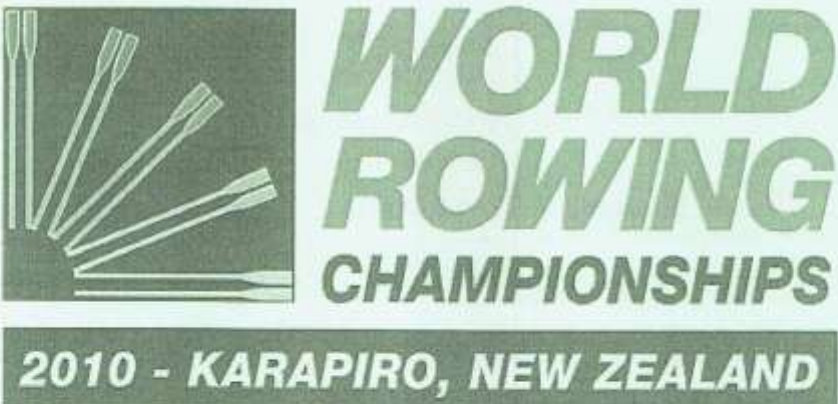


EUREKA EXPRESS

VOL XXXI No. 9 CIRC 285

OCTOBER 2010



**WORLD
ROWING
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

2010 - KARAPIRO, NEW ZEALAND



30 October – 7 November 2010

Eureka Precast Concrete

117 Hooper Road

**Manufacturer of the following
Farm and Small Block Concrete Products**

Palm Kernel Feeding Troughs

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1,000 Litre Oblong Water Troughs

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INNOVATIVE

Guest Editorial

"Borrowed Time"

Last Wednesday I had friendly reminder by Lin Buckley that I had volunteered (??) to write the editorial for this edition of the Eureka Express. I tried to talk my way out of it – Didn't she know that I always work on borrowed time???..... Monday was the dead line.

While thinking of a topic I would like to write about, and after considering all the different topics I had considered it was better that it would be better to be "PC correct" (Politically correct not PC Computer), if you see what I mean.

Sitting at the back of my yacht (www.horizonyachtcharters.co.nz) and tossing around ideas while in my time of escape. Yesterday, Saturday - I had two phone calls, one from a customer who wanted their lawn mower back after closing time, thankfully I was able to give Andrew, my foreman, a call and he was able to attend to it. Later on I had a phone call from Linda Hooper advising me that she had noticed two windows were open at my shop, it was great of her to take the time to call me.

Sorry....., I just got a little distracted right now as a Vampire Jet was out for a Sunday fly and gave us a free aerobatic display – Wow!

Barry Mayall, affectionately known as "Radar", due to his ability to sense when help is needed at various occasions too numerous to name, but not forgotten. These are some of the examples of good staff, client and local support that I have received through the years.

This has brought me back to the topic of caring for one and another. A few weeks ago I growled at two young boys doing press-ups on State Highway 26 at 4pm on a week day, yes you heard right!! I told them off - which was I felt the right thing at the time.

I also often have people asking for directions to private addresses, which legally is wrong to give out but I do screen the requests. I also know that some people don't want people on their property, I then refuse them unless I can contact them first. So the question now is how much of this is political correctness or caring / helping of my local community, which has been my job for 40 years. There have been times when we have preformed various services at no charge, have tried but been unable to meet customers deadline, because I have prioritised work which has not suited them - and have paid for it ever since. So now I wonder how far can you go with "PC" without upsetting people? Is it possible to keep everyone happy all of the time? Serving a local community is not always paid work (ask Gail Mayall & Kerry Clarkin). We are now the only regular public centre / meeting place in the community, open from 7.30am till 6pm on weekdays and Saturday morning (except for long weekends) working and assisting in the community and nearly always running to and giving up a lot of personal time (Borrowed time) to help others.

Without the help of other people in the community, big, small and from my friendly neighbours, customers and staff without whom life would be much more challenging. But foremost a big thank you to all the support from my family, my late father, Maurice and my mother, Lila who has through the years been of major help in many ways, without them my borrowed time would be further in debt. After 12 hours, no fish, one beer, one packet of chips and great tea....

This is it, another community service performed.

Colin Duncan, Eureka Motors



SNIPPETS



DONATION THANKS to Graham Mayall and also to the Tauwhare Indoor Bowling Club.

