

February 2011.

With the New Year we are still seeing all the same old problems. The big changes in temperature and damp conditions have lead to **worse than normal pneumonia levels**. If you are experiencing these I would suggest:

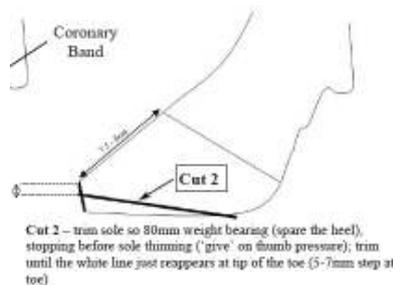
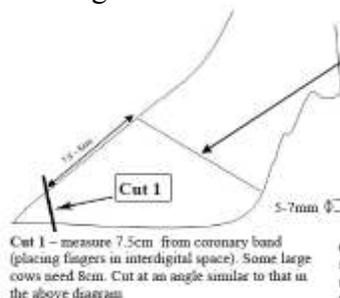
- Treating the whole group with a **blanket antibiotic**.
- The worst affected should have a painkiller such as **metacam**.
- Administer an intranasal vaccine such as **rispoval intranasal**. The reason for this is that the vaccine will work straight away against the major pneumonia viruses.
- Call us to **look at the housing** of the animals (where possible give the animals access to outside).
- Draw up a **good vaccination protocol** for next year.

TB is still a major problem and there doesn't seem to be any let up in the number of reactors, we are finding. We are hosting a meeting on the **Wed 2nd March at Welshpool Market**, unfortunately at this is just for 35 holdings, as a member of DEFRA from Stafford will be attending as well as an NFU representative. It will have all the up dates about TB including the badger culling and what you need to do to register for it. Other regions have done these meetings and found them very informative and well attended. An invite will be sent out soon. I hope to follow this up with a welsh meeting after.

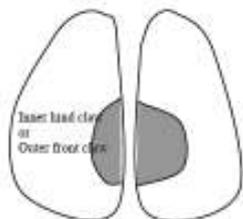
We have recently held a **cattle lameness workshop** for 10 people, sponsored by Lantra. Without exception people found it interesting and learnt something new about foot trimming and how reduce lameness in their cattle. I shall summarise some of the points below. I am hoping to host more of these in the future so if you are interested then please let us know at the practice.

The recommended method of foot trimming is the **Dutch method** of which there are five steps.

- The length of the foot should be **7.5cm**. The thickness of toe **5 mm**



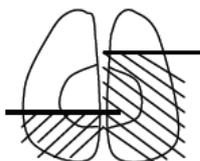
- Trim the **2nd claw** to match the first. (Match do not measure.)
- Dish out** the site of the ulcer.



- Find any problems and deal with them, then take the **weight off the affected area**.

- Remove loose horn and under run areas at the heels.

In most cases only back 1/3 of inner hind claw should be tidied



In most cases only back 2/3 of outer hind claw should be tidied

The 3 P's of nutrition.

- The postponed meeting at the end of last year has now been rearranged for **23rd February**.
- It is to be held at the Raven.
- 7.30 for 8.
- Refreshments will be provided.
- Invites to follow.