



# Farm Veterinary Solutions



## Summer Update

2020

## Summer Fly Control



Spotinor is a topical product for use in cattle and sheep.

It is used for the treatment and prevention of infestations by lice and flies on cattle; keds and established blow fly strike on sheep; lice and ticks on lambs.

Spotinor is available from all branches. Please call us to place an order.

Fly activity is at its greatest from March through to November. Flies cause many problems for livestock, including disease transmission, nuisance and skin irritation. These effects can lead to reduced calf weights, a reduction in milk yields of up to 20% and are often very costly.

The adult flies seen around animals only represent 15% of the total population present on farm. Once the conditions are favourable, the female fly can lay as many as 3000 eggs over a period of three weeks. Therefore, it is vital to act early to reduce the chance of fly populations becoming unmanageable.

### Common disease caused by flies:

Biting flies, such as the sheep head fly, are responsible for the transmission of summer mastitis in cattle, which in serious cases can lead to the loss of an affected quarter.

Face flies and stable flies transmit bacteria which can cause bovine keratoconjunctiva—otherwise known as “pink eye”.

Blowfly strike affects sheep on up to 80% of farms every year. It causes damage to the wool clip and liveweight gains and can produce fatalities within 36 hours. The AHDB estimates that blowfly strike can cost the English sheep industry £2.2million.

Visit the NADIS website for information on high risk areas where there have been confirmed cases of blowfly strike across Britain. Please contact us for advice on the best preventative treatments for your flock at competitive prices. <https://alerts.nadis.org.uk/>

## Abortion Vaccines

Although it may seem like lambing is only just over, it is time to start thinking about vaccinating your ewes against infectious abortion agents before tupping! Have you looked over your lambing statistics this year?

*Were more than 2% of ewes barren?*

*Did you see abortion rates of 2% or more?*

Anything above 2% is often due to infectious causes—this is when to investigate and implement control methods, such as vaccination.

Toxoplasmosis and enzootic abortion (EAE) are the two most common infectious causes of abortion in sheep. Results from the MSD FlockCheck scheme in 2016/17, showed that over 80% of submitted samples were positive for toxoplasmosis and more than 62% were positive for EAE.

Toxoplasmosis is generally spread by contamination from cat faeces. A single cat has the ability to infect over 100 ewes. Toxoplasmosis results in losses during or after pregnancy, barren ewes and weak lambs.

EAE usually affects a flock when infected replacements are bought in. The organism is then quickly and easily spread between ewes from infected afterbirth. The disease normally causes abortion in 5-25% of the flock.

Without a testing or vaccination programme, all flocks are vulnerable to abortion and increased barren rates. Flocks with abortion rates of less than 2% must still consider infectious agents as a continuing threat.

### Almost 100% of flocks have been exposed to toxoplasmosis.

Call us if you wish to discuss a vaccination programme for your flock or to place an order for Toxovax and Cevac Chlamydia. Our Vet Tech services are available for assistance with vaccine administration.

**NB:** Toxovax is only dispatched on specific dates and has a maximum of 5 days shelf life so please plan ahead when ordering.

### PROTECT YOUR FLOCK & FINANCES

	TOXOPLASMOSIS	ENZOOTIC ABORTION (EAE)
CAUSE	Coccidial-type parasite – <i>Toxoplasma gondii</i>	Bacterial-type organism – <i>Chlamydia abortus</i>
SOURCES OF INFECTION	Hay, straw, cereal, concentrates, pastures (contaminated with cat faeces)	Aborted placenta / lamb Carrier sheep
APPEARANCE OF ABORTION	Fresh lambs Mummified lambs Leathery or white spot placenta Ewe OK	Fresh lambs Thickened placenta Ewe OK
TREATMENT	In-feed coccidiostat (only prevents abortions whilst fed daily)	Antibiotics (seek veterinary advice; only partially effective during that season)
CONTROL	Keep aborted ewes Vaccination Medicated feed Neuter any farm cats	Cull aborted ewes Vaccination Buy in EAE-free or accredited replacements

**Ewe know it makes sense.**

## TB Testing—FAQ's

### What is a tracer test?

Testing any animals that have been bought from a farm that has recently gone down with TB. All animals that have left the farm must be tested.

### What is a radial test?

If a farm within 3km of your holding has had a TB reactor you are required to have a radial test, a radial 6 monthly test and a radial 12 monthly test. You can see any outbreaks in your area on [tbhub.com](http://tbhub.com)

### How long is a clear TB test valid for?

60 Days from injection day

### What age are calves tested from?

Calves are tested from 42 days of age. However, APHA have temporarily extended this to 180 days due to Covid-19. Please call us to confirm when booking your test.

### If a reactor is found on farm, when will I next test the herd?

You are required to have another herd test 60 days after the reactor leaving the holding and again 60 days following this.

