

**NZ MINIATURE HERFORD
BREEDERS GROUP
NEWSLETTER
SUMMER 2012**
(JAN.FEB.MARCH)



Hi All,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your farms all well. Although it has been a wet Summer it has been a good season for growing grass and the stock are all looking great. Silage all in and now getting ready for Autumn. I hope you all escaped from damage with all this bad weather that just hit recently. Luckily it didn't last long.

2012 - AGM Meeting

The committee has set a date for this years AGM. Venue is to be confirmed later.

Weekend of 23rd 24th June 2012

So mark this on your calendar !

At last years AGM Meeting it was discussed that we might hold this years meeting in the South Island if we could get any interest from South Island members to help organize the event. So far we haven't had any takers on this. So now is the time to put your hand up if you would like to help!

Alternatively the committee are very happy to continue to use the NZHA facilities in Fielding (we will need to book this shortly). As members of the NZHA we are able to use these top conference facilities at no charge and it is reasonably central for members and guest speakers to get to.

We are open to suggestion though so please do contact us with any alternatives.



The committee will be meeting shortly to organize guest speakers and format. We need any info or ideas/topics for discussion in the next couple of weeks please.

You can email any ideas/suggestions the committee....

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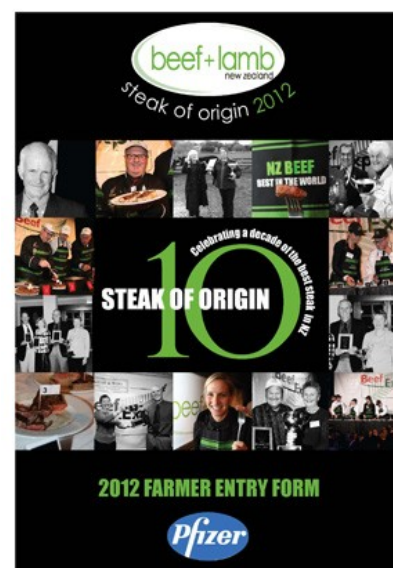
gayeandjohn@xtra.co.nz

Sharon O'brien

sharonobrien@kinect.co.nz

Lorraine Wallis

haastpark@xtra.co.nz



I hope some of you have entered into the Steak of Origin competition. Entry Deadline is 16th March and stock supply to participating processor by 30th March.

Good Luck!

Trees for fodder and shelter

There are several advantages to growing trees for shelter and fodder. For instance, you can effectively grow another layer of food for your cattle - the first layer is the grass and another layer can be grown metres above the pasture. This “second layer” is free of facial eczema spores and is often the only thing green in a drought. We all know our cattle can be prone to eye cancer and giving them something to shelter under from the bright sun must surely reduce the risk.

There are quite a few trees that can be used for fodder but in this article I will focus on the paulownia tree which I have found to be excellent fodder. The paulownia tree is a native of China and there are 17 listed species. It has been cultivated for at least 2000 years. Trees are grown from southern China where it is quite tropical to as far north as Beijing. The best sites for paulownia in NZ tend to have hot summers, rainfall around 100mm a month, not too much wind, well-drained soil and no frosts between September and April. This does not mean they will not grow in other conditions and there are often microclimates all over the country where trees can grow.



The trees are deciduous with large leaves and a beautiful “fox glove type” flower that smothers the tree in in spring. It is worth growing for the flowers alone, a real show stopper. The wood is very light, almost like balsa wood. I have been told the Japanese Kamikaze aeroplanes in the Second World War were framed with paulownia. The trees can be coppiced - this means they can be cut off at nearly ground level and they will re-sprout, unlike a pine tree for instance which will die. If you do this, growth rate can be spectacular - 3 or more metres in a year.



The leaves can get quite large and are readily eaten by cattle. The leaves have some valuable nutrients with high amounts of calcium - 1.65% of dry weight and 11.68% by dry weight crude protein. This makes them a valuable food source (ref: Forest Research Bulletin 231). The trees have a large extensive root system that is deep and wide so they are drought resistant and don't compete for the grass nutrients. I tend to look at them as being nutrient recyclers. Once the nutrients in the pasture leach down to below grass root levels they are normally lost. The paulownia tree's deep root system is able to capture some of these otherwise lost nutrients and put them back up into its stems and leaves. These nutrients are then returned to the soil surface again either by passing through cattle after they have eaten the leaves, or in autumn when the leaves fall. There are so many leaves in autumn that they can smother your pasture so I always put the cattle in at leaf fall to eat them up. A good way to stave off using your hay.

