Your news how you want it. On the go and no time to finish that story right now. Your News is the place for you to save content to read later from any device. Register with us and content you save will appear here so you can access them to read later. From breaking news to debate and conversation we bring you the news as it happens Whether you re looking to buy or rent OneRoof.co.nz has everything you need to find your dream home. Rachel Numan Prototheca a nasty little bug for cows Prototheca causes mastitis in cows often subclinical and damages the udder tissue. Chances are you have n't heard of it before but it 's worth knowing about this nasty little bug and the damage it can do to your herd. Prototheca causes mastitis in cows often subclinical and damages the udder tissue which causes a high somatic cell count and eventually causes the infected quarter to dry up. Prototheca mastitis can not be cured by using antibiotics as it is caused by an algae and the treatment of choice is to cull the cow from the herd. It can occur as one-off sporadic infection in a single cow however there are an increasing number of herds both globally and within New Zealand that are experiencing widespread outbreaks with as much as 30 per cent of the herd infected. One of the major sources of infection for Prototheca is not drying cows off hygienically. This might look like not cleaning the end of the teat end correctly or warming tubes of product in water. Prototheca can not be cured by antibiotic treatment so if tubes of dry cow treatment are contaminated when you administer them you can cause cows to become infected. Other risk areas are areas of stagnant water on the farm that cows walk through herd-housing situations or contaminated water sources. Cows can pick an infection up either from the environment or through cow-tocow transmission in the milking shed. Keep a look at for the warning signs of Prototheca infection in your herd and make sure you get a culture on any cows that show the following signs A high SCC with quarters that are going light nonresponsiveness to treatment or on a herd level a bulk milk somatic cell count that keeps rising and/or a history of having to repeat treatments on mastitis cows. There is very little known about the risk factors and prevalence of Prototheca specifically in New Zealand however we do know that the impact an outbreak can have on a farmer and their herd is devastating. Synlait Milk 's 280 million Pokeno headache Reserve Bank warning household debts too high Countdown on to Fieldays 2019 The Country Trees edition So keep a close eye on your herd do regular herd tests and milk sampling through your vet and keep this nasty little bug in the back of your mind when dealing with unusual and difficult to treat cases of mastitis. Life at alert level Your questions answered Teachers angry that they are being asked to become 'babysitters Alert level restrictions Retailers welcome online lifeline How to subscribe to Premium Life at Fonterra under level will feel like level Kiwi dairy farmer helps change thousands of lives in Sri Lanka The Country Profit edition Silver Fern Farms posts 70.7m net profit Dire warning for country 's lakes rivers and streams Life at level Your questions answered US nurse 'not given mask to treat Covid-19 patients dies Bars shops to stay shut Drive-through deliveries allowed in alert level Life after lockdown What Rotorua leaders think about level rules Smoko to get lonely how Fletcher will get back on the tools Sideswipe How to express thanks in Swanson Teachers angry over alert level rules 'We are not babysitters Life at level Your questions answered US nurse 'not given mask to treat Covid-19 patients dies Bars shops to stay shut Drive-through deliveries allowed in alert level One word ripped Michael Jordan 's dynasty apart NZ glamour races set to change venue Horse racing is set to change when it returns and that means streamlining major races. Three encouraging signs for our economy recovering from Covid-19 New Zealand is better placed for a recovery than many other countries. Sideswipe How to express thanks in Swanson A daily column looking at some of the more humorous satirical and simply strange news.