

August 2011

It is getting really very embarrassing to keep having to apologize for the lack of vaccines this year, but once again as many of you know there is a problem with both **enzovax** and **toxovax**.

- Fortunately with the **enzovax** we have sourced an alternative vaccine which is just as good. We have lots in the surgery but **please order it in good time to make sure we don't run out**.
- The **toxovax** will not be **until September** however please **ring us up and get it ordered** so we can be first on the list when it is released. Thank you for your patience.

We are having a **few coughing cows** so please make sure that your cattle are **fully covered for lung worm**.

- If you notice them coughing then use **noromectin pour** on for the beef and **eprinex** for the dairy cows.
- Don't forget for the calves there is a **very good vaccine (Huskvac)**, this should be given at turnout and will cover them for life. It is a very cost effective way of dealing with husk.

Fluke: We still aren't on top of the fluke situation with **70% of sheep livers being condemned in the abattoir** and **1 in 5 cattle showing signs of fluke**.

This is costing the industry **a lot of money**, especially as it takes an extra month for a beast to fatten if it is suffering from fluke. This is losing you money both through feed costs / straw costs and labour.

- **Talk to us about an effective fluke control.**

Don't buy in problems.

Every time you **buy a beast onto your farm** there is the risk of bringing on **disease**. With such tight margins in farming we need to do absolutely everything we can to try and limit the amount of disease on your farms. Here are a **few diseases** you must be discussing with your **vendor** when you purchase cattle. I shall also highlight a few simple tasks that we can do to try and protect your herd as much as possible.

1. BVD

2. IBR

3. Lepto

Do they **vaccinate** for these diseases?

Have they **ever had a case** of the disease?

When you buy the animal in then isolate for a **minimum of 30 days** and **take a blood sample to test** for them.

Have you included them in your **vaccination regime and restarted their course?**

May they **pick up the disease** from your farm?

4. Digi dermat.

Foot bath the animals in **10% copper sulphate for 3 consecutive days**. Every fortnight for a month.

Keep the **shed clean and dry**.

5. Johnes

Is the farm of origin **accredited** for Johnes or do they **monitor** for it. Get a **blood sample** taken and a **faecal sample** so we can screen for the disease.

6. Salmonella. If the animal goes **sick then isolate** it in a **dedicated pen** (not a calving box). Take a **muck sample** to see if present.

7. Fluke.

Drench with **endofluke** on arrival to farm.

Tupping is fast approaching.

Have you?

1. **Checked the feet** of your tups and ewes. If you suffer from foot rot this is the ideal time to use the footvax vaccine!
2. Have you **checked the condition score** of the sheep. Between 2.5 – 3 is ideal.
3. Make sure the **sheep aren't itchy**.
4. If you were worried about the **fertility** of a ram last year then get us to check it.
5. Source your **teaser tups** at least 30 days prior to use.

Zolvix talk.

This is the only wormer in group 4.

There is no known resistance to this wormer.

It has a very short with drawal.

We would recommend a single dose through the year at weaning time.

It must be used when you buy sheep on to your farm, in conjunction with cydectin LA. 90% of lowland farms have white wormer resistance. Do you know your state. Contact us to discuss this further.

Dates for your diary:

13th August. Trip to South Wales to see a **Hywell Richards** dairy farm. He is **milking 1800 cattle**. Followed by a visit to **Gelli Aur** to see an extended grazing system.

Coach leaves surgery at 8.00 am from surgery please ring surgery if keen.

3rd Sept. A wedding party at Oli's house in Berriew. Starting at 6.00pm **all welcome**. Please bring a bottle and text Oli if coming.

- Hogg roast and DJ.