WELCOME TO EUREKA to Don and Lorraine Milne who are now residing on **Manor Park** having built a new home on their daughter, Sandra Paymani's section. Lorraine and Don hail from Morrinsville and have settled in well in Eureka with family close by. May your stay be long and happy. Phone 824 1910.

FAREWELL TO EUREKA to Angela du Preez and Dave Hall and Angela's sons, Marq and Tyler, who are moving over Raglan way shortly to where they have bought a home on 8 and a half acres. They are really looking forward to their move to be near the seaside but we will miss Angela's smiling face at Eureka Motors. Our best wishes go with you all.



NEWS OF THE TIMMS FAMILY

Things are happening for Graham and Stephanie Timms of Tauwhare Road. Graham has started a new job in Otorohanga managing a large dairy support unit and Stephanie plans to commute meantime but eventually follow Graham to live in Otorohanga, renting out their Eureka home. Son Ben and his partner Julie are busy farming the Atiamuri / Whakamaru area on a Carter Holt dairy conversion farm.

Daughter Rebecca is midway through a Diploma of Veterinary Nursing. When time permits Stephanie and Graham enjoy their two little grandsons who live in Morrinsville. Life is busy but good. All the best.

SPARE PHONEBOOKS

A few copies of the latest Waikato Telephone Directory are available from Newstead Service Centre.

GUY FAWKES REMINDER

Please take care with crackers and be mindful of the animals in our midst. Animals, both large and small, do not enjoy these particular 'celebrations' and can be injured in their terror. There is nowhere to escape to on a lifestyle block...

CALF CLUB CONGRATULATIONS

To all those children who devoted themselves to rearing and caring for a calf, lamb or kid we hope you enjoyed showing them off at your school calf club and group day. You can feel very proud of your efforts. Well done all the prize winners. Always a busy time of year for our country families.

GIANT PUMPKIN UPDATE - The seedlings have been given out for planting. All the best to the growers. Lots of summer fun is in store for the very competitive members of some families. We look forward to seeding the result of your efforts next March.

If by any chance you have not been contacted yet to take delivery of your seeding(s) please phone Gail 8241 758.

Tauwhare School

RD7 Hamilton 3282 New Zealand
E: admin@tauwhare.school.nz
T: 07 854 0864



CALF CLUB

In spite of some inclement weather later in the afternoon we had a very successful Calf Club on Wednesday. The animals looked amazing – in fact the judges felt that the standard this year was particularly high. So well done to all of the children who worked so hard to prepare their pets.

Thank you so much to the PTA for their flawless organization and their beautiful food for the judges who felt very spoilt.



SHADE SAILS

Don't they look absolutely great! Rooms 1,2 and 3 can now see their white boards much better and we have much more shade out the front of the school. A big thank you to John MacEwan Builders who completed all the reinforcing work on the school buildings. (Yes it is all the work you cannot see!)

CAMP

Year 5/6 camp takes place at Camp Raglan the first week of November. They have raised \$8,000 towards the costs of the camp throughout the year. They would like to thank the community for their support in the many fundraising ventures they have held over the year.

The raffle drawn at Calf Club of the BBQ and BBQ Table was won by Morag MacKenzie.

STEP IN

The next Step In day for 4-5 year olds is Wednesday 10th November 2010 in Room 4 from 9.00am – 10.30am.

SHAVINGS FROM CALF SHEDS

If there are any farmers cleaning out their calf sheds the school is wanting to use the shavings for mulch around the trees on the back field. Please phone Sharon Quinn at school or email sharon.quinn@tauwhare.school.nz if you can help.

T-BALL TOURNAMENTS

Coming up we have the cluster schools T-Ball Tournament on Thursday 11 November and then we host the Hamilton Schools Tournament on Thursday 18th November.

SPEECHES

All Year 5/6 children are busy preparing their speeches at the moment. We have the school finals on Friday 19th November.

GROUP DAY

The weather was very kind this time and Tauwhare was represented by a total of 48 entries at Matangi School. Unfortunately we did not win the group Trophy this year but we had a hugely successful day as outlined below.

