

# DISEASE INVESTIGATION

## BEEF CATTLE

#### **Trace Element Screen**

Testing for trace elements is important to ensure your herd are getting the minerals they require to thrive. By blood testing a sample group, we can establish if there are deficiencies in the herd's diet to, enabling us to provide accurate supplementation.

### **Post Mortem Examinations**

Deaths can often be overlooked, but dead stock can be extremely valuable. Discovery of the cause of death can enable us to prevent further losses by improving management techniques, or implementing preventative treatments to others in the herd.

#### **Abortions**

Abortions can be costly, so if there is a solution for prevention we need to know. We are able to test blood samples for some abortion causing agents or, more effectively, we can take samples from aborted foetuses and placenta.

#### **Respiratory Disease**

If your calves are suffering with pneumonia, it is worthwhile to carry out investigations. Respiratory disease can be caused by a range of pathogens and detecting which pathogens are present on your farm are vital for prevention.

#### **Liver Fluke**:

There are a range of tests available to detect the presence of liver fluke. Firstly we can assess the farm and grazing strategies to establish if the right conditions are present for liver fluke. Secondly, we can send samples to external labs to detect antibodies, active infection, or presence of fluke eggs in faeces.

#### **Colostrum Transfer**

Blood samples can be taken from neonatal calves to check they are receiving adequate colostrum and passive transfer to protect them from disease after birth

#### Blood Testing for Disease

We are able to diagnose many infectious and viral diseases through blood sampling and testing at external labs. For example: Johnes, BVD, Leptospirosis and more!

Our primary lab offer discounted herd testing for Johnes and Neospora.

#### In House Faecal Egg Counts

We encourage routine FECs to monitor the worm status of your youngstock during their first and second grazing periods. At a minimum we suggest a FEC prior to treatment of animals of any age if worm burdens are suspected.