

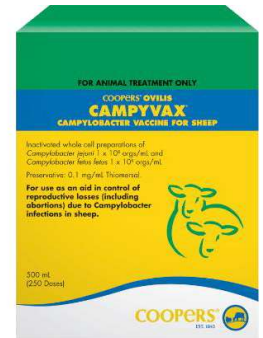
Flocknews April 2024

Are you interested in learning more about *Campylobacter* and the benefits of vaccinating?

Would you like to be involved in the Campaspe Producer Demonstration Group? Frankie has been successful in being selected to hold a Producer Demonstration Site through Agriculture Victoria and MLA and will be looking into the prevalence and benefits of vaccinating maiden/ewe lambs against *Campylobacter* in the Campaspe region. This is a really important topic as *Campylobacter* is an infectious bacterial abortion agent that can lead to ewe reproductive wastage through a series of events including foetal reabsorption and abortions. It has been ranked as Australia's most common isolate for abortigenic pathogens and is therefore contributing to ewe reproductive wastage at a local and national level. Coopers Animal Health currently manufacture a vaccination, 'Ovilis Campyvax.' Frankie has started to form a team of producers but needs more! Do not hesitate to get in touch with Frankie at the clinic to register your interest. We need producers that are interested in being directly involved – core producers as well as 'observers' who will be welcome to be involved in events on others' farms. Subsidies will be provided for vaccinations and laboratory samples. More general information on the program can be found here:

<https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/support-and-resources/funds-grants-programs/on-farm-demonstrations-program>

Otherwise, make sure to call Frankie at the clinic with any questions you have and to register your interest.



The importance of that second booster vaccination for young lambs!

A lot of you have likely already completed lamb marking and are looking ahead to weaning. Make sure not to miss the second vaccination required for the protection against the clostridial diseases. Without this booster dose, the lambs will not be able to build a strong enough immune system when faced with diseases. The graph below shows the immune response improves with time as booster vaccinations are administered – the highlighted yellow section shows the increased immune level of the lamb after its second vaccination. Life gets very busy and this can sometimes be overlooked. However, with more supplementary grain feeding happening due to late season breaks etc this makes this booster even more important. Many diseases can be prevented including 'pulpy kidney', also known as enterotoxaemia. Sheep are most at risk of this when placed on a higher nutritious diet such as clovers, lucerne and grain. Make sure not to forget to give your lambs a booster injection 4-6 weeks after their first dose and to always check the labelled instructions for best use recommendations.



Don't forget about those teaser rams!

Are you joining ewes in the months October – January and would like to shorten your current joining time? Are you wanting to set up for a shorter, tighter lambing season? Your enterprise might benefit from the use of teaser rams! If you are planning on using teasers in the upcoming season, **DO NOT FORGET** to keep some ram lambs back at marking time so that we can schedule a time to vasectomise them in time for next season's use. If you are new to the idea and would like to have a chat to discuss the benefits and considerations, don't hesitate to get in touch.



Frankie performing the surgery on farm

Home made beauties!!

Do you have any home made beauties you would like to share? Feel free to send them through to admin@rochyvet.com.au so that we can feature them in the next edition

Protect your trees in containment yards

There is yet another way to recycle your IBC containers! Sometimes in containment yards sheep can ringbark trees etc and cause a lot of harm to this important shade source. This sturdy design will help keep the sheep out and allow the tree to grow and flourish.



Thanks to Bec Cruise from the Malle region for this great idea!



Please call the clinic to update our system with your email account for future newsletter editions (03) 5484 2255. Do not hesitate to get in touch with Rochy Vets today!