

FARM ANIMAL NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2024

ENZOOTIC ABORTION VACCINE

As you may already have heard, there have been major supply issues with the two most frequently used enzootic abortion vaccines, **Enzovax** (none available this autumn) and **Cevac Chlamydia** (none available but possibly another batch being released in October). Being live vaccines these two products need to be administered at least four weeks prior to tupping so any product that does become available is likely to be too late for use this autumn.

The good news is that there is an alternative killed enzootic abortion vaccine available, **INMEVA**. Being a killed vaccine, sheep that are being vaccinated need a course of two injections (2ml each dose under the skin) with the second dose being at least two weeks prior to tupping. Alternatively, if there is not enough time pre-tupping to fit the two doses in, INMEVA can be used after tupping (recommended when ewes are over forty days in lamb with the second dose completed before ninety days of pregnancy).



The cost of the two injections on INMEVA are similar to the cost of a single injection of Enzovax/Cevac. We currently hold stock of INMEVA but supplies may become short over the next month, so if you know how many ewes/replacements you will need to vaccinate it will be worth securing your order ASAP. It is not recommended to vaccinate with INMEVA at the same time as Toxovax.

For more information please speak with one of the farm vets.

HODDER VALLEY SHOW—14TH SEPTEMBER 2024



We are very much looking forward to attending Hodder Valley Show on the 14th September.

The show rotates round three different villages on an annual basis. This year the show is in the village of Newton In Bowland, just over the bridge near

The Parkers Arms.

We hope to see as many of you there as possible for a chat, brew, beverage and nibbles.

Fingers crossed for some much needed

sunshine as well!

PREPARE TO USE A GROUP 4 WORMER THIS SEASON

We would like to remind our sheep clients to incorporate a group 4 (orange) or group 5 (purple) wormer into their worm control strategies to prevent resistance developing and maintain production efficiency this season.

Wormer resistance is a growing, yet invisible problem, with 94% of farms are showing some resistance to white wormers (Tramazole, Rycoben, Albex), 68% to yellow wormers (Chanaverm), 51% to ivermectin (Animec oral drench, Oramec oral drench, Noromectin oral drench, Bimectin injection) and 19% to moxidectin (Cydectin oral drench, Cydectin injections).

Monitoring growth rates and routine faecal egg count testing can alert farmers to potential resistance issues, however it is crucial not to wait until there is an identified problem before strategically introducing a newer class of wormer.

Repeated use of the same wormer groups will speed up the rate that resistance develops and, once this happens, it cannot be reversed. Introducing a newer group 4 or group 5 wormer at strategic points within worming programmes now will therefore pay dividends. It will help slow down the development of resistance to the older wormers, allowing them to be more effective for longer, and clear out any resistant worms that could be compromising lamb growth and performance.

Use a group 4 at two points in the season

It is recommended to swap one dose of an older group 1,2 or 3 wormer, to **Zolvix™ of Startect™** for lambs in the mid-late grazing season. This should deliver visible improvements in lamb performance by removing any resistant worms left from previous treatments.

On top of one annual dose for lambs, **Zolvix or Startect** should also be used as a quarantine treatment for any incoming sheep to prevent resistant worms being brought onto your farm.

Home > Internal Parasites > Worms > Worming Treatment Check

Worms

- Species and life cycles
- Using faecal egg counts (FECs)
- Choosing a product
- Testing for efficacy
- Treating adult sheep
- Preserving susceptible worms
- Reducing dependency
- Nematodius in lambs
- Worming Treatment Check
- Other internal worms
- Gut and lung worm advice for cattle keepers

Worming Treatment Check

The Defra Animal Health & Welfare Pathway is a long-term project partnership, co-designed by government and industry across sheep, cattle (beef and dairy), pig and poultry (layer and broiler) sectors to support continual improvement in health and welfare in England. Pathway aims to be a key pillar to the government's manifesto commitment to protect and enhance farm animal health and welfare, and to maintain and build on existing, world-leading standards.

The Annual Health & Welfare Review (Pathway) is a funded annual visit from your chosen vet and can be undertaken whenever it works for you. For sheep the review is to include a Worming Treatment Check via a faecal egg count (FEC), and this must be done within a six-month window from application. However, the vet visit will also allow you and your vet to concentrate on your animals' specific health and welfare priorities, not just those relating to anthelmintic use. Application is via the Defra website [Click here to apply or for more information on the pathway-funded Worming Treatment Check](#).