Calves

Kendall Buckley	1st Leading	Champion Leading	
Emma Wilson	5th Leading	1st Rearing	
Tayah Buckley	2nd Leading	5th Dairy Type	
Hayden Evans	4th Leading	3rd Rearing	4th Dairy Type
Cameron Mayall	1st Rearing	2nd Beef Type	Res Champion Beef Type
Kody Jenkins	4th Rearing		
Ella Silvester	5th Rearing		
Charles King	1st Rearing	1st Beef Type	Champion Beef Type
Danielle Gordon	4th Rearing	4th Dairy Type	
Renee Mayall	5th Rearing	3rd Dairy Type	
Cameron West	4th Rearing	3rd Beef	
Chevy Crowe	2nd Dairy Type		
Daniel Sinclair	3rd Dairy Type		
Joseph Sinclair	4th Dairy Type		
William Sinclair	5th Dairy Type		



Lambs

Lindsay Goulding	1st Most Obvious Pet	Res Champion Most Obvious Pet	
Epernay Carta	2nd Most Obvious Pet		
Mandl Portegys	3rd Most Obvious Pet		
Bridget Hill	1st Most Obvious Pet	1st Leading	
Briar Reid	4th Leading	Champion Most Obvious Pet	2nd Rearing
Amy Gordon	1st Leading	Champion Leading	5th Rearing
Tiana West	4th Leading		
Rory Needham	5th Leading		
Tayla Hill	2nd Rearing		
Georgia Hill	2nd Rearing		

Kids

Samantha Bonnar	2nd Most Obvious Pet	4th Rearing	5th Obstacle Course
Faye McDougall	3rd Most Obvious Pet	3rd Obstacle Course	2nd Rearing
Becky Savage	2nd Most Obvious Pet	4th Rearing	3rd Obstacle Course
Maia Cooney	4th Most Obvious Pet	5th Obstacle Course	3rd Rearing
Elise Savage	5th Most Obvious Pet	1st Obstacle Course	Champion Obstacle Course
	1st Rearing	Champion Rearing	Champion Of Champions Ribbon
Katrina Vink	4th Obstacle Course		





“Tauwhare School Quiz Night”

What a fabulous evening was had by all at the PTA Quiz Night.

The hall was a buzz of laughter, hilarity, concentration and a couple of very memorable moments.

The best dressed team was won by “The Wild Boars” and the best dressed table “The Opp Shoppers”.

The overall Quiz winning team was “The Superheros”.

A special thank you to James Thomas for keeping the evening moving smoothly and entertaining us as MC.

Thank you to the PTA Committee and all who helped to organise a fantastic evening, without you all such a big event could never be possible.

As always our Principal Fiona gave the PTA wonderful support which enabled us to raise \$2,775 to go towards our new School Pool.

We would also like to thank following businesses for their generosity with sponsorship and donations. This enabled us to have 75 spot prizes on the night.

Heathcotes Morrinsville
Lonestar Hamilton
Waikato Valley Chocolates
Maree & Nick Hill
MOTAT Auckland
Imagine If Morrinsville
Paper Plus Morrinsville
Ravensdown
Animal Health Morrinsville

Sportsworld Morrinsville
New World Hillcrest
Whittakers
Paradise Valley Springs Rotorua
Rainbows End Auckland
Marion Rogerson
Liquor King
Hunting & Fishing Hamilton


Thank you again for a wonderful night and we look forward to organising another great evening in the future
Jackie Griffin and the Tauwhare School PTA

MARKET PLACE

For Sale – Office desk 28” x 48” (71cm x 122 cm) and office chairs. Offers. Please phone Gail 8241 758.

Situation Vacant – Office Person. Full time position.
Enquiries to Colin Duncan 8241 773.

Greetings from:



“Newstead Model Country School”

We have begun the new term with a very busy calendar of events and as we steam towards Christmas we can share our activities with you:

AGRICULTURAL DAY

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Paula Kenny, for organising a superb Agricultural Day. Paula spent a considerable amount of time during the last two months preparing for this event. It is because of her interest and dedication to task that we are able to give children the opportunity to nurture and to show animals. As times change and the demographic nature of the district evolves we are still able to maintain our rural identity. This year a lot more children entered animals and we welcomed many visitors. Paula was supported by the School Council in a variety of ways to make it the special occasion it is.

