

June 2009

Hopefully summer is finally well on its way. The grass is growing and many of you have already carried out your first cut. Beef and sheep prices continue to stay high but milk unfortunately is still dragging, although many of the experts believe it will soon pick up.

Since the last newsletter the major development was the cut in blue tongue vaccine price courtesy of DEFRA. Neither the vets nor the drug companies had any inkling this was going to happen. We can only thank the farmers who vaccinated early, for their understanding (or lack of when talking about DEFRA). As is typical with the Monty clients there was already an excellent uptake of the vaccine prior to this little stunt, so well done and thank you.

Farm dogs and horses.

June 09 is **national vaccination month**. This means that any dogs or horses that have been vaccinated in the past but have lapsed, can have a **primary course** at the cost of a **single booster**. The animal must be over 18 months of age. If you would like to discuss this then please **contact us ASAP**.

Worming: Don't forget to worm your dogs every 6 weeks.
Liver condemnation in the abattoir due to tapeworm is on account of not worming your dogs not under worming your sheep.

Fluke:

- As you all know there is **increasing amounts of fluke** in our **sheep beef and dairy cattle**. The **floods** we had last year can **disperse the snail** which carries the fluke even further.
- In periods of **drought** cattle and sheep drink from **stagnant water** which is an ideal **habitat for fluke**.
- This year worming your cattle at **about 10 weeks after turnout** think about fluking them. This will effectively **clean the livers** of any residual fluke they may have picked up in the spring.

Fly control in sheep:

- There are different products out there that need to be **tailored to your system**.

Product	Blowfly strike. Prevention	Strike treatment	Headfly Protection	Ticks Protection	Lice	Meat withdrawal
Dysect	8-10 weeks	Yes	6 weeks	8-12 weeks	Treats	28 days
Clik	16 weeks	No	Nil	Nil	Nil	40 days
Crovect	6-8 weeks	Yes	4 weeks	Treats & controls	Treats	8 days
Vetrazin	10 weeks	No	No	No	No	3 days

- If you have **itchy sheep** then get the **problem diagnosed**, as scab and lice are treated totally different. You could **waste lots of money** by assuming it is the wrong parasite.

If you have **lice** then the best time for eradication is **a couple of weeks after shearing**. We **stock all these products**, at competitive prices and will endeavour to deliver if asked.

Dairy cell check:

Top S.C.C	95	Top protein	3.8
Top 1/3 rd average	111	Top 1/3 rd average	3.6
Bottom 1/3 rd average	375	Bottom 1/3 rd average	3.13