Pathway is an England-only initiative. A similar programme offering funding for animal health interventions on Scottish livestock farms is

Sustainable Control of Parasites in Sheep

A User's Guide to the Sheep Worming Treatment Check

Stay in Control of Worms

Download the SCOPS User Guide to the Sheep Worming Treatment Check in the 'Downloads' section.

When administering any treatments, it should be highlighted that sheep should not be wormed and moved to clean pastures straight away. After a quarantine dose, sheep should be housed or yarded for 24 hours before moving to 'dirty' pasture. However, after treating lambs with a break dose, keep them on 'dirty' pasture for three to four days before moving. These practices should help dilute the impact of any surviving worms. Farmers should also undertake a post-dosing faecal egg count, also known as a drench test, whenever a wormer is given. This can quickly provide an indicator of wormer efficacy and determine whether further treatment is needed.

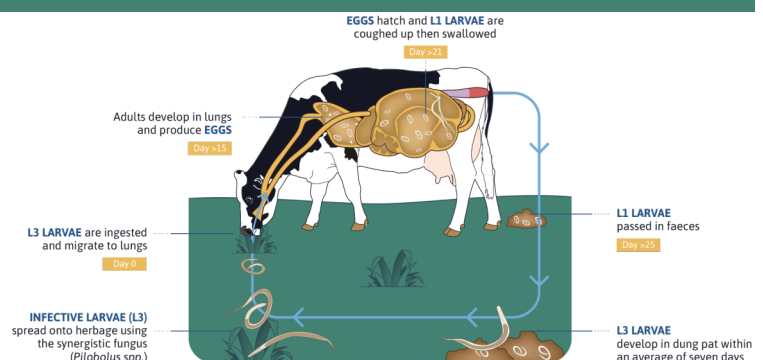
LUNGWORM IN CATTLE

September is usually the peak month for seeing clinical cases of lungworm (coughing and increased respiratory rate especially when moved) in grazing cattle which haven't been vaccinated with **Huskvac**.

This year we have already confirmed lungworm in our practice laboratory (presence of lungworm larvae in dung samples from coughing cattle). There are several different treatment options for non-lactating cattle but Eprinomectin based pour-ons (e.g. **Eprinex, Eprizero**) are the only option for adult dairy cattle with a nil milk withhold.

Contact the surgery to discuss testing of dung samples to check for presence of gutworm eggs/lungworm larvae and the most appropriate treatment options.

LUNGWORM LIFECYCLE



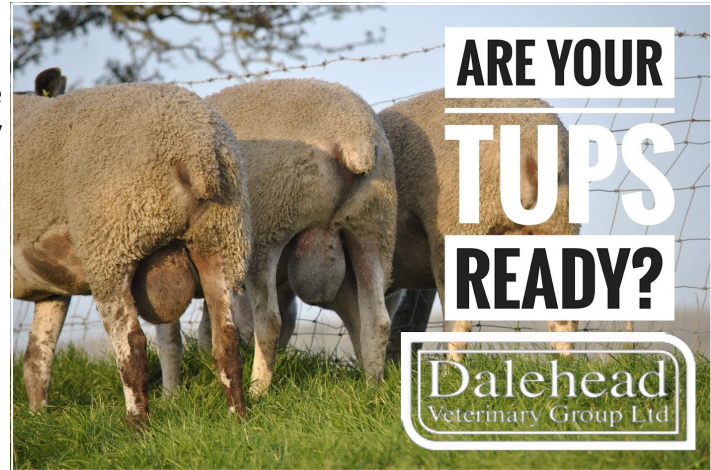
TUP FERTILITY TESTING

Its hard to believe we are in September and neck deep in breeding sheep sales, but before we know it the whole process will start again with tupping time. Ideally tups should be inspected at least 6 weeks before they are due to be used. So depending on when you put your tups in, now is the time to start thinking about your tups fertility and general health status.

We can examine tups on farm, but ideally we ask for tups to be brought to the Settle surgery where we will perform a full fertility inspection, including:

- Full clinical examination and if required
- Collection of semen samples,
- Analysis of sperm count and viability under the microscope to determine how fertile the tup is likely to be.

Please contact the surgery to discuss or to arrange a tup fertility examination.



