



Farm News

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Holsworthy 01409 253418
 Stratton 01288 353766
 Bradworthy 01409 241241
 Camelford 01840 212229

farm@penbodevets.co.uk

Summer Mastitis and New Forest Eye Risk

Flies pose a big disease risk during the summer months - they can quickly spread infections throughout a group of animals. Head flies are a particular risk to dry cows and heifers as they spread summer mastitis which can often lead to the entire quarter being lost. This can affect both beef and dairy animals so it is important to be vigilant and include fly prevention as part of your dry cow strategy.

Last year we saw large outbreaks of new forest eye in several herds, this is often spread by flies so please treat any eye infections promptly, isolate the animal to prevent it infecting others and implement fly control.

Are your cows coughing?

The warm, wet weather we are currently experiencing increases the worm risk in our area. Gutworms and Lungworm burdens can decrease liveweight gains in youngstock, leading to increased age to first calving.

Adult cows can also be affected by subclinical parasite infections, they may not have the classic signs of *diarrhea* but instead will show decreased milk yields and quality, reduced DMI, poor fertility and coughing. Treatment with the correct worming product suitable for your herd can make a big difference. Speak to your vet about a parasite strategy suitable for your herd.



Cattle with lungworm often stand with their head outstretched.

Super Summer Offers

Through our membership of XLVets, Penbode has secured some super seasonal offers for worming and fly treatment products available next day at your nearest branch.

- 2.5 litres Spotinor Fly treatment £155 with free gun (enough for 250 cows)
- 5 litres Spotinor treatment £280 with free gun (enough for 500 cows)



- Short Dated (use by September) 5 litres Eprizero Pour On Wormer with 0 days milk withdrawal £265
- Enovex Ivermectin Pour On Wormer for Cattle 2.5L £30 or 5L £55



Cash price quoted — EX VAT

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Heat Stress

The importance of heat stress is underestimated in many herds, it's not just in summer when cows are at risk. The thermoneutral zone of an adult cow is between 5°C and 25°C, this means that out of this range energy is required to either keep warm or keep cool. This range is also easily affected by relative humidity within the building, the higher the humidity the lower the temperature at which cows start to exhibit heat stress. Heat stress is often a particular problem in the summer months both in grazing and housed cattle or even all year round in crowded areas such as the collecting yard. Key things to look out for include elevated breathing rate, increased standing times, crowding around water troughs or favouring/avoiding certain areas of the shed. Heat stress leads to decreased lying times and reduced feed intakes having a knock on impact on feet, fertility and milk production. The release of stress hormones can also contribute to the negative impact on health, immunity and fertility.



The first steps to alleviate the impacts of heat stress are to provide good ventilation in the building and free access to drinking water. Simple changes could be made to building design or management routine to reduce heat stress at high risk times or locations. These include taking out roof lights, providing fans or water sprays and feeding during cooler periods.

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