

September 2022 Newsletter

NEW CRYPTO TREATMENT

Many of our farms have experienced problems with Cryptosporidiosis in young calves. Usually seen as scours (some leading to death) in calves 7 to 14 days old.

Prevention is based on pathogen reduction, clean environment, and disinfecting. Also, good colostrum management is VITAL. Unfortunately, some calves will need treatment and we have used HALOCUR to date. A new product, KRIPTAZEN, is now available. The advantage of KRIPTAZEN is a graduated dispensing gun, allowing accurate dosing volume per weight.

Overdosing with HALOCUR can make the issue worse as the active ingredient is a 'strong' chemical.

Give KRIPTAZEN a try??



Beware Lungworm!

With the recent change in weather to wetter conditions, lungworm infections will start to be seen, with some of our vets already diagnosing cases whilst on their rounds. Lungworm most commonly affects growing cattle in their first year of grazing in late summer when the weather is wet and warm. Adults usually develop immunity; however, lack of exposure can also mean that some groups of adults may be susceptible to developing lungworm infections.

The signs to look out for include widespread coughing, loss of condition, heavy/difficulty breathing and a reduced milk yield in adult cows and in severe infections some animals may die. If lungworm is suspected treatment should be given as early as possible as severely affected animals may not respond or symptoms may be worsened by the presence of dead larvae in the airway. Treatment is with anthelmintics however severely infected animals may require antibiotics, anti-inflammatories and hydration if not drinking.

If unsure about treatment, ask a vet.

FUTURE FARMING MEETING

The future of farm subsidies is changing but there is opportunity to avail of new funding opportunities to improve efficiencies on farm as well as reduce inputs. In light of this we will be running an on farm meeting discussing a multitude of topics that pertain to this future. This will include outside speakers discussing everything from Dung Beetles, the Sustainable Farming Incentive and Herbal leys.

Some quick facts:

Dung Beetles remove dung from pasture (removing sour rejected areas), decrease parasite burdens, decrease fly burdens to cattle and much more. Claire Whittle from LLM Vets of Social Media fame will be coming to discuss and show all the benefits Dung Beetles provide and how to increase their populations on your farm.

Herbal leys have been shown to increase liveweight gain in lambs and growing beef animals as well as reducing parasite burdens. Our own Vet team in conjunction with Cotswold Seeds will be discussing the benefits of Herbal leys, establishment and management.

The Animal Health and Welfare Pathway of the SFI could provide up to £500 worth of funding for Veterinary time and diagnostics. We will discuss what is available to Beef, Lamb and Dairy Farms in terms of FREE FUNDING.

Want to find out more?

Our 'Future Farming Meeting' will take place at Colley Farm, Buckland St Mary, Chard, TA20 3QD at 12pm on Monday 26th September. This event is FREE to all clients.

To book your place please contact any of our branches today.

NEW Grazing Discussion Group

*Feed and forage costs are the single largest cost to dairy farms in the UK. With current concentrate prices as high as they are then maximizing the utilization of the cheapest feed on farm is surely the best way to maximize profitability on farm. **The cheapest feed by a long way is grazed grass.***

Owing to consumer pressure some milk contracts are now requiring that suppliers graze for a minimum number of days per year. This should be seen as an opportunity to reduce input costs and maximize farm profitability. In our continual effort to support our Dairy Farms we will be starting a new Grazing Discussion Group for herds that graze cows.

If you are a dairy farm currently grazing cows and would wish to find out more, we will be having an information evening at Sedgemoor Auction Centre on **Thursday 22nd of September at 7pm. Food and refreshments will be provided.** To book your place please contact any of our branches.

SHEEP AND GOAT MEETING FOR SMALL FLOCKS

The next meeting of our Small Flock Club will take place **on Wednesday 28th September at 2pm at Riverside Bungalow, Dunwear, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6 5HL.** **'Managing and Understanding Liver Fluke in Sheep and Goats'**

This event is **FREE to 'Sheep and Goat Club Members' and £15 to non-members.** **Food and refreshments will be provided.**

Please call any of our branches today to book your place OR to sign up to become a 'Sheep and Goat Club Member'.

Commercial Sheep Discussion Group

Do you want to progress your sheep business?

The next meeting "**Cost of Production: Understanding and addressing input costs to improve farm profit'** will take place **on Monday 17th October at 2pm at Ivy Cottage, Weekmoor, Milverton, Somerset, TA4 1QE.**

THIS EVENT IS FREE TO Members of the Sheep Discussion Group and £15 to Non-members **Food and Refreshments will be provided** **Please contact any of our branches today to book your place today OR to become a member of the Sheep Discussion Group.**