

HEIFER SYNCHRONY

Page 2

CALF REARER OF THE YEAR

Page 3

PARASITE CONTROL

Page 4

PRE-MATING

Page 5

POST CALVING DISEASE

Page 6

REPRODUCTIVE PERFORMANCE

Page 7

SPRING MASTITIS

Page 8



It's been a rough, wet Spring, so to support our farmers during one of the busiest times of the year we've distributed calving care packs, which have been well received and appreciated by our farmers and their teams.

Pictured happily receiving his pack of goodies from Vet Tristan is farm manager Colm McMahon.

24hr/7day emergency care available by phoning 03 313 7438

Cnr Lehmans & Oxford Rds, (181 Lehmans Rd), Rangiora
www.rangioravetcentre.co.nz Em: rangvet@rangvet.co.nz

Heifer synchrony

Farmers synchronising heifers with the Co-Synch program have tighter calving patterns and superior reproductive performance and profitability.

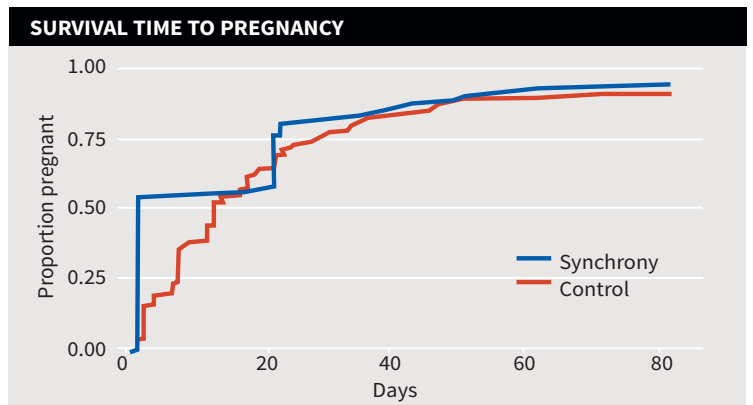
Why synchronise heifers?

<p>3% more heifers pregnant</p> 	<p>11 more days in milk</p> 	<p>13kg more milk solids</p> 	<p>11 more days to recover between calving & mating</p>	<p>less wastage as 3 year old cows</p> 	<p>tighter calving spread simpler to manage</p> 	<p>more AB heifer calves faster genetic gain</p> 
--	--	---	--	---	---	--

Superior performance

A large-scale, NZ 2-year research study confirmed that heifers synchronised with the Co-Synch program in their first mating had fewer empty heifers and earlier conception.

The heifers will be monitored through 2021 calving and mating periods to determine any effect of synchrony on 6 week in-calf rate and other reproductive benefits.



A separate NZ case study demonstrated heifers that were synchronised in their first mating period had a tight calving spread, and better reproductive outcomes during the next mating period as first-lactation cows.

Superior profitability

Heifers synchronised with the superior Co-Synch program will result in an extra \$55 profit based on data from the first year of the study.

Ask your RVC vet for the Co-Synch program

DIB Co-Synch program timer





The aim of this award is to put calf rearers in the limelight and give them the appreciation and acknowledgement of the fantastic job they do during the busiest time of the season!

NOMINATION GUIDELINES:

- **Nominate** AND **give an explanation as to why** the calf rearer is so awesome. Self-nominations are allowed and welcomed!
- **Judging** is done after nominations have been considered and on-farm social visits have been conducted.
- **The awards ceremony** will be held next year, alongside our annual calf rearing seminar.

We hope you all have a smooth and successful calf rearing season. We know sometimes things don't go quite to plan, that's okay, we are here to help, do not hesitate to contact us with any concerns you have.

Email your nomination's details, and your reason for your nomination to: largea@rangvet.co.nz by 30/9/22.

Buy two 5L Ivermatrix calf drench and receive a FREE icebreaker merino t-shirt!

An oral triple drench (like Ivermatrix) is the gold standard recommendation for gastrointestinal parasitism in calves. Ivermatrix contains ivermectin instead of abamectin, which is much safer for calves under 120kg due to its better safety margin. Parasitism is one of the most common, if not the most common reason of ill thrift in youngstock.

The best time to start drenching for calves is around weaning; depending on your individual farm situation and history you can bring this forward or extend the first drench date a few weeks.





TURBO[®] INITIAL

A world first anthelmintic-anticoccidial combination for cattle, containing eprinomectin, levamisole and diclazuril with selenium and cobalt.

