



# Newsletter

MARCH 2009

## TURNOUT VACCINATIONS

Sorry to be boring and repetitive, but BLUETONGUE VACCINATION has got to be top of your list of priorities. This disease still represents a very large threat. Booster your stock NOW before the midges get going. Vaccination is effective and cheap (approx. 55p per dose).



Don't use any other vaccines for two weeks either side of your Bluetongue dose. This will probably mess up your plans for Leptavoid and Blackleg vaccinations and maybe more. You want to avoid 'doubling up' on vaccinations but you may have to.

**Please contact us for advice.**

## SHEEP

Remember the basics if your sheep abort:

- Isolate affected ewes.
- Bring in samples for diagnosis to us: FRESH lambs & placenta essential.
- Dispose of bedding and afterbirth by burning.



## DISPLACED ABOMASUM (D.A.)

We are attending loads of these at the moment in freshly calved cattle. Maintaining dry matter intake around calving is essential. Smooth the change from dry cow ration to milking cow ration with a transition group of dry cows from three weeks pre-calving.

Treat post-calving disease aggressively. Retained afterbirth should receive antibiotics (e.g. Excenel, Nisamox), and anti-inflammatories (Metacam, Finadyne), as a matter of course.



Don't allow their appetite to drop.

## CALF MANAGEMENT MEETING

A course in managing dairy calves from birth to breeding

- Reduce losses
- Prevent diseases
- Rear strong healthy heifers



An evening meeting followed by an on-farm practical afternoon and after an optional 'milking time break' a meal and final tutorial can be enjoyed in a local pub.

The whole event is organised for two groups:

Group A: Holsworthy Practice 11<sup>th</sup> March 7.30-9pm  
Farm-12<sup>th</sup> March; Mr R. Griffin, North Tamerton 2-4pm & Pub 7-9pm

Group B: Bradworthy Practice 23<sup>rd</sup> March 7.30-9pm  
Farm-25<sup>th</sup> March; Mr D. Pomeroy, Putford 2-4pm & Pub 7-9pm

A fee of £15 applies, covering the costs of course materials ready for your own use, e.g. a thermometer and a colostrum quality meter and more...

Please contact our receptionists on 01409-253418 before the final deadline, 4<sup>th</sup> March for group A, and 19<sup>th</sup> March for group B.

## MANGE

Baldness and itchiness around the tailhead, rump and neck of cows indicates mange. EPRINEX pour-on is totally effective in treatment. Similar products such as DECTOMAX are fine in non-lactating cattle.

## KNEE NEWS

Jonathan Chapman, a vet from Bradworthy is getting back to work following a cruciate ligament repair and Tamsin from Holsworthy is hobbling about after having her cartilage fixed and holes drilled in her tibia.

