

Dear Farmer,

We are now entering one of busiest time in the year for TB testing, as those lucky enough not to be on 60 day testing normally have their annual tests around this time of year. With this and plenty of sales coming up space for TB tests is beginning to look sparse. We are currently fully booked for all types of TB tests including small pre-movement tests for the majority of October and it is beginning to look that way for November also. If you know you will require a TB test during the winter months please contact us as soon as possible to secure a booking, late bookings may very well be disappointed.

Going back to our newsletter from April this year, there was a section about The Red Tractor Assurance Scheme. If you are a member of the Beef and Lamb Red Tractor Assurance Scheme and haven't already done so, contact us to arrange a suitable time for one of our vets to visit so we can help you comply with the scheme's standards. Assessors will ask to see your herd/flock health plans and that they have been reviewed annually by yourself and a vet. A vet will also need to carry out an annual Health, Performance & Antibiotic Usage Review.

Following review with yourselves, our vets are able to formulate a herd/flock health plan if you do not currently have one in place.

We strongly recommend members look at the new standards before they receive a phone call from the assessor, as often this is at short notice and we may not be able to complete a review at short notice.

For those who have already had their annual visit this year, remember the reviews are annual, so be prepared for next year's visit.

Defra have recently announced new funding is available across England to tackle BVD. The funding will enable farmers to apply for one-to-one farm advisory visits with us. Vets will work with keepers of breeding cattle to tackle BVD on their farms. Funding is available for three years through the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE). We are currently getting to grips with this initiative, named BVD "Stamp it Out" and what it entails. In order for farmers to take advantage of the funding there are strict processes to follow, the first

being to attend a cluster meeting, where vets can enroll you on to the initiative and organize the first one-to-one farm visit. Letters will be going out to those of you who would be eligible to apply for the funding to explain further. If you think you may be eligible to take part in this initiative and don't hear from us, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Lottie
Practice Manager

TIMING OF WINTER FLUKE TREATMENT FOR CATTLE

With the majority of our beef clients grazing land that has a high risk of liver fluke, we recommend preventative treatment.

An ideal time to treat the herd for liver fluke is over winter, when the animals are not at risk of picking up new infection, because they are indoors, or the maximum temperature stays below 10C. This way the whole burden can be eliminated in one treatment

Bear in mind that some fluke treatments are only effective against fluke older than 8 weeks so you should delay treatment until 8 weeks after housing to ensure all have matured to a stage where they are susceptible

Speak to one of our vets if you want to discuss parasite treatment options this winter.

Don't forget...

- Remove stock from areas of heavy acorn fall
- Drop lamb faeces sample into vet for WEC, pre and post worming
- Give late lambs vitamin supplements - particularly Cobalt.
- Ask a vet about funding currently available for BVD testing in cattle.
- Appropriately timed winter fluke treatment for cattle and sheep

PNEUMONIA VACCINATION – NOW'S THE TIME!

I think it's fair to say we can expect a difficult winter this year, we expect to be short of forage after the poor growing season, and if the spring is as late as last year probably bedding too.

As such producers will be keen to make the most of every animal they keep over the winter and with pneumonia being one of the biggest costs to production in youngstock vaccination is key. Not only do sick animals lose condition and cost money and time to treat, even those mildly affected will need more feed while they make up for lost growth.

As a practice we stock the full range of vaccinations for calf pneumonia and always try to be competitive with pricing.

Calf respiratory disease is usually caused by a primary pathogen which is often a virus (but can be Pasteurella bacteria) that is able to take hold either due to a depressed immune system (e.g. due to poor air quality in the shed or another disease) or an overwhelming challenge (e.g. sharing airspace with infected animals). This infection then allows secondary bacterial infection into the lungs which causes pneumonia.

If we can give animals immunity to the primary pathogen, and ensure a strong immune system by good husbandry, we can prevent pneumonia.

Depending on the farm there are many different vaccines available, for a farm considering vaccination for the first time we usually recommend **Bovalto Respi-4**, as this covers all the common major primary pathogens: Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Parainfluenza 3 (PI3), Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD) and *Mannheimia Haemolytica* (Pasteurella). For farms already vaccinating youngstock for BVD Bovalto Respi-3 is available which doesn't contain BVD. For some farms we may recommend Rispoval-4 as this contains protection against IBR but doesn't vaccinate for Pasteurella.

Our current price for Bovalto Respi-4 is £6.40+vat per dose in, for Respi-3 it's £5.40+vat per dose, but for all vaccines we try to be as competitive as possible and can often get very good deals from manufacturers.

If you would like to discuss vaccination, or any other changes you are thinking of making to reduce the possible impact of respiratory disease please give us a call.



WORMING OFFER

Neosporosis and Sarcocystosis are diseases in livestock that are caused by unicellular parasites. Worth knowing that dogs play an important role in the transmission of the above diseases to ruminant animals! Keep your farm dogs wormed and stop them from eating aborted fetuses, placentas, and carcasses.

We are currently offering **25% off** cat and dog worming treatment when purchasing a year supply of worming medication. Based on one treatment every 3 months.

Practice Facilities

Appointment System
Parking
24 Hour Emergency Service
Modern Surgical Facilities
Nurse Clinics
In-House Laboratory
Digital X Ray Machine
Pet Care Plans

BOVEY TRACEY SURGERY

Mill House, Station Road,
Bovey Tracey, Newton
Abbot, TQ13 9AL
TELEPHONE ; 01626
833023

MORETONHAMPSTEAD SURGERY

31 Court Street,
Moretonhampstead,
Newton Abbot, TQ13 8LG
TELEPHONE ; 01647
440441

CHRISTOW SURGERY

Old Mines Road, Christow,
Exeter, EX6 7NS
For appointments/repeat
prescriptions etc.
TELEPHONE; 01626 833023

FOR OUT OF HOUR
EMERGENCIES PLEASE
TELEPHONE : 01647
440441

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