Turbo Initial is an oral drench to be used as the first treatment in the Turbo parasite control programme. It is designed for the transition period after a calf has been weaned off meal and on to pasture as its sole source of nutrition. Due to stress and undeveloped immunity during this period animals are very susceptible to parasitism from both gastrointestinal parasites and coccidiosis. In most cases calves will have been weaned off a meal containing a coccidiostat. The removal of the coccidiostat can result in a growth check while the animal's immunity to coccidia infection is developing.

A treatment with Turbo Initial after weaning results in highly effective control of gastrointestinal roundworms and lungworm. It also helps treat coccidiosis and reduces pasture infection by coccidia oocysts. It bridges the gap between the removal of a coccidiostat in meal and the development of natural immunity to coccidia infection.

New Zealand studies with Turbo Initial show the product is highly effective at controlling gastrointestinal roundworms and lungworms with efficacy levels over 98% against all species tested. The product also aids in the treatment of coccidiosis. New Zealand studies show that a treatment with Turbo Initial

will significantly reduce oocyst shedding in calves for up to 70 days after treatment. This results in reduced environmental contamination and therefore less coccidia challenge in treated animals.

Indications: For the effective treatment and control of susceptible strains of the following species of gastrointestinal parasites and lungworm:

Gastrointestinal nematodes: For the treatment and control of the following mature and immature gastrointestinal parasites (*includes inhibited fourth stage larvae):

Barbers pole worm (*Haemonchus contortus*), Stomach hair worm (*Trichostrongylus axei*), Small brown stomach worm* (*Ostertagia ostertagi*), Small intestinal worm (*Cooperia oncophora*), Thread-necked intestinal worms (*Nematodirus helvetianus*, *Nematodirus spathiger*), Intestinal threadworm (*Strongyloides papillosus*), Cattle hookworm (*Bunostomum phlebotomum*), Nodule worm (*Oesophagostomum radiatum*), Large-mouthed bowel worm - adults (*Chabertia spp.*), Whipworm - adults (*Trichuris spp.*).

Lungworm: *Dictyocaulus viviparus*

Coccidia: Aids in the control of coccidiosis and in reducing oocyst shedding in calves infected with susceptible strains of the coccidia: *Eimeria bovis* and/or *Eimeria zuernii*.

Turbo Initial is recommended for use only where veterinary diagnosis has identified calves are infected with both internal parasites and coccidia. Administer once as a single oral treatment.

The presence of worm parasites and coccidia in the herd should be confirmed by farm history, faecal sampling and laboratory testing.

PRODUCT BENEFITS:

- World first dual active anthelmintic with the addition of an anticoccidial.
- Treats roundworm infections and lungworm as well as aids in the control of coccidiosis in one convenient dose.
- Includes supplemental source of cobalt and selenium
- Effective against resistant worm strains, including those resistant to both macrocyclic lactones and levamisole.
- More effective at delaying worm parasite resistance than single active products
- Helps to control coccidiosis by removing the parasites already present in the gut and reducing environmental contamination by limiting oocyst excretion. In New Zealand studies oocyst excretion was significantly reduced for up to 70 days after treatment when compared to untreated controls.
- Does not interfere with the normal development of immunity by the calf to coccidiosis⁽¹⁾
- High safety margin. Unlike oral combination drenches containing abamectin, Turbo Initial can be used in calves less than 120kg live weight.
- Developed for New Zealand conditions by a New Zealand owned company.



TURBO[®] CATTLE DRENCH PROGRAMME

STAGE 1
TURBO[®] Initial
Oral Drench

STAGE 2
TURBO[®] Advance
Oral Drench

STAGE 3
TURBO[®] Pour On
or Injection

PRE-MATING CHECKLIST

Are you prepared?

- Tailpaint on 35 days before planned start of mating
- Metricheck: All cows should be checked 8 to 28 days post calving.
- Trace element check – we can check essential trace element levels at our first Metricheck visit. Avoid treating cows with injectable copper in the month leading up to mating.
- Body condition score herd to identify cows that need to be in a TLC mob with heifers
- Heifers and lighter BCS cows may benefit from a drench. Lincoln University dairy farm trial work showed that heifers drenched pre-mating with Eprinex conceived 13 days earlier than untreated heifers!
- Non cycling cows need to be treated 10 days before planned start of mating to maximise economic benefit
- Bulls – got enough? Estimate from last season's mating performance how many cows are likely to be 'open' when the bulls go out and apply a ratio of 1 bull: 30 open cows. Double this number to allow rotation of bull teams every second day.
- Bulls – make sure they are blood tested for BVD, vaccinated for leptospirosis and BVD (with the booster injection given 4 weeks prior to going out with the cows) and have had a basic physical examination.
- R2 heifers – start mating 10 days earlier than milking herd. BVD vaccinations need to be completed with the booster injection given 4 weeks prior to mating.

