementation through water or feed will often do part of the job, but an injection before the high demand of cycling and early pregnancy will optimise the chances of each cow holding in calf.

Talk to your vet about using Multimin in your herd – the effects could be greater than you expect.

BVD SUMMARY

BVD is estimated to cost the average 400-cow NZ dairy herd about $18,000 per year. Every year, we see at least a couple of herds with new introductions of BVD – with 8 newly infected herds in the worst season. Many of those herds thought of themselves as closed herds. Keeping BVD out is pretty easy though.

If you want to keep BVD out of your herd you need to either vaccinate the herd or test replacement calves every year.

Either way, you still need to vaccinate your bulls and test any incoming stock (bulls or bought cows).

If you follow those simple rules, you should be fine, and if everyone followed those simple rules, we'd eradicate BVD from NZ!

If you'd like to start testing your calves, you can contact LIC and do the ear-notching yourself (same as for DNA), or we can test calves at the same time we disbud.

If you'd like to vaccinate your herd which is the other main linchpin of BVD control, about 4 weeks before the start of mating is the ideal time for the boosters.

Calves and heifers can also suffer from BVD, and unless you can arrange a BVD free grazing situation (where all animals have been tested BVD negative), vaccination is the main control measure.

Calves can get quite sick if exposed to BVD and can have reduced growth rates, and heifers can turn up empty, or have deformed calves because of BVD. **If you're already vaccinating your calves, it usually makes sense to boost them as heifers before the start of mating.**

Remember that the core of BVD control is either testing replacement calves or vaccinating the herd each year and the research shows a good return on investment. We recommend that you choose one and get started.

It's much better to put a plan in place before you have an outbreak!

Covexin 10 may be the answer to reducing the number of unexplained deaths on your farm

Sporadic deaths of cattle are common. Finding a valuable replacement heifer dead in a paddock is disheartening but often just prompts the statement "oh well… where there's livestock there's dead stock" and then things move on. However, many of these deaths can be prevented, avoiding significant losses.

What is 'Sudden Death Syndrome'?

Sudden death syndrome describes deaths that occur due to toxins released by clostridial bacteria growing in the gut. This is often seen in fast growing animals on high quality pasture but can be seen at any time. Another risk is heifers consuming dirt or mud while grazing (clostridia form their spores in the soil). These deaths have been reported even in animals that have been vaccinated. The reason for this is that there are clostridial organisms present in New Zealand associated with Sudden Death that are not covered by "traditional" 5 in 1 vaccines (notably *Clostridium sordellii* and *C. perfringens* Type A).

What can I do about it?

Vaccinate with Covexin 10 which provides protection for the 10 most relevant key clostridial pathogens. The vaccine protects against organisms that cause the "traditional" clostridial diseases such as pulpy kidney, tetanus and blackleg as well as a further five clostridial organisms.

When should I vaccinate?

Two shots a month apart are required for calves, followed with an annual booster. As Covexin 10 can be given any time from 2 weeks of age, an ideal time to start the programme is when de-budding calves at 4-6 weeks. A booster can be given 4 to 6 weeks later. A booster shot a year later will provide protection through to calving.

Superior protection against ALL clostridial diseases.

If you're proud of your stock, only the best protection will do.

That's why we use this vaccine for our traditional "Blackleg" vaccinations.

HEIFERS are due for their pre-mating **BVD Bovilis booster vaccination NOW.** Please phone to book or discuss.

Lost & Found

A teenager lost a contact lens while playing basketball in the driveway.

After a brief, fruitless search he gave up. His mother took up the cause & within minutes had found the lens.

"How did you manage that?" asked the teenager

"We weren't looking for the same thing" she explained

"You were looking for a small piece of plastic. I was looking for $300".