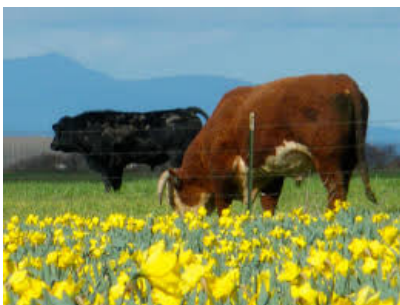


Daffodils are not the only things emerging this Spring

As we start to welcome Spring and warmer weather, so too do the parasites that have been hibernating in the guts of your calves over the winter. We still don't know the cues that worms use to know when to awake but we do know that they start emerging from the stomach lining at about this time of



year causing gut damage, in appetite and poorer growth rates. The stomach worm, *Ostertagia*, causes the most gut damage, but in calves under 15-18 months of age a mixed infection with *Cooperia* also is highly likely.

Once the parasites emerge from hibernation within the gut they start mating and producing eggs. These eggs exit the calf in the dung where they hatch into larvae and, over time, can heavily contaminate your pasture. It's a tactical move to drench calves early in the season in order to kill these hibernated worms and therefore prevent heavy contamination of your pasture. There will be larvae on the pasture from the previous season that has survived the winter that, unfortunately, you can't do anything about and regular drenching throughout the season is usually necessary. Never drench a mob and move them to a new paddock. There will always be a few worms that survive a drench and produce larvae that contain this survival gene – you don't want a new pasture full of these. The old pasture will still have



larvae on it that don't contain this gene, so leave your calves on here for a few days to mix up the gene pool before you move them on.

When worms start emerging from the gut lining, the calf's own immune system works hard to try to eliminate the parasite from the gut. Parasites have been evolving for millions

of years to live in this environment and so they are good at evading the body's attack. The immune system has to work hard and long and, in order for the immune system to function properly, it requires protein and energy. If feed is tight and the animal requires protein and energy to grow, as well as to mount an immune response, growth rates can suffer. Don't forget that you're aiming for your calves to be 60% of their adult body weight at 15 months of age (mating). Calves that hit these targets have greater longevity in the herd, produce more milk in their first two lactations and are more likely to conceive. Being free from disease (BVD/worms etc.), having adequate copper, selenium and B12 and, most importantly, good quality feed means a healthier, productive future herd.

Merial Ancare Spring Sheep Promotion

QUALIFYING PRODUCTS for the POWERBUILT 8-in-2 Ratchet Spanner Set:

ARREST® 2x 20L
ARREST® Hi-Min 2x 20L
EXODUS® Se 20L
FIRST® Hi-Min 20L
GENESIS® Hi-Min 2x 20L
GENESIS® Ultra Hi-Min 20L
SWITCH® 20L
SWITCH® Hi-Min 20L or 50L
MATRIX® 20L
MATRIX® Hi-Min 2x 10L
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Offer applies to qualifying purchases only. While stocks last. Promotion runs 1st August - 28th October 2015.

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Calf Vaccinations

All dairy calves need their first Leptospirosis vaccination NOW. In addition to Leptospirosis it is important to give them their first 5 in 1 vaccination to protect them against Blackleg & Tetanus.

All these important diseases can be protected against with a single shot 7 in 1 vaccination. This vaccine can be given at the same time as dehorning of the calves.

Vaccines only protect against infection, they do not treat it or clear it up after the animal has been infected. This is really important for Leptospirosis in cattle, as the animals do not get sick, so you can not tell that they have been infected. However, an infected cow sheds Leptospirosis for years putting your family & staff at risk.

Vaccination at a young age followed by a booster a month later is a very important part of a Leptospirosis protection programme.

BVD vaccine can start at 4 months of age with a booster a month later. This will protect against Catarrha and BVD for a year.

All vaccines need a yearly booster EXCEPT for the 5 in 1 in cattle.



Merial Ancare Spring Cattle Promotion

Make sure you've got the right tools for the job. Treat with Merial Ancare to keep your stock at their best and we'll throw in these professional-grade Powerbuilt tools to help keep everything else at its best.

QUALIFYING PRODUCTS for the POWERBUILT 8-in-2 Ratchet Spanner Set:

EPRINEX® Pour-on 2.5L

GENESIS® Pour-on 2.5L

MATRIX® C 10L

QUALIFYING PRODUCTS for the POWERBUILT 23-Piece Socket Set:

ECLIPSE® E Injection Herdpack 4x 500mL

ECLIPSE® Pour-on 2.5L or 5L

EXODUS® Pour-on 20L

GENESIS® Injection B12 & Se 2x 500mL

GENESIS® Injection 2x 500mL

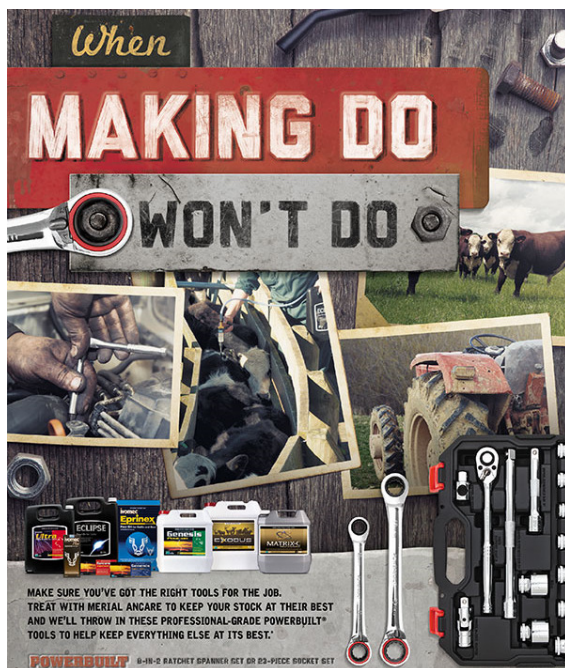
GENESIS® Pour-on 5L or 10L

GENESIS® Ultra Pour-on 5L

IVOMECH® Plus Injection

2x 500mL MATRIX® C 20L

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