



WANGARATTA VETERINARY CLINIC

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Friendly service and professional care for all.

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Diagnosing BVD

- Antigen testing (PI test) – ear notch to diagnose animals actively persistently infected with BVD
- Antibody testing – blood test, document immunity to BVD from past exposure or vaccination

Herd Level Eradication

Blood testing (antibody) screening individual adult mobs for immune status – if naive to virus on titre test then vaccinate, therefore saving money unnecessarily vaccinating animals already exposed. Any replacement heifers with unknown vaccination history blood test to check for exposure to virus. Any calves that appear unwell, scouring, poor doers, long coated, neurological or deformed should be ear notched (antigen) tested to check they aren't persistently infected.

Establishing Herd Risk Profile

- Collect 5% or a minimum of 6 animals from each adult group. If <80% are immune then vaccinate.

Annual testing of heifers

- > 6months old, comingle for 2months with no new additions. Collect 5% or a minimum of 6 animals for antibody testing. Refer to flow chart for what to do from here.

Pestiguard vaccine

- The recommended dose for cattle of all ages is 2mL.
- Two doses of Pestigard[®] administered 4-6 weeks apart with annual boosters thereafter. Second initial booster dose needs to be at least 2 weeks prior to joining as immunity doesn't develop until at least 14 days after immunisation.
- The first dose of Pestigard[®] may be given up to 6 months before the second dose to suit management practices.
- Safe for pregnant cows.

Recommendations for your herd:

- Vaccinate all young replacement heifers with two boosters (second >2wks before joined)
- Screen - blood test 5% of each adult mob to identify immunity status, if immunity status <80% vaccinate mob if >80% monitor mob.
- Ear notch any unusual looking calves and any mobs that are completely negative for antibody's for BVD.