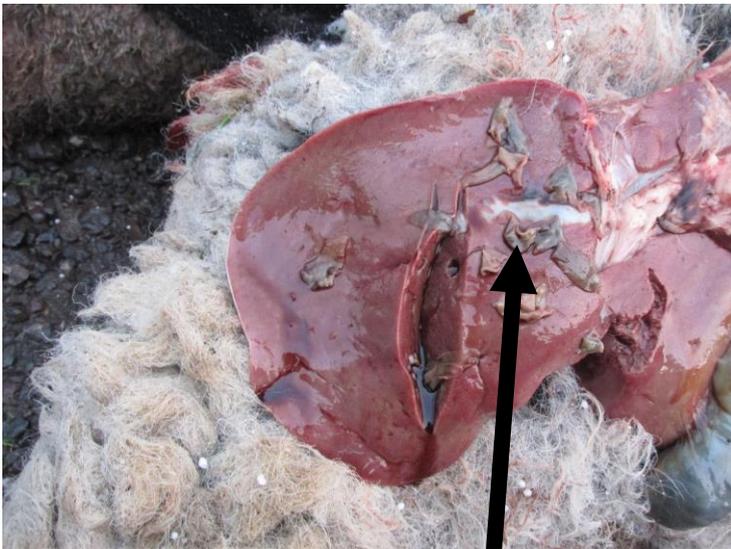


CASTLE VETERINARY GROUP

Farm Newsletter February 2016

Fluke survives Triclabendazole

We are used to wormer resistance in our sheep flocks, where it is the normal situation for many worms to survive treatment with white drenches, clear drenches and even levamisole. However recently we saw a flock which looked to be riddled with adult liver fluke despite having been treated twice with Combinox and Fasimex Duo in the last 9 weeks.



The picture shows many adult fluke oozing out of the bile ducts in the ewe's liver. We need to make sure we vary the drugs we use to treat liver fluke and as we get into spring time it makes sense to be on top of the parasite. You can speak to our SQP's, Jo and Sami, for the best advice for your farm.

They can discuss alternatives to Triclabendazole including:

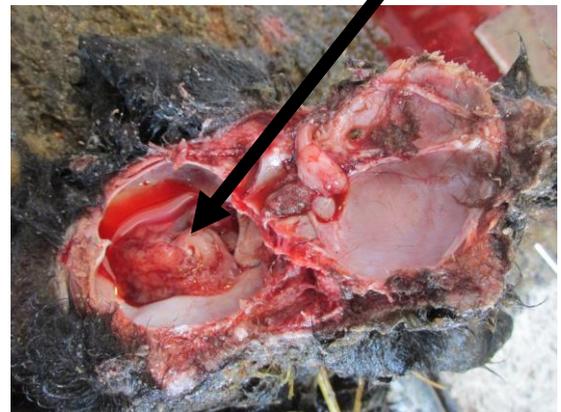
Closantel e.g. Flukiver or Closamectin

Nitroxynil e.g. Trodax

Oxyclosanide e.g. Zanic

Schmallenberg is back

Unfortunately, some of you will know this already, those with early lambing flocks may have experienced the typically deformed lambs of this cruel disease. The photo is from a confirmed case where once we cut the roof of the skull and folded it back to expose the brain, we were shocked to find virtually no brain tissue present - just an empty fluid filled space.



This is why some affected lambs are seen to be unable to walk or suck, even if they are not obviously deformed.

We think the virus has been present ever since it blew over in midges in 2012, but over time a new population of breeding stock has replaced those that became immune years ago. Infection in these naïve ewes and cows in early pregnancy has led to damage to their developing lambs and calves. We are able to confirm infection by sending part of the brain to Starcross for testing and at the moment they will test the sample free of charge. With no vaccine currently available we will just have to weather the storm and hope a vaccine re-emerges so we can protect our replacements prior to mating in future seasons.

Looking ahead to turnout

Getting your vaccines in before turnout will protect your stock as they approach a time of high disease risk



We are offering a very **competitive cash price for BVD and Leptavoid H** taken together in equal number and multiples of 25 doses.

If paid by debit/cheque/BACS we can offer a price of **£3.80 Ex Vat** per animal.

Lungworm



This year lungworm is particularly prevalent due to the mild, wet conditions.

Huskvac vaccination is recommended for cattle approaching their first grazing season or naive animals e.g. purchased from the

East of the country. Two doses should be given 4 weeks apart, with the 2nd dose administered at least 2 weeks before turnout. Immunity is maintained from season to season by the exposure to lungworm larvae when grazing pasture.

mnItchy Sheep

Watch for itching, wool loss and disturbed grazing



Scab and lice have identical symptoms but different treatments so a correct diagnosis is essential – One of the vets can take a skin scrape for Sami to analyse under the microscope with results whilst you wait

Treatments:

Plunge dipping in Diazinon will eradicate scab *and* lice

Alternatively, scab can be treated with an injectable macrocyclic lactone

Lice can be treated with topical high cis cypermethrin or deltamethrin

(see the table below)

	Scab	Lice
Diazinon Dip	Yes	Yes
Injectable Macrocyclic Lactone	Yes	No
Topical high cis Cypermethrin or Deltamethrin	No	Yes