



# Curly Tales



**Edition 12, August 2003**

## **Company Information**

This month we see the Chris Richards and Associates web site up and running. The new site has plenty of information available.

- Weekly product specials
- Services provided
- Disease information
- QA forms
- Newsletters
- Country Vet products
- Material Safety Data Sheets
- Members only pages

Please come and visit us at.....

[www.chrisrichards.com.au](http://www.chrisrichards.com.au)

## **New Semen Evaluation Service**

Chris Richards & Associates have recently released a technique that will allow boar semen on commercial piggeries to be examined for fertility indicators. The Semen Evaluation Laboratory has been utilised by a number of boar studs in the past year to evaluate the quality of semen from boars collected for artificial insemination purposes.

This service has now been extended to commercial boars, using a collection kit that enables collection and preservation of boar semen from the vagina of sows.

Boars are often observed to have poor fertility when reproductive parameters such as an increase in returns or low litter size occur. By the time these problems are detected a considerable amount of time and money has gone into the boar and these sows. The service offered by Chris Richards & Associates enables boar semen to be evaluated at regular intervals to ensure that from a microscopic level, the boar fertility is sound.

Semen from commercial herd boars can be collected using the "Semen Retrieval Kit". The kit, which can be used on both sows and gilts can be purchased from Chris Richards and Associates which includes instructions and instruments to retrieve and extend the semen. This process collects the semen in the cervix and vagina, so there is no risk in affecting the success of the mating.

The samples are examined using phase contrast microscopy and other analytical equipment to assess motility, morphology, and bacterial content.

To manage the risk in your boars and learn more about the “Semen Retrieval Kit”, contact Dr Kellie Smith at Chris Richards & Associates on 03 5442 6142.

## **New Products**

### **Protecta-Cap**

This is a simple device that can save time and promotes cleanliness. The cap is used to penetrate the top of drug bottles. This allows a safe and swift withdrawal of even larger volumes. It provides a stable, leak proof connection between the container and syringe.

The large sized air and particle filters allow for easy aspiration and injection. It gives reliable protection of drugs against microbial contamination and particles during withdrawal. The cap snaps shut tightly and quickly after aspiration.

These are available from Country Vet Wholesaling for \$5.95 each.

# **Colossal**



## **Neonatal feed supplement for pigs**

**Colossal** is a new product formulated specifically for the neonatal pig. It contains all the building blocks essential for piglet survival. Piglets require colostrum from the sow in order to receive the essential antibodies to provide natural immunity. This first milk also provides essential nutrients and energy for piglets to grow.

The timing and amount of colostrum given to the piglet should be a priority of the farrowing house attendant. There is only a short amount of time to get the most benefit out of colostrum. Sows secrete colostrum for about 24 hours post farrowing, so the piglet's ability to absorb immunoglobulins (immunity proteins) from the colostrum declines quite quickly from a peak achieved within the first hours of suckling. By the time the piglet is two days old it's gut is no longer capable of absorbing these relatively large proteins.

Sometimes weaker, smaller or those piglets born last in a litter are unable to ingest enough colostrum to establish this natural disease fighting mechanism.

**Colossal** is the feed supplement of choice as it contains the necessary ingredients, including colostrum to supplement the requirements in this critical early stage of the pig's life. It also contains the polyunsaturated fatty acids omega-3 and omega-6.

**Colossal** is best given to piglets within the first 24 hours. It is easy to prepare, just add warm water, shake and administer.

**Colossal** is available in 500 ml shake 'n' make bottles, 1kg and 5 kg bulk packs.

## INTRODUCTORY OFFER

As an introductory offer we are offering a free thermos to keep your **Colossal** warm with every 6 bottles purchased.



**Colossal** costs \$29.50 per bottle. This equates to 59c/dose. Bulk purchases can also be made.

Contact Country Vet  
Wholesaling to place an order.

## Partnership Program

Chris Richards and Associates have designed the Partnership Program in consultation with producers to provide veterinary and other services on a routine basis.

The following services will be provided dependant on farm sizes and locations.

- Veterinary/on farm production visits
- Slaughter checks/abattoir monitoring
- Phone consultation
- Provision and updating of scripts
- APIQP facilitation and internal auditing
- APIQP auditing
- Provision and updating of Treatment Guides/Approved Medication Lists
- Web site access
- Ancillary Services/Consulting at reduced rate
- Seminar programs
- Partnership Program conference
- Newsletter
- Social events

Information on the Partnership Program will arrive at your farm soon.

## Footy tipping 2003

The winners after 21 rounds are:

Name	Score
Bernie Torney	120
Glynis King	114
Jack Mullane	114
Ricky Sheahan	114
Brad Hodge	113
Justin Kennedy	113

Only one round left before we announce the winner of this year's footy tipping competition.

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### Diary Dates

**November 13, 2003**

Chris Richards and Associates  
and Country Vet Wholesaling  
Bendigo Cup Day

**December 24, 2003**

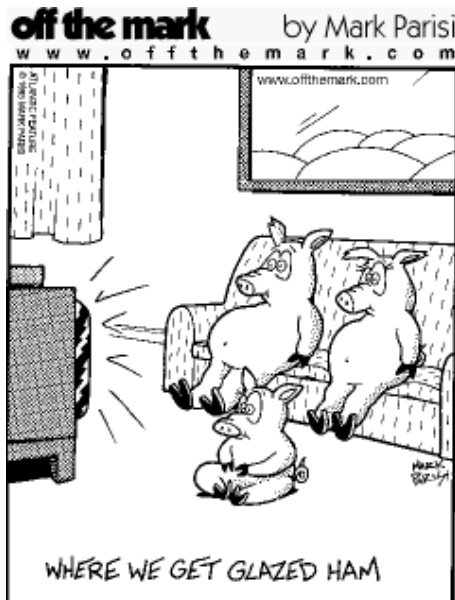
Office will be closing at 3pm.

**January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2004**

Office re-opens at 8.00 am.

**March 16-17, 2004**

Chris Richards and Associates  
Annual Conference, Brisbane



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