

## Newsletter October 2019

### Take Care with Newly Bought-In Sheep Cormac White

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 the 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 disease that may be introduced to the flock include Caseous Lymphadenitis (CLA), Orf, Border Disease, Ovine Infectious Keratoconjunctivitis, Enzootic Abortion, Maedi Visna (MV), Ovine Pulmonary Adenomatosis (OPA), Scrapie or John'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. Animal 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 habits (wet ground/water courses) for 7 weeks and treated with closantel or nitroxinil.

**Sheep Scab:** Animals should be treated with a 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.



### Beef Club Party Bus: Tom Crosby

Members of our beef club were invited to attend a "Talking Beef Event" hosted by the AHDB at the Rural Innovation Centre of the Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester in September. Transport was provided in the form of a minivan kitted out with snacks and drinks! The event covered a lot of useful topics including:



- Pasture management and reseedling
- Youngstock and dry cow nutrition
- Body condition scoring
- Vaccine protocols
- Profit drivers, benchmarking and agribusiness

The sun was shining and a barbecue was provided, so hopefully a good day was had by all. If you are interested in joining our beef club please phone the office for full details.

### Medicines Course



As you are all aware, new regulations and recommendations have come into place in the last year relating to medicines usage on farm from both Red Tractor and Milk Buyers. This has involved changes to, and efforts to reduce, antibiotic usage. There have also been stipulations that farm workers need to have attended a relevant training course in the administration of medicines.



In our continuing efforts to support our farmers we will be holding a Medicines Course at 2 pm on Wednesday, 30th October at Sedgemoor Auction Centre. The course will cover all material relevant to these recommendations/regulations. The course costs £40 per farm. Please contact any of our offices to book your place.

### Dairy Farmers Meeting at South West Dairy Development Centre

We recently held a meeting at Kingshay's Dairy Development Centre at Shepton Mallet. The meeting received excellent feedback with attendees declaring it a very interesting day out. We will be holding another meeting in the winter, so watch this space for more info.



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