

June 2015

- 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.

Wormer resistance: In a recent study carried out across Wales the **levels of resistance** on farms to sheep wormers **was pretty depressing**. We know there is a **lot of white wormer resistance** out there but what was very disappointing was the **levels of levamisole (yellow) and ivermectin (clear) drench** resistance. In fact some farms have **resistance to all 3**. We don't want to scare people as wormers are an intrinsic tool in finishing lambs successfully and economically. What do we recommend?

1. Ideally know whether you have resistance! This can be done very simply by taking a **before and after worming poo sample**. The waiting period varies from a week to 10 days depending on the product you use.

2. Stop resistance from developing on your farm! a. **Reduce the amount of doses** you need by carrying out poo sample checks. b. Make sure you are **not under dosing** with wormer, c. **weigh the heaviest** sheep and dose for this and make sure your guns are working correctly. Under dosing is an excellent way to encourage resistance. d. **Rotate** your wormers **depending on the time of year**. e. **Don't routinely worm** ewes but talk to us at the vets.

3. Don't bring on resistant worms.... When you bring on any sheep, **drench** them with **zolvix** and **inject** them with **cydectin LA** then **yard** them for **24 hours**. This combination will kill any resistant worms. By yarding them any eggs which get through will simply fall onto the muck heap and not out on the field to produce more worms.

- The cydectin LA also has the benefit of killing any underlying scab, which will also cost you a fortune.

Blowflystrike 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
Spotinor	4-8 month	No	Treats and controls	17 days	10 ml
Flypor	8 weeks	Yes	Treats and controls	3 days	Varies with size