

CASTLE VETERINARY GROUP
FARM NEWSLETTER AUGUST '15
Buying in Sheep this Autumn??

With increasing levels of resistance to sheep wormers it is important to vary the type of drug you use. Currently there is no known resistance to Zolvix (group 4 wormer) or Startect (group 5 wormer) in the UK. These can be particularly useful for weaned lambs or farms with triple resistance (to groups 1-3). These wormers are also perfect for quarantine drenching in conjunction with a preventative scab treatment.

There are three elements to effective quarantine:

1. **Isolate** (quarantine) in-coming stock. Yard for the first 24-48 hours and then keep them isolated from the resident flock for as long as possible, 3 weeks being the absolute minimum.
2. **Treat** the sheep against the unseen threats from parasites (see below) while they are yarded.
3. **Maintain** isolation when they are turned out to field(s) that have carried sheep this season

**If Footvax has or is to be used then the moxidectin 1% should be replaced by either 2% moxidectin OR Doramectin. Alternatively consider option 2.*

#In the case of short keep store lambs, withdrawal periods can be an issue and the only option in terms of sheep scab may be to make sure they are kept away from any breeding ewes, including avoiding any contact with vehicles, equipment etc.

How many lambs can you afford to lose? - Abortion Vaccination for Ewes



Vaccines are available against Toxoplasmosis and Enzootic abortion in ewes. These should be given **at least 4 weeks before the rams go in.**

The two vaccines can be given on the same day. The pack sizes available are 20 doses and 50 doses. We receive Toxovax deliveries once a week so please give as much notice as possible when ordering.

Please be aware that it is a fragile vaccine with a very short shelf life of just 7-10 days. Please bring a cool bag with you to collect your order.

	OPTION 1	OPTION 2
Resistant worms	Drench with either 4-AD (Zolvix™) or 5-SI (Startect™) + Inject with 1% moxidectin*	Drench with either 4-AD (Zolvix™) or 5-SI (Startect™) + a moxidectin drench
Sheep scab	Covered by the moxidectin injection above.	Plunge Dip in an OP#



Look out for lungworm

Lungworm will live longer on the pasture in the sort of summer we are suffering this year. Warm damp conditions are ideal for worms to build up on the grass. Coughing at pasture is the typical sign of a lungworm or husk infection. Diagnosis can be confirmed from dung samples – but we need a jam jar full for the test. Any age of cattle can suffer and we frequently have adult cows come down with the disease. If you delay treatment production of milk will drop off and some individual animals may be very ill. Jo and Sami can advise and supply appropriate treatments for lungworm. It is a very good idea to protect your dairy replacements with the lungworm vaccine, Huskvac. This is given 6 and 2 weeks before turnout – so something to bear in mind for next year.

BVD Ear Notch Testing



We can test for BVD antigen in-house to help identify **persistently infected (P.I.)** calves on your farm. These are animals that silently spread BVD throughout your herd. All that is required is for an ear notch tag to be applied which collects a small tissue sample. This is then tested in our lab by Sami, with results ready the same day. Calves of any age can be tagged and tested.

For more information on BVD please phone the surgery for a factsheet or ask to speak to a vet.

In-House Testing of Dung Samples How much dung?



We can test for gut worms, coccidiosis or salmonella with 10g of dung. For liver fluke or lungworm we require 50g.

Turnaround times are as follows:

Gut worms & coccidiosis – same day

Liver fluke & lungworm – 24hrs

Salmonella – 48hrs

Spotinor



Cattle 10ml dose – treats flies and lice.
Meat withdrawal 17 days. Milk 0 hours.
Sheep 5ml dose, Lambs under 10kg or 1 month of age 2.5ml dose – treats blowfly strike, lice, ticks and keds.
Meat withdrawal 35 days.

Spotinor can be ordered in on request at the following Cash Sale prices:

250ml = £30.63 Ex Vat

500ml = £ 52.30 Ex Vat

1 litre = £93.96 Ex Vat

2.5 litres = £208.29 Ex Vat



Grass Meeting with Katherine Daniel

The next grass meeting will be on **Wednesday 12th August 11am-3pm** at Hurditch Farm, Lamerton, Tavistock, Devon PL19 8QA by kind permission of the Boon family.

Grass meetings are a Dairy Co. funded initiative and lunch will be provided. New faces are always welcome.

If you would like more information or would like to attend please contact the surgery on 01566 772371.