PRE-MATING HEATS



Just a reminder about pre-mating heats – get that tail paint on 35 days before the planned start of mating (PSM) e.g. 18th September if 23rd Oct PSM. Late calvers can get a different colour applied as and when they calve.

Check tail paint at least twice weekly for rubs until PSM, repainting rubbed cows with a third colour. It seems like an extra job at a busy time of year, but this system can let you know early how many cows are cycling and is essential for knowing how many non-cyclers you have and treating them early.

METRICHECKING /CURING



At this busy time of year, just a reminder about those later calving cows for metrichecking and curing.

This can be done from two weeks after calving and helps give them the best chance of starting to cycle as early as possible.



Post calving disease focus - LDA's

Every year post calving we see cows with twisted stomachs (the fourth stomach, or abomasum, twists to the left or right). LDAs (left displaced abomasum) are the most common. Cattle are especially prone to LDA's within 2-6 weeks post calving.

Some risk factors are: poor transition management, diseases post calving such as retained membranes/ metritis, room created in the abdomen after calving, genetic factors (e.g. Holsteins) and over conditioned cows coming into calving. As you can see, several of these can be prevented.

The signs of an abomasum displacement are

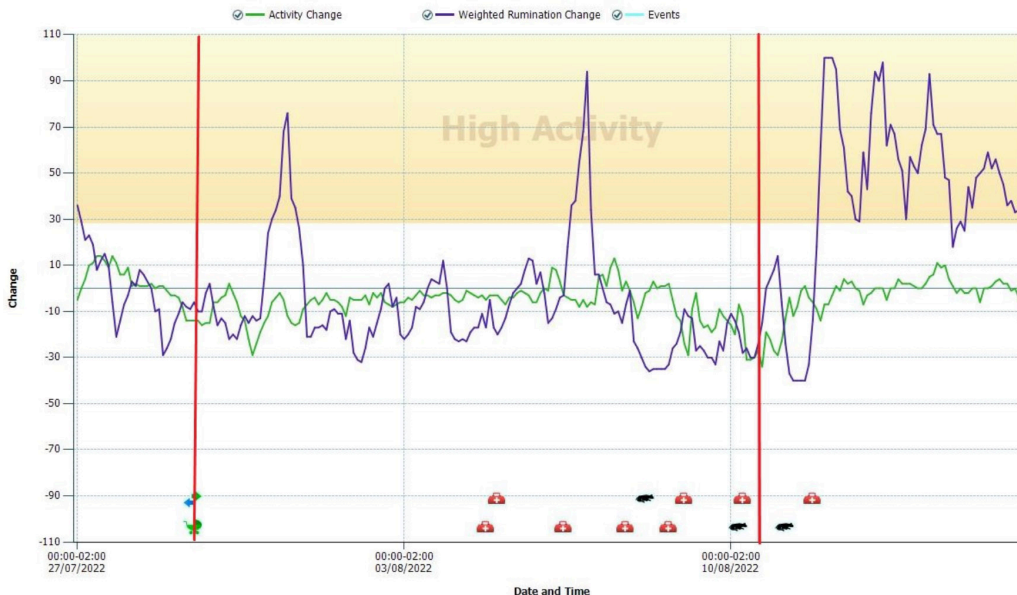
- a decrease in milk yield (often sudden)
- drop in rumination (often sudden)
- drop in activity
- dehydration
- "off colour"

And at least half have another disease as well.

In the past the most common sign was a sudden drop in milk production, which has been typical difficult to diagnose in large NZ herds.

But with the increasing use of collars in these herds, alerts based off a drop in activity and rumination after calving are becoming an easy way to select cows with suspected abomasum displacement.

The following is a case in point:



This cow calved on the 30th of July (first red line) and since calving showed decreased activity (green line) and reduced rumination (purple line).

The first collar alerts (red cross) began on the 4th of August with severe alerts starting on the 7th of August (cow lying down).

A routine visit on the 10th of August diagnosed the cow with a left abomasum displacement. This is done by listening to the left flank of the cow with a stethoscope whilst flicking the same flank. A "ping" is heard from the excess gas in the twisted stomach.

Surgery was performed on the same day (second red line). After surgery we can see the increase in both rumination and cow activity.

This cow is still in the herd performing well. In general, if caught early these cows return to milk production and have no long-term effects.

This is a way in which collar data in combination with veterinarian intervention can lead to improved disease detection and cure.

