



Farm Veterinary Solutions

March Update

2021

Calf Scours & Vaccination

Outbreaks of calf scour can be extremely frustrating and costly for UK farms. On average a scour outbreak can cost £5,800 per 100 suckler cows based on cost of treatment, reduced growth rates and calf mortality.

According to a national survey over a 12 month period 82% of cattle farms had seen scour in calves. Over the same time period 48% of farms had seen deaths due to the disease.

Prevention is better than cure.

The most common causes of scour in young calves are viruses—most commonly rotavirus and coronavirus. Therefore if an outbreak of scour occurs the most effective treatment method is fluid therapy rather than antibiotics. If cases occur we are able to carry out an in-house faecal test to determine the common causes of scour. This test costs £20 + vat per sample and gives results in as little as 10 minutes.

Vaccination—Bovigen Scour

Pregnant cows and heifers should be given one 3ml dose of the vaccine 12-3 weeks before they are due to calve. This will raise the dams colostrum level of antibodies against rotavirus, coronavirus and enterotoxigenic E.coli. Calves benefit from this after birth following a good colostrum feed packed with antibodies to gain passive immunity. Benefits include reduced severity of diarrhoea, and reduced shedding of rotavirus and coronavirus. In turn leading to increased growth rates, reduced mortality, and reduced treatment costs.

Bovigen Scour is currently available to order in 5 dose or 30 dose packs. Please call the practice to discuss a vaccination plan for your herd or place an order on 01664 567481.

Cost	Calculations	£/cow/ in herd
Reduced average growth rate for 86 calves of 0.1kg/day for 180 days. Selling price £2/kg	$(86 \times 0.1 \times 180 \times £2) / 100$	31
4% calf mortality due to scour (calves valued at £540 less £54 production costs)	$(4 \times 486) / 100$	19.44
Treatment of scour – 30 calves treated @ £25/head	$(30 \times 25) / 100$	7.50
Cost of scour outbreak		57.94

 **FlockCheck 2021**



EXPERTIS™

FlockCheck 2021

MSD are once again offering Flock Check, a subsidised toxoplasmosis and EAE blood testing scheme.

Research has shown the biggest impact on a flocks productivity come from reproductive failure, neonatal lamb disease and mortality. Understanding what has contributed to these problems can help identify actions to be implemented to pre-empt the same problems occurring next year.

FlockCheck has been made available to all clients to help understand what may have contributed to any losses and reproductive failures and therefore implement vaccination programmes where necessary.

If you have an abortion rate of 2% or more or have a greater number of barren ewes than expected, testing is essential. Blood samples will be taken from 6-8 unvaccinated barren/aborted ewes and tested for toxoplasmosis and enzootic abortion. Any positive results suggest that vaccination should be considered. With consent, results collected by FlockCheck will be used for further research to help us understand these diseases better.

If you have any concerns about reproductive failures or would like to know more about the scheme then please contact the office on 01664 567481.

*Scheme available until 30th June 2021

Lungworm Vaccine Reminder

With turnout fast approaching, it pays to plan ahead and get your vaccine orders ready.

Huskvac is a vaccination to reduce clinical signs and lesions caused by lungworm infections. The vaccination protocol is 2 doses given 4 weeks apart with the second dose ideally at least 2 weeks before turnout. This means over the next few weeks you need to start thinking about getting orders in. There is no problem with vaccinating early.

Please call the farm office for more information or to place orders in preparation for spring turnout. We ask that you order enough vaccine for first and second doses together and place orders well in advance of when you plan to vaccinate your herd.

Bull Fertility Testing



Although calving season is upon us, lets not forget about the bulls!

Your bull is effectively half of your herd. A bull may have the genetic characteristics you desire but he would be of little value as a herd sire if he is not breeding optimally. Fertility is unquestionably one of the most important traits in bulls and evaluating their breeding soundness is a management practice which is often overlooked. A fit bull can cut your calving interval, reduce input costs and provide greater financial returns. The more you know about your bulls the better the efficiency to help ensure a productive and profitable calf crop next year. We recommend having your bulls tested annually or before purchasing any replacements.

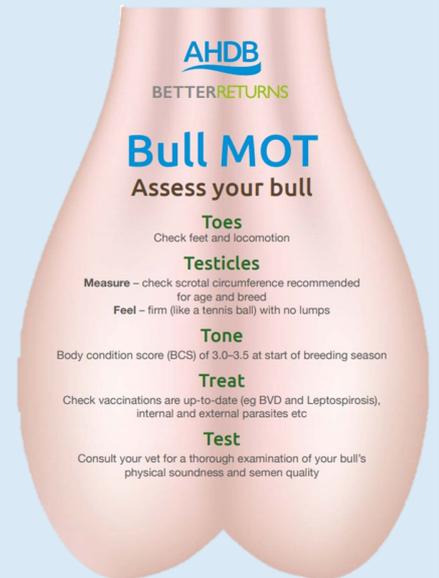
The components of bull fertility testing:

- Physical assessment—eyes, feet, gait, teeth and scrotal circumference.
- Examination of reproductive organs and semen quality
- Libido assessment
- Test for diseases such as BVD or campylobacter

Although infertile bulls are rare, research shows that more than 20% of bulls are sub-fertile and therefore fail to perform optimally. Have your bulls tested at least 10 weeks before the breeding season is due to start.

At Farm Veterinary Solutions we are fully equipped to carry out fertility and fitness testing on bulls. Please call the office on 01664 567481 if you wish to book a visit for your bulls fertility test.