NEWSTEAD AG. DAY CHAMPIONSHIP CUPS

Junior Champion Calf – Trinika Kenny
Champion Leading Calf – Trinika Kenny
Intermediate Champion Calf – Katherine Blackie
Senior Champion Calf – Sarah Wade
Calf Rearing – Sarah Wade
Junior Champion Lamb – Hamish Wilke
Intermediate champion Lamb – Brenna Taylor
Senior Champion Lamb – Thomas Coombes
Senior Champion Goat – Anna Koning
Intermediate Champion Goat – Sasha Neagle
Junior Champion Goat – Mason Reid
Livestock Improvement Ribbon - Olivia Fellows Ford & Eva Davis
Champion Dairy Type Calf – Nicole Wade

GROUP AGRICULTURAL DAY

On Tuesday, Matangi hosted the Country Schools Agricultural Day. This was an opportunity for children to show their animals at an extended competitive level and to enjoy sharing the occasion with those from other schools. Newstead was strongly represented, with a number of children receiving one of the top 5 placings.

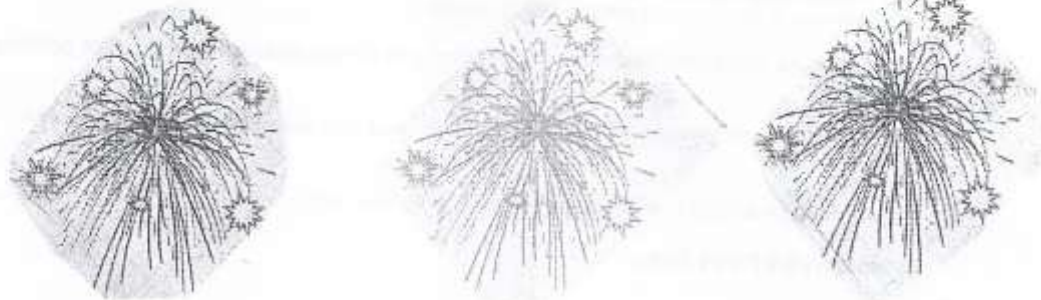
GROUP DAY RESULTS

Leading Calves Junior – 3rd Trinika Kenny, 4th Leigh Woodward
Leading Calves Intermediate – 5th Dylan Kenny
Leading Calves Senior – 1st Corban Pointon, 2nd Patrick Turner, 3rd Tyla Robinson,
5th Alexandra Blackie
Rearing Calves All Breeds Early, Senior – 2nd Sarah Wade
Rearing Calves All Breeds Late, Senior – 2nd Katherine Blackie, 3rd Patrick Turner,
4th Tyla Robinson, 5th Alexandra Blackie
Rearing Junior All Breeds Early - 1st Nicola Wade
Rearing Junior All Breeds Late – 5th Trinika Kenny
Champion Rearing Calves – Nicola Wade
Dairy Type Light Breeds, Early – 2nd Nicola Wade, 3rd Sarah Wade
Dairy Type Heavy Breeds, Late – 1st Patrick Turner, 2nd Daniel Turner,
3rd Katherine Blackie, 5th – Tyla Robinson
Senior Most Obvious Pet – 5th Tayla Nicholson
Senior Rearing – Tayla Nicholson

COMMUNITY NOTICE

Guy Fawkes Night

Friday 5th November at Hamilton Car Club
Competition for the "Best Guy", Movies for the children (until dark)
Refreshments available, light supper will be provided
See you there from 5pm, 116 Vaile Road, Newstead



RAINFALL

	September 2010	Year to 30 th September
Total (mm)	163.5	1079.5
Average (1994-2010)	105	905
Difference	+58.5	+174.5

Rainfall recorded on 24 days.



TAUWHARE INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

With deep sadness we must record the death of Margaret Porter on 3rd October 2010. Margaret joined our club along with husband Eric in 2002. She served on the Match Committee and was always a willing worker and supporter within the club. To Eric, Lockie and families we extend our deepest sympathy.

The Annual General Meeting was attended by 28 members. Officers for 2011 are the same, with the addition of Kevin Williams to the Match Committee. Congratulations to Kevin who won the Points Cup and also the 'Most Improved Player' trophy. Well done Kevin.

The Christmas Tournament was a huge success due to the united effort of all our club members. Thank you for all your raffle and supper contributions and thank you to all those who helped set up the hall and clean up afterwards. Thank you to W & E Sylvester for looking after the scoreboard and supervising the raffle table. To Ian Spencer who organised the visiting teams and Rosalie Arnold who organised the prizes - our grateful thanks to you both.