So...if you have any cows that have had a sudden milk drop, are just a bit "off or your collars throwing out alerts" give us a ring and we'll look for a "ping"!

Looking to inject that extra edge in reproductive performance?

By John Spearpoint

Many farmers already have good trace mineral programs but there are times when the requirements for trace elements rapidly increases. And even when herds are well-supplemented, cows can slip into a slight deficiency during periods of high demand. Stressful events such as early lactation and mating lead to high demand, so supplementing trace minerals prior to these events allows levels to be maintained.

Roles of trace minerals in reproduction

The reproductive system uses many trace elements. For example, manganese protects the developing egg within the ovary, zinc aids in the maintenance of a healthy uterine lining, selenium is important to protect the growing embryo and plays an important antioxidant role, whilst copper is an essential component in functioning enzymes to protect cells from damage.

Consequently, any deficiency in copper, selenium, zinc, or manganese can lead to a reduction in fertility.

★ Economic benefits of MULTIMIN supplementation

Extensive research both in NZ and internationally demonstrate the benefits of supplementing with MULTIMIN 3-4 weeks prior to mating, even when blood or liver testing did not identify a deficiency. Supplementing with MULTIMIN gave small but significant gains and gave good returns on investment.

- On average, MULTIMIN treated cows**
- got in calf 3.4 days earlier
 - lost less pregnancies
 - had a 3.3% higher pregnancy rate
 - gave a 4:1 ROI (@\$4 payout)

Interestingly, these studies were conducted in herds that already had good reproductive performance. So if you're wanting to gain that extra edge, a pre-mating MULTIMIN injection may improve 6-week ICR and overall pregnancy rates.

And don't forget the bulls. Injecting bulls 12 weeks prior to joining will improve semen quality and quantity.

FAQ's

I already use trace mineral supplements (eg. Agvance mineral licks, Dosatron water supplementation, feed mixes) and my blood tests show normal results. Why should I use MULTIMIN?

Oral forms of supplementation are effective for the maintenance of normal activities but absorption through the gut can be slow and intakes can be variable. During periods of high demand, animals tend to have a reduced appetite, resulting in less feed intake and thereby reduced trace mineral intake. Injecting MULTIMIN prior to high demand periods minimizes the effects from lowered oral intakes. View MULTIMIN as a 'top-up' to oral supplementation, rather than a replacement for it.

Should I get bloods taken before supplementing with MULTIMIN?

For herds monitoring trace elements less frequently (ie. more than 6 months ago), blood testing prior to supplementation is useful to understand if a deficiency exists and to what extent. MULTIMIN is not designed to treat severe trace mineral deficiencies and



other products may be more suited to address these deficiencies. MULTIMIN is most suited to animals with reasonable-good trace mineral levels.

I gave my herd a selenium injection prior to calving, is it too soon to supplement with MULTIMIN and will it cause toxicity?

The transition from late gestation to early lactation represents one of the biggest challenges for a dairy cow and is associated with high levels of stress and a high demand for trace minerals. With many herds supplementing with a selenium product pre-calving to combat retained foetal membranes, before using MULTIMIN it is worth considering whether the selenium product is likely to be at high levels. Long-acting selenium products such as Selovin LA are designed to provide a sustained effect without causing a sudden spike in blood selenium levels, so supplementing with MULTIMIN represents minimal toxicity risk. Other shorter-acting products containing selenium such as Selovin 5, Vijec B12 + Se, and MULTIMIN are quickly absorbed and result in a sudden spike in selenium that is short lived. Using these products closely together (within a few days) is not advisable but considering the time interval between a pre-calving selenium injection and a pre-mating MULTIMIN injection, the spike following the initial selenium injection would be largely worn off, so there is minimal toxicity risk if followed by a MULTIMIN injection. Selenium fertilizer and prills will also cause a spike for about 1-2 months so avoid doubling up with MULTIMIN if fertilizer application has been recent. Various research studies on MULTIMIN also highlight the low risk associated with using MULTIMIN as many of these studies were conducted on animals already with high selenium levels.

How long does MULTIMIN last?

This depends on the current trace mineral status of the individual animal and their level of demand. Animals which have a greater requirement for trace minerals will use them up faster than animals with a lower requirement who will store the trace minerals for later use. I would typically advise up to 6 weeks persistence in animals with good trace mineral levels prior to supplementation.