As well as bull fertility we offer a variety of bovine fertility services including domestic embryo and semen storage, embryo transfer and fixed time AI. Please call the office and speak to Nick if you would like to discuss these services further.



Calcibel—Hypocalcaemia

Make sure you stock up on Calcibel this lambing period!

Calcibel is an excellent product for treating hypocalcaemia in ewes. A sub-cutaneous injection of Calcibel can drastically increase calcium levels in the blood and help to get the ewe back on her feet.



Hypocalcaemia occurs following increasing calcium demands from the foetus/lamb. The risk period is from mid pregnancy to 14 days post lambing. Ewes suffering from low calcium will show similar clinical signs to pregnancy toxaemia, however symptoms develop a lot quicker (hours rather than days).

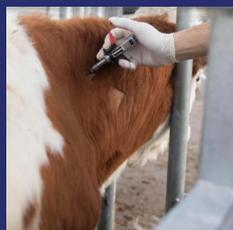
If you wish to place an order or if you have any concerns about your ewes please call the farm office.

TB Testing

The TB testing diary is getting very busy! We kindly ask that all tests are booked as early in advance as possible in order to get the best dates to suit you.

Please be aware that testing windows are fixed and can not be changed. It is recommended not to leave the test until the end of the testing window in order to allow time for any problems.

Please provide us with plenty of warning when booking private tests so we can help you to get your cattle to market on time.



Pregnancy Toxaemia

Also referred to as Twin Lamb Disease

Pregnancy toxaemia occurs when a pregnant ewe experiences a period of severe energy shortage. This can be due to poor roughage quality, high foetal demand or inadequate concentrates.

A ewe suffering from twin lamb disease will often have hypocalcaemia (low calcium levels).

Clinical Signs:

Ewes will appear dull, depressed with little appetite. May result in blindness, recumbency, head tremors and death.

Prevention:

Scanning ewes enables you to provide the correct nutrition based on the amount of lambs they are carrying. A ewe carrying twins or triplets will have far greater demands than ewes carrying singles.

Treatment:

Ewe-Go is a unique product supplying energy and calcium in a drench form. We highly recommend a 3 day treatment course alongside nsaid injections for all ewes with signs of pregnancy toxaemia.



If you suspect a ewe is suffering from pregnancy toxaemia, please do not hesitate to call us for advice. Our vets are available for advice or visits 24 hours a day.

A member of



Emergency Contact: 01664 567481

Farm Veterinary Solutions

1-3 Kings Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE13 1QF
Elms Farm Industrial Estate, Bitteswell, Lutterworth LE17 4LR
Langton Garden Centre, Melton Road Market Harborough LE16 7TG
12a Ayston Road, Uppingham LE15 9RL

Farm Office: 01664 567481 option 2
Lutterworth: 01455 248500



Farm Veterinary Solutions VPS Products– Winter Deals 2020

PRODUCT	USE	ADMINISTRATION	WITHDRAWAL	PRICE (ex VAT)
 Enovex Pour-on	Ivermectin pour on for the control of adult and inhibited larval stage roundworms, mange mites and sucking lice in cattle.	Pour-on 1ml per 10kg	Cattle Meat—28 days Milk— >60 days	2.5L—£28
 Eprizero Pour-on	Eprinomectin pour on for the control of adult and inhibited larval stage roundworm, mites and sucking lice in cattle.	Pour-on 1ml per 10kg	Cattle Meat—10 days Milk—0 hours	2.5L—£120 5L—£190
 Closamectin Pour-on	Ivermectin and Closantel pour on for the control of adult and inhibited larval stage roundworms, mange mites and lice, late immature and adult liver fluke in cattle.	Pour-on 1ml per 10kg	Cattle Meat— 56 days Milk—do not use (>150 days)	2.5L—£215 4L—£305
 Zanil	Oxyclozanide oral drench for cattle and sheep for the control of adult liver and rumen fluke only.	Oral drench 3ml per 10kg (up to 105ml)	Cattle Meat—13 days Milk—108 hours	5L—£75
 Endospec SC 2.5%	Albendazole (white) drench for the control of roundworms, tapeworms and adult liver fluke in sheep and cattle.	Oral drench See pack info	Sheep Meat—4 days Cattle Meat—14 days Milk—60 hours	2.5L—£35 10L—£70
 Endospec SC 10%	Albendazole (white) drench for the control of roundworms, tapeworms and adult liver fluke in sheep and cattle.	Oral drench See pack info	Sheep Meat—4 days Cattle Meat—14days Milk—60 hours	2.5L—£55 5L—£96 10L—£160
 Endofluke 10%	Triclabendazole drench for cattle and sheep for the control of early stages and adult liver fluke.	Oral drench See pack info	Sheep Meat—56 days Cattle Meat—56 days Milk—do not use	2.5L—£60 5L—£105
 Solantel	Closantel drench for the control of late immature and adult liver fluke and Haemonchus (barber's pole worm) in sheep (Flukiver alternative)	Oral drench 1ml per 5kg	Sheep Meat—42 days	1L—£34 2.5L—£64 5L—£90
 Bovigen Scour	A vaccine for cattle in late pregnancy to improve co-lostrum antibody levels against common causes of calf scour.	3ml by intramuscular injection	Cattle Meat—0 days Milk—0 hours	15ml(5ds)—£35 90ml(30 ds)—£210

Please call 01664 567481 for more details or to place an order.