

Endorsed by OSH

The Leptosure™ programme meets the requirements of the Health and Safety in Employment Act (1992).

Leptosure™ helps to stamp out leptospirosis through

- Identification of the hazards that may lead to contracting leptospirosis
- Assessing the significance of each hazard
- Enacting a risk management programme that eliminates, isolates or minimises significant hazards
- Monitoring and on-going assessment of risk

By implementing the Leptosure™ programme, you will have evidence of your compliance with the requirements of the Health and Safety in Employment Act (1992).

Leptosure™

Leptosure™ is an initiative of the Society of Dairy Cattle Veterinarians, National Quality Veterinary Services, and Livestock Improvement.

Together they developed this programme in conjunction with Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) because leptospirosis is a significant health concern in New Zealand.

Helping you put the boot in...

Leptosure™ is a national programme designed to reduce the risk of human leptospirosis infection on New Zealand dairy farms.

Leptosure™ was developed to

- Reduce the incidence of human leptospirosis in New Zealand.
- Ensure both dairy veterinarians and dairy farmers meet their obligations under the Health and Safety in Employment Act (1992).
- Provide protection from leptospirosis for at-risk workers in associated occupations, eg. AI technicians, veterinarians, farm contractors, on-farm service providers, stock truck drivers and slaughter workers processing dairy cattle.
- Develop a nationally consistent approach to leptospirosis control in the dairy industry.
- Set up a national register of leptospirosis status for dairy herds. The status achieved by each dairy farm participating in Leptosure™ is included on appropriate Livestock Improvement MINDA Reports, and it is envisaged that this status will set the industry standard for leptospirosis protection.

Leptosure™

VACCINATION is not enough to

STAMP OUT

LEPTOSPIROSIS



Artwork courtesy of Mark McDonald, Ashburton

Leptospirosis is down, but not out

- After dairy herd vaccination began in 1979, leptospirosis cases dropped from 667 to 106 by 1991.
- However, the infection rate is back up to 200 cases every year, and appears to be rising.
- Today, New Zealand has one of the highest rates of leptospirosis in the world.

The message is clear – vaccination alone is not enough to stamp out leptospirosis

New Zealanders are still at risk

You, your family, your staff, or anyone else in contact with cattle could still be at risk of:

- Contracting this severely debilitating disease
- Career loss due to ill health
- Continuing long-term illness

Leptospirosis control is more than just vaccination

Even the best vaccine will not give total protection without a robust supporting programme of risk management.

Leptosure™ is a working plan between the farmer and veterinarian to minimise the risk of anyone on the farm contracting leptospirosis. It includes farm management practices as well as a robust vaccination programme to meet the demands of our changing farming environment.

Give leptospirosis the boot!

Contact your veterinarian now to start the Leptosure™ risk management programme for your farming operation

Leptosure™

With Leptosure™, everyone benefits, especially you, the farmer

- Peace of mind that you are doing the right things to protect yourself and those you love or work with – everyone will understand the risk factors and how to minimise them.
- Peace of mind that you are meeting your obligations under health and safety requirements – Leptosure™ gives you clear guidelines and assistance in meeting the requirements under the Health and Safety in Employment Act (1992).
- The official Protected Leptosure™ status on MINDA records assists in buying and selling stock, and assures meat processing companies of the leptospirosis status of stock going to slaughter.
- Quality involvement with your veterinarian through consultation, prescribing and reviewing vaccination programmes.
- When a property is the subject of a Leptosure™ programme, rural service personnel, such as your AI technician, veterinarian and contractors, are assured that the risk of contracting leptospirosis on your property has been minimised.