Results:

Patrons Night 23 September 2010

- Winners J Bargh, Glenda Goodare
- Runners Up D Appleton, D Hughes

Christmas Tournament 7 October 2010

- Winner B Arnold (Taupiri)
- Runner Up R Stewart (Matangi)

Best Performing Tauwhare Team

- I Spencer, E Morris, D Appleton, Grant Goodare



A special thank you to the Tauwhare Transmitter and Eureka Express ladies for the printing of my reports.

To all members and readers - early Seasons Greetings and may all your wishes come to fruition in 2011.

Bowls will begin on the first Thursday evening in March 2011.

Robin Bargh 07 824 1819

EUREKA EXPRESS

ADVERTISING RATES		CONTACTS - Gail or Gayle	
Classified Advertisements	Free	Gail Mayall (Editor)	Gayle Orr (Treasurer)
Small Business Advertisements	\$10 / month	70 Eureka Road	1139 SH26
• x 10 insertions	\$80 / year	Ph 8241 758	R D 6, HAMILTON 3296
One Third Page Advertisement	\$15 / month	Fax 8241 028	Ph 8241 713
• x 10 insertions	\$120 / year	e-mail:	Fax -
One Half Page Advertisement	\$20 / month	editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz	e-mail: sorr@xtra.co.nz
• x 10 insertions	\$160 / year	gailandbarry@slingshot.co.nz	

LADIES BRING A PLATE

ASPARAGUS

Asparagus is a vegetable high in nutritional value and low in calories.

Choose firm Straight spear with a compact Tip.

You can use it; on it's own/as an accompanying vegetable/cooked-roasted microwave or blanched/Raw -in salads /in soups, stirfry's, quiches and casseroles.

To Blanch: Bring a shallow wide pan of salted water to the boil and lay the asparagus spears flat in a single layer. Simmer gently till tender.

To Roast Snap the tough ends of the asparagus. Toss with olive oil and season Arrange in a single layer on a lined baking tray and roast for 10 minutes or until slightly shriveled

DO NOT OVER COOK: Asparagus should be bright green and firm after cooking - Never soft and limp.

Here is an easy hollandaise sauce:

2 egg yolks squeeze of lemon juice 250g butter

Put the egg yolks and lemon juice. Melt the butter in small saucepan and heat until it is close to a simmer. Turn on the food processor and tip the butter on to the yolks and lemon. It's very important to begin very slowly, and increase the rate of the pouring as you go. The moment you have added all the butter turn off the machine. Pour over asparagus and serve.



Asparagus and Cheese Rolls

Party Nibbles

185g tasty cheese
20 slices bread (thin sliced)
125g butter
1 tablespoon chopped parsley
½ teaspoon dill

3 tablespoons slices spring onions
Salt and pepper to taste
20 asparagus spears, cooked
melted butter

- Cut cheese into sticks about 1cm thick and 9cm long.
- Remove crusts from bread and flatten with rolling pin.
- Combine 125g butter, parsley, dill, onion, salt and pepper, and spread this mixture evenly on 1 side of each slice of bread.
- Top each slice with an asparagus spear and cheese stick.
- Roll up and secure with toothpick.
- Place on oven tray and brush with melted butter.
- Grill until golden brown.

Makes 20 rolls.



Sharon Laurent

IN YOUR GARDEN

Now that the weather has become favourable and your ground has been prepared and fertilised, there's nothing stopping you from planting all your favourites

Firstly Tomatoes; very popular in our gardens whether for those summer salad meals or for chutneys, sauces or soups. Plant your tomatoes in well prepared soil outdoors, containers, planter bags or buckets. Give tomatoes a sunny sheltered spot and place your plants at least 50cm apart. Heat loving plants like tomatoes, hate cold showers, so water them well, Preferably when the sun has gone down, and water the soil not the plant, water well so their roots can feel the benefits. Young plants like warm liquid feeds, you can make your own brew in a barrel from seaweed, comfrey, pony poo or worm wee, it's worth mixing with warm water.

Small bush or dwarf tomatoes don't need staking, but the taller varieties need support or something they can be tied to so they don't sprawl all over the place.

