

Newsletter July 2018

Take Care with Newly Bought-In Sheep

New animals being introduced to the flock pose a risk to the existing flock as they may carry disease that is not currently present. It is important to take measures to minimise the introduction of new diseases into the flock and this can be achieved by quarantine and treatment of animals upon arrival.



Common diseases to consider in this scenario most commonly are anthelmintic (wormer) resistant worms, liver fluke, sheep scab, foot rot, contagious ovine digital dermatitis (CODD). Other diseases that may be introduced into the flock include Caseous Lymphadenitis (CLA), Orf, Border Disease, Ovine Infectious Keratoconjunctivitis, Enzootic Abortion, Maedi Visna (MV), Ovine Pulmonary Adenomatosis (OPA), Scrapie or Johne's disease. Where possible ask questions regarding the flock of origin to try and determine disease risk.

Anthelmintic resistant worms - Animals should be yarded for 24-48 hours upon arrival. Worm eggs already within the faeces will not be exposed to worming treatments, so yarding will prevent these eggs from contaminating pasture. Animals should be treated sequentially with two anthelmintic products and one of them should be a group 4 (Zolvix™) or group 5 (Startect™). Animals should be turned out on 'dirty' pasture away from the rest of the flock for a minimum of 3 weeks.

Liver fluke - there is a risk the fluke introduced may be resistant to triclabendazole, sheep should be kept away from snail habitats (wet ground/water courses) for 7 weeks and treated with closantel or nitroxylnil.

Sheep Scab - Animals should be treated with an ML injection (e.g doramectin or moxidectin) or dipped in organophosphate upon arrival to treat for sheep scab. Some tups may have been treated prior to sale and are sold with a certificate confirming this. It is important that moxidectin 1% is not used if the foot-rot vaccine has been used.

Lameness - Animals should have their feet inspected on arrival and any lame sheep should be treated appropriately. Seek advice from your veterinary surgeon on the most appropriate treatment for each particular disease.

Monitor animals for any signs of disease in the quarantine and treat appropriately. Seek advice from your veterinary surgeon where appropriate. Ensure that if any vaccinations are used in the flock, you consider how incoming animals will fit into your vaccination programme, to ensure they are fully protected.

Johne's Plans.....!!!!

Johne's plans need to be in place by September. We will not be able to do dozens of plans in the last week so please plan ahead now



Summer Fly Control



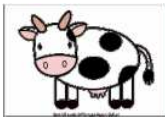
With the dry, warm weather we've already had, and with the weather forecast predicting a hot July, flies are already out and becoming a nuisance. Economic losses can be expected from fly-worry. A reduced feed intake will result in a drop in milk yield as well as a reduction in liveweight gains in growing youngstock. In sheep, flies are responsible for the dreaded fly-strike, a condition where larvae/maggots bury into the fleece of the animal causing severe damage to the skin and underlying tissues.

Interestingly, **the flies you see are just the tip of the iceberg** - the majority of the fly population and life-cycle are in the form of eggs, larvae and pupae. These you won't see, as they are hidden away in the environment. The largest breeding ground will be in livestock pens with straw bedding (e.g. your calf pens) and any old compost/manure or bedding heaps which have been cleared from sheds. **It is worth considering where you collect old bedding being removed from your sheds** as this is where the fly eggs are incubating. There are many fly control methods aimed at the adult fly population but a new approach aims at controlling the early stages of the life-cycle in an attempt to prevent the problem before it happens. Products such as Neporex are available to treat the environment incubating the larvae, but you need to get in and use it early!

Applying a proven insecticide early in the season (such as Swish or Ectofly) will reduce the first wave of adult flies which will have a big impact in reducing the next generation numbers. **Killing flies early (or preventing them from feeding on your livestock early) is the key to controlling the population late in the summer when the real problem generally occurs.** FVSW stock a variety of fly control products licensed to treat fly-strike and prevent infestation in both cattle and sheep. **Speak to a member of the team today to discuss the right product for your farm.**

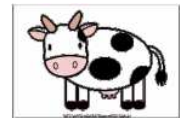
Congratulations to Jake

Many congratulations from all of at FVSW to Jake Sayer on winning Interbreed Dairy Champion with Denman's Cracking Touch of Red at this year's Bath & West show



Honiton Show 2018: Kids Competition

It's that time of year again.....we will be at Honiton Show on Thursday, 2nd August (Stand 139 Avenue B)



This year's competition is to draw a picture of your **favourite farm animal**. There's a prize for everyone who enters and a prize for the winner - so get drawing! Drop your pictures to any of our offices and they will be displayed on our stand at the show - we hope to see you on the day.



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