How to use MULTIMIN: ★

Timing of supplementation

3-4 weeks prior to mating

Dosage

Yearlings (1-2 years) 1 mL/75kg, under the skin
Adult cattle (>2 years) 1 mL/100kg, under the skin

Withholding period

Nil meat & milk

Contraindications

Do not use MULTIMIN with other forms of copper supplementation or selenium fertilizer.
Do not exceed the stated dose.
Do not administer to animals with BCS <3/10.

Spring Mastitis

It's been a wet, muddy spring but we are finally starting to see a bit of sunshine grace the earth as the final few calves drop. It's too soon to say the agricultural silly season is over, but now is a good time to recap how the season has gone thus far and particularly to assess how effective your dry off regime and calving practices have been in keeping early mastitis cases down.

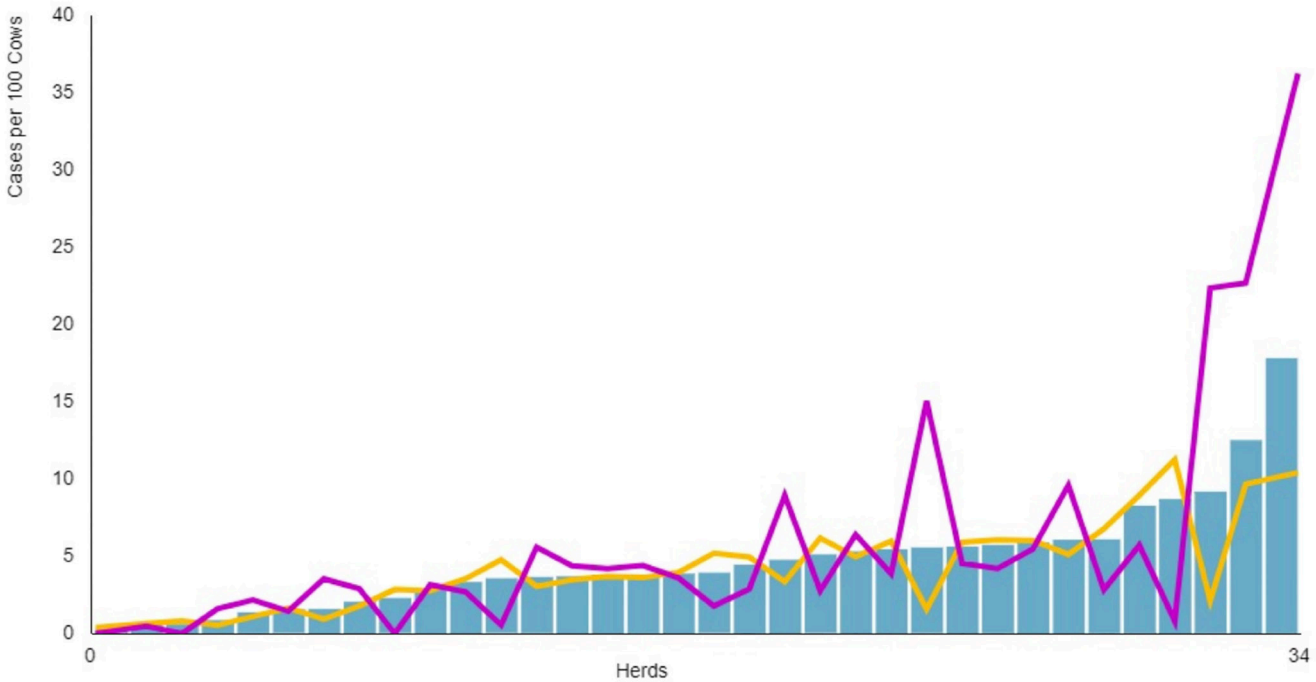
There has been a real range of results this season.

Below is a graph of the percentage of clinical mastitis cases in the first 30 days after calving.

- Heifers
- Mixed age cows
- Herd

Calving: -7 to +30 days / 2022

This graph is produced from data from our clients that use infovet and enter their cases into Minda.



Mastatest Machines

At the beginning of the season we set up several clients with mastatest machines for rapid on farm diagnosis of mastitis. These compact boxes can take up to 4 samples at once and accurately diagnose mastitis pathogens in 24 hours. Significantly faster than standard culture techniques which can take 3 days or more from the day of sampling. Results are sent straight to your phone, along with treatment recommendations devised by your vet. This ensures rapid effective treatment of mastitis cases, getting milk back in the vat sooner, saving you time and money, and reducing the use of ineffective antibiotic treatments.

The feedback we have had on these machines has been great. They are easy to use, low maintenance and an accurate guide for choosing the correct treatment first time. If you're frustrated with slow results and repeat treatments or simply would like more confidence with treating mastitis give us a call to see if mastatest is right for your farm.