### Can I still move cattle if I have an inconclusive reactor?

If an IR is found on your holding, you can apply to the APHA for a licence to move cattle.

### When do APHA use the gamma test?

When lesions are found in the abattoir.

My cow was a reactor but no lesions were found, was it a false positive?

Reactors don't always present visible lesions. Lesions are found when the animal is in later stages of the disease and are often far more infectious. Therefore it is in fact preferable to not see lesions so the rest of the herd are at less risk of infection.

### Can I sell an inconclusive reactor to slaughter before it gets retested?

You could, but you would need to carry out a whole herd test 60 days after your last test and compensation is not paid for the animal.

### Can I sell an inconclusive reactor if it is retested clear?

A resolved IR can only go to slaughter. Selling the animal privately requires a private gamma test and should be authorised by the local authority.

### Can I worm, castrate, dehorn etc. my animals on day 1 of the TB test?

Yes, but it is not advisable. Due to medicine withdrawal you wouldn't get any compensation for the animals if any turn out to be reactors. It is best to carry out these procedures on read day instead.

If you have any other questions or need any advice please call the office on 01664 567481. Go to [tbhub.com](http://tbhub.com) for more information regarding TB in the UK and testing.

## Red Mites in Chickens

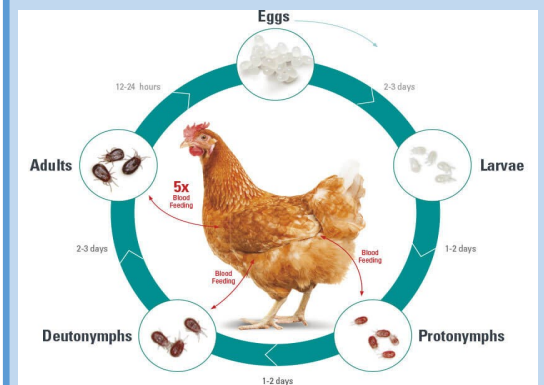
Unfortunately, red mites is a common disease we see in our chickens and poultry. Red mites are an ectoparasite that hide away in the crevasses of chicken huts during the day and come out at night to feed on poultry. They can survive for six months without feeding.

Mites cause skin damage and irritation to chickens.. They will start to overgrow, head scratch and feather pick. The wattle and comb become pale and chickens are often subdued. You will also notice reduced egg production. Because of their nocturnal life-style, it can be difficult to identify red mites as a cause of the problem.

A new treatment has been released enabling better treatment of the disease for smaller flocks. The product is administered through the drinking water and treatment is to be repeated 7 days later. Mites will die after feeding from treated birds.

Treatment is recommended in early spring and late summer to keep red mite infestations under control.

Contact us for anymore information on the best treatment for red mites.



## Vet Tech Services

Our Vet Tech Robyn Oram provides a range of services which support our veterinary work and contribute to ensuring good animal health and performance. Robyn is based at our Melton Mowbray branch.

Key services include:

- Mobility Scoring
- Condition Scoring
- Help with bTB testing
- Vaccination and medicine administration
- Taking diagnostic samples including blood, faeces and milk samples

A member of 



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## Summer VPS Products 2020

PRODUCT	USE	ADMINISTRATION	WITHDRAWAL
 <b>Enovex Pour On</b>	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- 28days Milk - > 60days
 <b>Eprizero Pour on</b>	Eprinomectin pour on for the control of adult and inhibited larval stage roundworms, mange mites and lice in dairy cattle.	Pour on 1ml per 10kg	Cattle Meat- 28 days Milk- 0 hours
 <b>Taurador Pour For cattle</b>	Doramectin pour on for the control of roundworms, mange mites and lice in cattle for up to 5 weeks	Pour on 1ml per 10kg	Cattle Meat- 49days Milk - > 60 days
 <b>Noromectin 0.08% drench For sheep</b>	Ivermectin (clear) drench for the control of adult and inhibited larval roundworms in sheep	Drench- 2.5mls per 10kg	Sheep Meat- 14 days
 <b>Levacur SC</b>	Levamisole (yellow) drench for the control of adult and developing roundworms in cattle and sheep	Drench- 2.ml / 10kg	Sheep Meat –20 days Cattle Meat- 20 days
 <b>Endospec SC 2.5 %</b>	Albendazole (white) drench for the control of roundworms, tapeworms and adult liver fluke in sheep	Drench- see pack for info	Sheep Meat – 4 days
 <b>Spotinor 10mg/ml</b>	Deltamethrin spot on for prevention of flies in cattle and treatment of established blowfly strike and ticks in sheep	Spot on Cattle – 10mls Ewes- 5ml	Cattle Meat – 17 days Sheep Meat – 35 days
 <b>Ectofly</b>	Cypermethrin solution for the treatment and prevention of blowfly strike, ticks and lice in sheep	See pack for details	Sheep Meat- 8 days

All at Competitive Rates- 01664 567481