

Farm Newsletter

Castle Veterinary Group

April 2017

A Word From The Vet... Fly Season



Hello,
Spring has
well and
truly sprung
now bringing

with it not only fields full
of lambs and daffodils
but also stirring awake
some unwanted
creatures- MAGGOTS!
If your grazing stock are
being bothered by flies it
can significantly reduce
production such as
growth or milk
production

Common problems
caused by nuisance flies
include summer mastitis
and new forest eye in
cattle and blowfly strike
and head fly problems in
sheep

Using small steps now to
keep fly numbers down
can make a big impact on
your stock's welfare later
on in the season

- Flies are preventable using Insect Growth Regulators and normally last for about 6-8 weeks.
- Remove fly breeding grounds such as stagnant water and stacked manure etc.
- Use high speed fans in parlours and sheds
- Avoid grazing animals in fields which are near wet areas or woodlands

Natalie

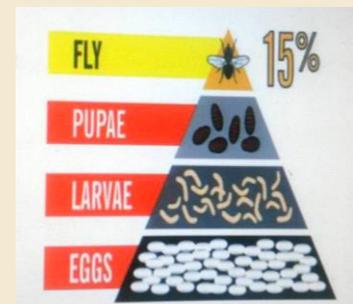
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The Fly Pyramid



The adult flies that you see only represent 15% of the total population

There are many times that number of pupae, larvae and eggs



Protect against flies on cattle for up to 10 weeks with Deltamethrin

Prevent flystrike in sheep for up to 16 weeks with Dicyclanil

Treat flystrike with Deltamethrin

Nematodirus

A risk to lambs

What is it?

Nematodirus is a gutworm which can affect grazing lambs aged 6 – 12 weeks

What are the signs?

Lambs may be found dead or scouring. A correct diagnosis is essential as Coccidiosis can also cause scour

How can I tell?

Bring a faecal sample to the surgery and Sami can give you a result the same day

What is the treatment?

The recommended treatment is a white Group 1 drenchm,.



When can an outbreak occur?

The Nematodirus larvae on the pasture hatch when the temperature increases. The SCOPS website has a map showing when hatching is predicted in your area

How can I reduce the risk?

Graze lambs on 'safe pasture' that was not grazed by lambs the previous year



We are pleased to say that many of you have already had samples taken for the BVD Free Scheme

To establish the status of your farm we can take blood samples from youngstock or a bulk milk sample

For more info please speak to one of the vets or go to

<https://bvdfree.org.uk/>

Next GRASS Meeting

To Be Confirmed

New Faces Are Always Welcome