Laterals need to be removed. Laterals are the little side shoots that spring from the joints where the main branches emerge, if you don't do this you will end up with far more foliage than fruit. The good news is, that early in the season, laterals can be potted up to get free plants. Poke them into soil and they will root quickly. As the season progresses, remove the lower leaves of your plants to let light in to ripen fruit and increase air flow to prevent fungal problems later in the year.

Dahlia Delight. Some flowers instantly catch the eye and produce that wow factor, whether it is in the garden or as a floral display. One such plant must be the Dahlia. These truly spectacular and beautiful flowering plants originate from Mexico and for summer flowering in the borders or for indoor decorations, they are in a class of their own. Their flowers provide us with a wide range of bright colours, complex shapes, and rich foliage resulting in a stunning combination. Dahlia tubers can be planted now for summer and autumn flowering. Plant them so their necks are 5 - 6cm below the soil, if they're already sprouted, position them so the base of the shoot is just below soil level. Dahlias require rich soil, frequent watering and regular feeding. Beside getting the right colour combinations, be sure to plan correct spacing and allow differences in height growth. Staking supports and tying in of dahlias is very important throughout the season.

Many flowering annuals can be planted now to give you on-going colour throughout summer and into autumn.

Look after your lawns. We picnic on it, chase balls, mowers and dogs cross it, and occasionally we curse it, but grass is still the cheapest and best-looking outdoor floor covering you can use to enhance your house and garden. I won't go into all the details of types of lawns, but if you keep the edges crisp and tidy, and don't mow your lawns too short, they will always look attractive.

It's time to plant that vegie patch. Zucchini, Pumpkin, Cucumber, then plant in fortnightly bursts, Beans, Broad Beans, Peas, Lettuce, Cabbage, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Carrots, Beetroot, Radishes, Sweetcorn. Mound up spuds that you planted early and plant more main crop now.

Feed fruiting plants. Berries and vines need fertiliser too. Rhubarb, Passionfruit love well rotted animal manure, feed Grapes, Raspberries, Strawberries. Citrus trees that have finished fruiting need a pick me up, use a handful of slow-release fertiliser per tree, lightly fork in and water well.

Happy gardening, Jennifer



ASPARAGUS

Aren't we lucky to live in an area where there is grown good quality vegetables, fruits and berries, all about to come into season.

Asparagus is in season now and this delicate and luxurious spring vegetable is a fantastic force in the fight for good health.

Asparagus has many health benefits, is a natural diuretic, encouraging the body to flush out toxins. It's cleansing, anti-inflammatory properties make it useful for easing indigestion, irritable bowel syndrome and rheumatoid arthritis. Asparagus is a good source of folate, beta-carotene, vitamin C and the antioxidant glutathione, which can all lower the risk of heart disease and cancer. It is also rich in the flavonoid rutin, which we need to maintain a healthy circulation and asparagine, a detoxifying amino acid

It has health benefits as a detox and is also known to reduce tummy fat, good for anti-ageing and it is rich in potassium, vitamin A and folate it is also very high in glutathione, an amino acid with potent antioxidant properties.

Joints and bones also benefit from the vitamin K it contains which can also help prevent osteoporosis and osteoarthritis and it also aids in bone repair and formation and repair needed for the synthesis of osteocalcin, the protein in bone tissue on which calcium crystallises.

It contains folate which helps reduce heart disease, birth defects and cancer

Eating asparagus raw gives optimum health benefits, the most tender part of the asparagus is the tips, so steam them gently to preserve the vitamin content.

Asparagus is a member of the lily family and you either love it or hate it.



Cheryl McFarlane

EUREKA FARM DISCUSSION GROUP

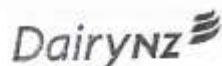
Hi. All good to see the sun out. The boats are heading past my drive, a good sign of summer on the way. Let's hope the summer hasn't started already. Everyone around the neighborhood very busy cropping but things should settle down soon and it will be our boats heading out to the water for some fresh fish and scallops.

Our last group was held at Ian Taylors Farm on Reid road and the topics for discussion were working out how to manage farms that grow 20% less grass than they used to. We also had a speaker from Scott farm who is involved in summer cropping trials. Some of their best results were coming from chicory crops growing up to 16 tonne from October to May of very high quality summer feed. Also grown Lucerne, plantain crops but chicory proved to be the best result. We talked about picking a cropping paddock and only summer cropping a paddock if it is in very poor condition.