Propagation is easy and once you have one tree it is very easy to increase your numbers by root cuttings. In early spring before the trees break out dig up some roots that are about the thickness of your thumb or more and cut them off so they are about 100 to 150mm long. Pot them up with the root buried vertically and just the tip of the root breaking the surface. Try to plant them with the part that was nearest the tree to the top. A young shoot or shoots will develop in spring. The tree needs full sun. Once the young tree is about 150mm high transplant it into the ground because the pot will be very quickly out grown. If you are planning on more root cuttings next year plant the young tree in your vegetable garden or somewhere where you can get to it. Next spring you will be able to harvest some more root cuttings.

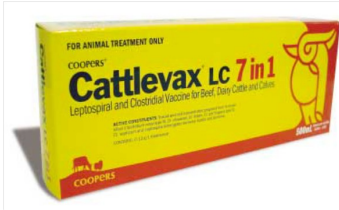


If anyone wants to try some trees next spring feel free to contact me. As long as you are happy to pay the postage I will be quite happy to send you some root cuttings to try.

Graham Hunkin 09 236 9390 hunkin-garden@xnet.co.nz

A word of warning. While cattle will eat most trees not all are safe to eat so **don't experiment** with anything you do not know is okay. Some trees, even a small amount if fed to your minis, yew for example, will kill your cattle very quickly and there is no antidote.

Multine® 5 N 1 & 7 N 1 Vaccines



Vaccinating your stock with 5N1 or 7N1 is often mentioned as a reminder in newsletters. Some of you have asked for a little more information on this subject. Below is some information taken directly from the manufacturers notes on the subject.



PLEASE ASK YOUR VET FOR MORE INFORMATION

CLOSTRIDIAL DISEASES OF SHEEP, CATTLE AND GOATS

Substantial economic losses can be caused by clostridial diseases in sheep, cattle and goats. Eradication of clostridial diseases is not possible and preventative vaccination is the only viable means of control. The widespread adoption of preventative vaccination has reduced the losses associated with clostridial diseases. However, clostridial diseases remain a major threat to animal health, welfare and farm profitability. Clostridial diseases that are important to vaccinate against in Australia & New Zealand include:

- Pulpy Kidney (*Enterotoxaemia*)
- Tetanus
- Blackleg
- Malignant Oedema
- Black Disease

Vaccination with 5N1 will cover the above diseases.

If you use 7N1 vaccine you can also cover for Leptospirosis as well as the above diseases.

CLOSTRIDIAL DISEASE VACCINATION PROGRAMMES

The aim of vaccination is to maintain the immune system in a state of maximum readiness to counter a specific infection. Vaccination is the process of introducing an antigen to the body to stimulate an immune response without causing disease. In order to fully protect cattle, sheep or goats against clostridial diseases, it is essential that animals receive a complete vaccination programme. Two initial clostridial vaccinations (4-6 weeks apart) followed by an annual booster are required to provide adequate immunity and protection from clostridial diseases. The initial clostridial vaccination should ideally be given to calves, lambs or kids at marking time. This is referred to as the priming or sensitising dose and will stimulate an immune response. A period of 2 weeks is required after vaccination before animals acquire a level of protection. Maximum protection is not achieved until the second dose is given. The second vaccination is recommended to be given 4-6 weeks after the first to 'boost' the immune response and this will then result in protection being provided for up to twelve months. **For cows, ewes and does it is recommended that the annual booster be administered 2-3 weeks prior to calving, lambing or kidding respectively. This will protect their offspring until approximately 8-10 weeks of age.** Rams, wethers, bulls, steers or bucks can receive their annual booster at any time that fits in with normal husbandry procedures. For animals that have not previously been vaccinated or for animals whose vaccination history is unknown, it is recommended that these animals receive two initial vaccinations 4-6 weeks apart followed by an annual booster.

7N1 Vaccination - Immunisation is the most practical method of controlling leptospirosis in a cattle herd and helps prevent the possible transmission to humans. Coopers Cattlevac LC 7 in 1* is a vaccine available from Coopers Animal Health for the protection of cattle from Leptospirosis infections caused by *Leptospira interrogans* serovars *hardjo* and *pomona* and minimises shedding of Leptospire. Cattlevac LC 7 in 1 also protects cattle against Enterotoxaemia (Pulpy Kidney), Blackleg, Malignant Oedema, Black Disease and Tetanus. Cattlevac LC 7 in 1 is administered subcutaneously as a 4 mL dose to cattle. A single dose of Cattlevac LC 7 in 1 will stimulate the production of protective antibodies in beef, dairy cattle and calves. A period of two weeks is required after vaccination before animals acquire a level of protection. Maximum protection is not achieved until the second booster dose is given 4-6 weeks after the first, followed by an annual booster. It is recommended that the annual booster to pregnant cows be administered 2-3 weeks prior to calving to ensure maternal antibodies are transferred to the calf.

When should calves be vaccinated?

