

June 2014

- With this very changeable weather we are seeing a variety of illnesses in both cattle and sheep.

Strike seems to be the **number one killer** at the moment in both species. As we all know it kills the **good, strong animals** and not the scrawny beasts that wouldn't hurt the pocket as much. There is such a **simple prevention** which is the use of **Bravoxin , heptavac etc.**

- Don't forget to vaccinate your **cattle young stock** as they are just as susceptible as your sheep.
- If you are **experiencing a problem vaccinate** but also give **long acting penicillin** at the same time.

Pneumonia is also being seen in both species.

- In sheep use **ovivac P or heptavac P** along with **either long acting penicillin or tetroxy LA** (this has a longer withdrawal).
- In cattle treat the obviously sick ones with a long acting antibiotic that goes under the skin and metacam. For all the in contacts I would use a long acting oxytetracycline.

Nematodirus is being diagnosed on poo samples.

- We suggest treating with a **white drench** which is not very expensive but very effective and has a short meat withdrawal.

BVD carriers are still being found in the cattle. It is in roughly 30% of the practices herds.

- Vaccination does not guarantee freedom from BVD carriers, but it does do a very good job at reducing the spread with in the herd. Where we find carriers typically the farms have **calves suffering with pneumonia** that do not respond to vaccine or treatment. There are also **unexplained fertility problems**.
- The test is so **simple** so please if in doubt call us out.
- We also have a very **quick easy and effective test** that we can carry out on any of the cattle that you **buy in**. We can do this test on the farm and give you the **result in 30 minutes**.
- **Call us when you buy cattle in or bring them to the surgery on the way home!!**

Blowfly strike in sheep is starting to be a problem. See the table below for the different products available.

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
Clikazin	8 weeks	No	No	No	No	7 days

Crovect and Clikazin on paper look very similar. They are also made by the same company. On questioning them **clikazin** is a better product for **preventing blowflystrike** due to how it works. It has a better means of distributing through the body and fleece of the sheep. This means it provides a better and more uniform cover.

- Both clik and clikazin may allow the **maggots to lay** but will **not allow them to develop past 1st stage**. This is not a problem so don't think there has been a failure if you find the very small sized maggots, they will die.
- **We have some good prices on Clik and clikazin so please bear us in mind.**

Nuisance flies in cattle start to rear their ugly head from now on. Not only are they a major irritation they also spread, **summer mastitis**, as well as these horrible **warts** which we see on heifers and **new forest eye**.

- Don't forget if you are treating your **adult herd to also treat your heifers**.

Product	Nuisance flies (control)	Mange (controls)	Lice	Meat withdrawal	Dose rate (ml/animal)
Swish	8 - 10 weeks	No	Protects 8 - 10 weeks	20 days	Varies with size
Spot on	1 month	No	Treats and controls	17 days	10 ml
Flypor	8 weeks	Yes	Treats and controls	3 days	Varies with size