We went for a walk around the farm which was a bit short of feed. The cows were getting fed 4 kg's dm in the shed of a pk/broll mix and were 24hour grazing in their paddock. The cows looked good and were producing 1.6kgms/cow. The paddock we were standing in with the cows was grazed to about 1700kg of dm/ha at 1pm and the herd was going back in there for the night as well so residuals were going to be low. We talked about how to get the averaged cover up high enough with cropping land being taken out. Ian was going to follow behind cows with Urea. In some of his more open paddocks they had broad casted some chicory seed to help out summer feed shortages. Ian had already planted some chicory and that was up and had over sown a chicory paddock that was taken through for a second season. This paddock looked very poor with lots of weeds. It was suggested to roundup the paddock and put more seed in to make for a decent crop this summer. Ian was planting some turnips for the summer as well so should have a good summer supply of feed but was pushing things a bit hard at the moment with up to 20% of the farm coming out for crops and was already stocked quite high.

It was a great group with lots learnt so you will have to turn up to get more out of it. The next group is held at The Mace's farm on Waverley road on Tuesday 9th November. If you want any more detail call me on 8241108. Cheers all Brett Gordon





Eureka part of new effluent field days series

A DairyNZ effluent management event, part of a series focusing on quick, effective fixes for effluent irrigation systems, will take place on Eureka Rd on November 30.

Local dairy farmer Philip Mayall will play host at his property (Eureka Rd, Hamilton, SN 76619). The event will start at 10.30am and finish at 12.30pm with lunch provided.

The 22-event series illustrates how dairy farmers can improve their effluent systems for under \$500.

DairyNZ consulting officer for Hamilton North, Phil Irvine, says farmers will learn a lot of tips and tricks that they will be able to put into practice almost immediately.

"Often it's the small changes to irrigator set up, or a few smart purchases, used in conjunction with the bigger improvements such as the upgrade of storage facilities, that can dramatically improve irrigation efficiency," he says.

DairyNZ's environment extension specialist Mike Bramley is running the events.

This year's series has been reworked to build on the success of the practical effluent field days held last season.

"We've been running these days with the local regional councils, Federated Farmers, Fonterra and effluent system suppliers over the past couple of years and the turnouts have been steadily increasing," he says.

DairyNZ revamps website

Extensive farmer research has heavily influenced the new DairyNZ website, www.dairynz.co.nz.



The revamped website is the product of over six months' development by the DairyNZ website team as well as surveys and focus groups with farmers from throughout the country.

The new interactive Farmwatch section features a weekly summary of the on-farm situation observed throughout New Zealand, complete with trend graphics and regional on-farm advice for farmers.

Other new features include an on-line version of DairyNZ's popular Seasonal Diary Poster. The Seasonal Diary section offers advice on everything from feed, animal, staff and environment management by the season.

People can find and register for DairyNZ events and the Publications and Tools section allows visitors to view, download or order from DairyNZ's extensive publications library.

Discussion group

The next Eureka Discussion Group will be held at Brad van Hellemond's property at 51a Waverly Rd, SN 72596 on Tuesday November 9. The day will start at 11am and finish at 1:30pm.

Phil Irvine
DairyNZ Consulting Officer
027 4839820

Trace Element Talk

Sudden Death In Calves

The calves are doing well and suddenly you find one dead in the paddock. What could it have died of? At this time of the year there is quite a list. To name a few, Blackleg, Clostridium, Salmonella, Listeria and Yersinia are bacterial infections. Some are prevented by vaccinating. Another cause could be Thiamine deficiency. Or even bloat or a gut problem could cause sudden death. As you can see, the list can be quite extensive and is by no means complete. It can be worthwhile to have a diagnosis, especially since some diseases are preventable.

Vaccinating Calves

Calves should be vaccinated against clostridial diseases now, especially if you intend to send them away grazing. Normally you would use a 5 in 1 vaccine. The one vaccine protects against 5 different clostridial diseases (such as blackleg and tetanus) Now there is 10 in 1, it's a bit more expensive but protects against 10 different clostridial diseases.

We are also vaccinating calves against Lepto and Blackleg in a combined 7 in 1 vaccine.