Cattlevac LC 7 in 1 is recommended to be administered to calves 4-6 months of age. Calves which have been born to correctly vaccinated cows and have had access to colostrum will receive maternal antibodies that will provide protection from *Lepto hardjo* and *Lepto pomona* in their first few months of life.

Death due to Clostridial disease. Unnecessary deaths such as these



MINIATURE HEREFORD FEMALES FOR SALE

Below is a list of stock for sale by other members. Please contact them directly or ask Helen for more information and photos of any of these animals.

Unfortunately one of our members is intending to sell his property so is looking for good home for his Miniature Herefords. Contact Paul Arnold - email: paul.arnold@xtra.co.nz to discuss prices...

- **Memories Peggy - 08-0002 (3 yrs) Has had one calf and should be in calf again (not tested yet)**



- **Coats-Arnold Bella - 10-141 (17 mnths)**



- **Awanui Zena 09-949 (Heifer) - DOB 01.12.09**
- **Also 5 x rising yearling heifers to choose from....**
Contact - Elaine Retter - Matamata
awanui@orcon.net.nz - 07/888-4389



NAIT TAGS - From 1st July 2012 the NAIT scheme is set to be mandatory for people in charge of cattle. If you haven't already checked this out and started changing your tagging system please start now. For more information - www.nait.co.nz or ring 0800 624 843

Any information, articles or photos that you would like to put forward for the next Newsletter please email or post to Helen Russell.....thanks

Helen Russell
191 Millar Rd, RD 5,
Rotorua.
Ph: 07/362-8030
Fx: 07/362-8040

- **Esprit Vicky 07-942 - DOB 04.11.07**
- **Esprit Heather 04-601 - DOB 11.01.04**
- **Akatea Lady Victoria 04-018 - DOB 07.10.04**
Contact Debra Hamilton - Feilding
dhamilton@xtra.co.nz - 06/328-5976



- **Esprit Jessy 04-621 - DOB 02.09.04**
Contact - Helen Russell - Rotorua
helen@amberleafarm.co.nz



AUTUMN FERTILISER

Now is the time to be thinking of your Autumn Fertilizer.

- Have your had a soil sample taken in the last few years?
- Ask around, see what product your neighbors are using and what sort of results they have had on their pasture.
- Get some advice from the fertilizer reps.
- Have your thought about natural products?

Think about what is best for your pasture. The more information you have helps you make a better more informed choice.

Don't forget when you are doing DNA samples for your bulls to tick the box for Hypotrichosis - As from June 1st 2012 all males sold for transfer must also be tested for Hypotrichosis.

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MINIATURE HEREFORDS FOR SALE



Below is a list of stock for sale by other members. Please contact them directly or ask Helen for more information and photos of any of these animals.

MINIATURE HEREFORD BULLS FOR SALE

- **Yearling and 2 year old bulls for sale and/or lease**
Contact - John Long - Hawkes Bay - gayandjohn@xtra.co.nz - 06/879-5942
- **Coats-Arnold Bo 11-030 - DOB 04.04.11**
Contact - Paul Arnold - Oamaru - paul.arnold@xtra.co.nz
- **Akatea Lord Jonny 03-011 - DOB 08.09.03**
- **Gladwyn Heights Lennix 10-034 - DOB 04.02.10**
- **Gladwyn Heights Marcus 11-040 - DOB 18.02.11**
Contact - Sharon O'brien - Tauranga - sharonobrien@kinect.co.nz - 07/542-0061
- **Grovenorth Alfie 07-003 - BOB 31.10.07**
Contact - Janet Poole - Northland - riverland27@ubernet.co.nz - 09/439-2420
- **Riverview Zorro 07-020 - DOB 03.09.07**
Contact - Graham Hunkin - Tuakau - hunkin-garden@xnet.co.nz - 09/236-9390
- **Hurworth Henry Tudor 10-0001 - DOB 18.04.10**
Contact - Paul Pritchard - New Plymouth - psprit@clear.net.nz - 06/753-6039
- **Lil Boy 08-119 - BOD 23.08.08**
Contact - Graham Cammell - Clevedon - graham@cammellshoney.co.nz - 09/292-3010
- **Awanui Adam 1054 - DOB 29.08.10**
Awanui Clifford 1056 - DOB 01.09.10
Contact Elaine Retter - Matamata - awanui@orcon.net.nz - 07/888-4389
- **Lorre Bullseye - DOB 10.08.10**
Contact - Debra Hamilton - Feilding - dhamilton@xtra.co.nz - 06/328-5976
- **Sully Alexander 10-004 - DOB 17.11.10**
Sully Bartholomew 10-037 - DOB 10.09.10
Contact - Karen McNab - Greymouth, South Island - kj.awsfarm@y7mail.com - 03/768-9995

