

Health and Welfare of Farmed Rabbits in Australia... Update

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Calicivirus

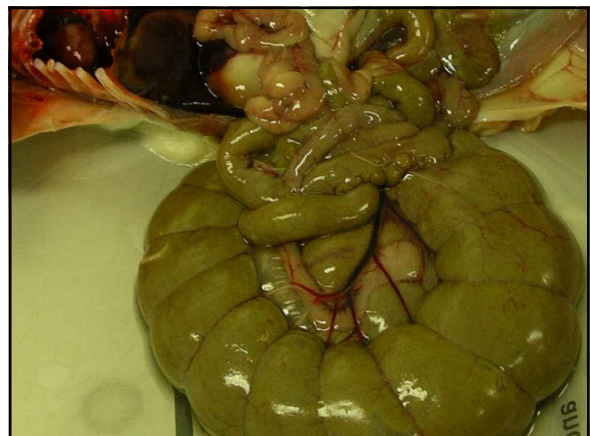
- n Winter outbreaks
- n Less symptoms, pathology
- n Booster 10 months after 1st shot
- n New methods baiting wild rabbits
- n Ongoing problems in growers

Myxo

- n Static situation
- n Wetter seasons

Weaner Scours

- n Not fully understood
- n Feed composition
- n Feed additives
- n Water medication
- n Roughage
- n Management/Environment
- n Vaccine



Heat Stress

- n Season approaching
- n 1st hot days dangerous
- n Cooler climates prone
- n Hot weather plan

Snuffles / Pneumonia

- Larger farms... early treatment/culling
feed medication
vaccination
shed management
artificial insemination
- Smaller farms... early treatment /culling
water medication

Mastitis / Abscesses

- n Declining?
- n Nest Box Powder
- n Gradual Step-up of feed
- n Strategic medication

Sore Hocks

- n Declining?... better husbandry standards
- n Overweight
- n Septicaemia

Ear Mites

- n Ivermectin injection... 0.1 mL, diabetic syringe or vaccine pack, individuals or all breeders
- n Chemical residues
- n Eradication?

Liver Coccidiosis

- n Burning cages
- n Feed medication
- n Persistent on some farms

Young Doe Syndrome

- n Overweight
- n Less intensive mating
- n Feed intake selection to 1st litter
- n Routine weighing?

Feed Rejection

- n Particular loads
- n Off taste?... Medication carryover?
 - ... Cal/Phos?
 - ... weed seeds
- n Replace the load

Supplementary Vitamins?

- n Bucks more active?
- n Does better fertility?
- n Should be enough in feed
- n Injectable or Water soluble
- n ADE , B group, C

Other Impacts of Disease

- n Farmer confidence
- n Animal welfare implications
- n Human health
- n Food safety implications
 - ... chemical residues
 - ... microbiological safety

Reproduction

- n Over-mating young does
- n Restrict feeding of young does
- n Cage ratios
- n Fill shed with working does
- n Folligon in winter
- n Controlled lactation

Animal Welfare Code?

- n FRIA level?
- n Larger farms?
- n Processors?
- n Staff training?
- n Voluntary code... as industry develops