Painful Husbandry Procedures

Here is a summary of the legal requirements for Painful Husbandry Procedures, which may affect the timing of certain procedures throughout the year. The minimum standards were brought into affect by the Animal Welfare Code of Welfare 2005. The code states that painful husbandry procedures must not be performed on new born animals less than 12 hours old where handling, pain and post-operative complications are likely to compromise survival through impairing maternal bonding and/or colostrum intake. Regarding specific procedures they say:

Castration

Castration, or shortening of the scrotum, without pain relief, must be performed as early as possible (not less than 12 hours), and not greater than 6 months of age. When castrating or shortening the scrotum of an animal over 6 months of age, pain relief must be used. If high tension bands are used, local anaesthetic (pain relief) must be used at any age.

Dehorning

Dehorning calves without pain relief must be performed when animals are as young as possible (not less than 12 hours old) and not greater than 9 months. If over 9 months of age pain relief must be used.

Tail Docking - Cattle

Full tail docking is no longer permitted. If tail shortening is performed, then it must be limited to the last 2 or 3 vertebrae using a rubber ring applied between joints. It can be left to drop off on its own accord or not less than 7 days after application of the ring, be severed by a sharp implement below where the ring has been applied in such a manner as not to cause discomfort to the animal.

Tail Docking - Sheep

Tail docking without pain relief must be performed as early as possible (not less than 12 hours of age) and not greater than 6 months of age. If over 6 months of age pain relief must be used.



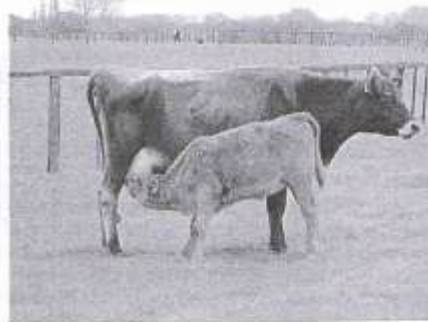
Trace elements are minerals that in small quantities are essential for the normal health and function of animals. The absence or deficiency of these elements can result in ill-thrift or reproductive failure, however when supplied to excess, poisoning can occur. Careful planning and management is the most effective way of preventing deficiencies and ensuring optimal animal performances.

The uptake of trace elements by herbage are influenced by many factors. For instance, sandy soils contain less trace elements than clay soils. Also free drainage soil types generally contain less trace elements than poor drainage. Replacing permanent pasture which contains a rich diversity of plant species with a more or less monoculture of productive grasses reduces the uptake of trace elements from the soil. Reducing soil acidity through application of lime reduces cobalt concentration but increases the molybdenum concentration which in turn reduces the availability of copper to the grazing animal.

So what could a deficiency look like?

Trace element	Common sign of deficiency	Chance
copper (Cu)	lightening of coat colour, depigmentation, poor growth, condition loss, lameness and scours	<input type="checkbox"/>
selenium (Se)	immunity impairment, retained membranes, ovary cysts, embryonic mortality	<input type="checkbox"/>
zinc (Zn)	parchment-like skin, poor growth, bald spots	<input type="checkbox"/>
manganese (Mn)	more bull calves born than heifer calves	—
iron (Fe)	anemia and negative influence on Cu status	—
cobalt (Co)	bad appetite, poor growth, drop in milk production, excessive licking, dull harsh coats, immunity impairment	<input type="checkbox"/>
iodine (I)	goitre, neonatal mortality, weak newborns and drop in milk production	<input type="checkbox"/>

Trace element supplementation when not required is a waste of money and can in fact be harmful. Therefore there is a need to ensure the trace element status of livestock is known by doing blood tests.



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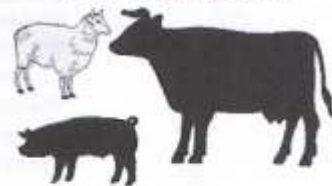
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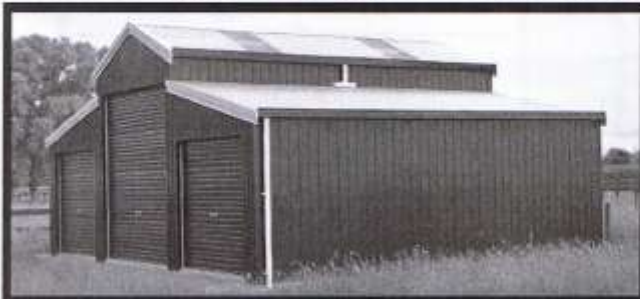
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