



Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2008

HOLSWORTHY SHOW

Despite the lack of sunshine it was another busy and successful Holsworthy show.

We had lots of entries to our caption competition prior to the show and the winners were:-

- Phil & Anne Jose, North Tamerton
- GM Hopper, Whitstone
- Lesley Perrett, Bradworthy
- Martin Shire, Woolsery.

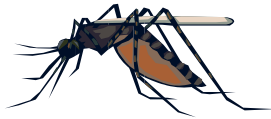
Thank you to everyone who made an effort. Better luck next year!

Our lucky dip with the aid of Daisy was a great success as usual—all the prizes had gone by mid-afternoon. We raised £310 which will be donated to Holsworthy Hospital.

The winner of the Prac-tic competition was Stacey Bluett, who has won a years supply of Pract-tic for her family pet. Mabel the flea had laid 203 eggs & Stacey was the closest with a guess of 200.

BLUETONGUE UPDATE: New case in Devon!

As I write this three new cases of Blue-tongue have been found in the UK – including one in Tiverton. They are all the result of post-import testing and have come from various Bluetongue protection Zones in Europe. (The animals would have had a negative test prior to export).



Bluetongue is still circulating in unvaccinated animals in Europe and as we are now entering the peak midge season we should expect to see more cases.

It is not known whether the new cases have spread via midges to the surrounding area).

Your stock is at risk if you haven't vaccinated yet—it's not too late to order yours.

BLUETONGUE VACCINATION OF CALVES



Remember to 'batch up' calves for their primary course of bluetongue vaccine, calves vaccinated now should be boosted in the spring to fall in line with the rest of the herd.

Vaccination can be delayed in calves born in the month before, or during the vector-free period (roughly December to Mid March,) as long as they are protected before the official midge season starts in the spring.

JOHNE'S DISEASE AND NEOSPORA

Both these complicated diseases are on the increase in dairy herds. Johne's disease causes persistent scour and weight loss and Neospora causes abortion, NML currently offer individual milk tests for Johne's and will soon offer testing for Neospora.



It is very worthwhile either blood or milk testing groups of cattle to assess the extent of infection in your herd, so we can take appropriate action to control it. Talk to us for more information.

TB

The statistics for the year to date make depressing reading and more or less reflect the national situation.

At our Holsworthy branch total reactor numbers are up by 50% and the number of reactor herds is up by a similar amount.

This is in contrast to the previous year where reactor numbers stayed the same.

FREE CAT NEUTERING



The Cats Protection League are offering free cat neutering for the month of September in postcode areas EX21, EX22, EX38 and EX39. Phone 07983 209737 or 07751 413576 to organise a voucher.