SHEEP LAMENESS MEETING AND FOOTVAX VACCINATION



On 20th August we held an on-farm Flock Club lameness meeting hosted by the Hargreaves Family of Meadow Bank, Barley. The meeting started with Karen Swindlehurst leading a practical demonstration examining sheep's feet in a turnover crate and discussing whether to pare or not to pare plus the most appropriate treatment options.

It was pointed out that over 90% of lameness in sheep is infectious from one sheep to another (footrot, CODD and scald) and that nationally over 2/3 of antibiotics used on sheep farms are for treating lameness and yet the incidence of lameness in many flocks is not reducing significantly (around 5% on many farms).

The footrot/scald organisms survive on the ground for 2 weeks so that one lame ewe may be the main source of infection for other sheep, hence the need for prompt inspection and treatment of limping sheep. Footrot and CODD organisms will also survive on

foot trimming shears and shepherds hands so there is a significant risk of spreading infection from one foot to another when trimming. Correct footbathing protocols were also discussed to maximise their benefit, as was the importance of quarantining bought in sheep and culling ewes with chronically infected feet which will only act as a source of infection for other animals.

Every sheep farm will have the footrot/scald organism present and the benefits of a vaccination programme with **FOOTVAX** as part of a control programme to reduce the incidence of infectious lameness on the flock was discussed.

If signed up for the Animal health and Welfare Pathway (AHWR), once you have completed the initial review you can then apply for the follow up endemic packages within ten months of the review. One of the packages available is targeting lameness, obtaining a diagnosis and discussing management and appropriate treatment to reduce the incidence of lameness in your flock.

Contact the surgery for more information about the AHWR or to discuss a footrot vaccination programme for your flock.

1 Cull

Cull if there are more than 2 cases of infectious lameness in the same season

2 Avoid

- Reduce levels of infection in the environment
- Keep handing pens clear of faecal contamination
- Minimise pooling of water troughs, gateways, bedding areas and creepers
- Use hydrated lime in poached areas
- Isolate lame sheep in a separate field or pen
- Keep bedding dry during housing
- Minimise damage to feet
- Avoid stones in yards
- Don't graze rough pastures and monitor sward heights
- Breed from sheep that have not been lame

3 Treat

- Catch lame sheep within 3 days of being lame and treat appropriately
- Don't under dose
- Mark and record all treated sheep
- Trim as required

ISSUE	TRIM	RULES OF TRIMMING
Footrot	NO	Leave a 2mm edge 2-3mm around the sole
CODD	NO	Trim loose horn only
CODD with detached horn	YES	Do NOT trim to bleed
Shelly horn	YES	Disinfect clippers between feet
Overgrown ho infection	YES	Use sharp, well maintained shears

Footbathing

- The feet should be clean before entry to the footbath. Pre-washing is ideal
- The bath needs to be deep enough to submerge the whole foot - approx 6cm
- The sheep need to stand for sufficient time for the solution to act
- The sheep should stand on a dry yard for 20 minutes after bathing
- Turn sheep onto a clean field (cleanly 14 days sheep free)
- Regular treatments are essential - every 5-7 days

PRODUCT	CONCENTRATION	STANDING TIME	PROS	CONS
Formalin	3%	Walk Through	Cheap Easy Disposal	Irritant to diseased feet Deactivated by organic matter Care with use
Zinc Sulphate	10%	15 min prevention 30 min treatment	Effective	Disposal problems Standing time
Antibiotics Sulfox Lincospectin Tylan	100µl Control 150g/400l Treatment 150g/200l Control 100g/200l Treatment 100g/100l	Several minutes	Effective Standing time	Disposal problems Deactivated by organic matter Expensive

4 Quarantine

- Quarantine for 28 days on purchase or return of stock from a show
- Footbath every 5 days on 3 occasions. Use Zinc Sulphate or 3% Formalin.

5 Vaccinate

- Vaccinate at high risk times
- Booster 6 monthly

Sheep Lameness Chart
DALEHEAD VETERINARY GROUP LTD
01729 823538

FLOCK CLUB
 5 POINT PLAN FOR LAMENESS CONTROL
 DALEHEAD VETERINARY GROUP LTD

ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE REVIEW – ENDEMIC DISEASE FOLLOW UP

Over one hundred and fifty Dalehead clients have now completed the original Animal Health and Welfare Review where you can claim **£436** for sheep, **£522** for beef cattle and **£372** for dairy cattle.

These reviews can be completed every ten months to take advantage of each species present. Cattle reviews focus on BVD and sheep reviews focus on wormer efficacy, you also get:

A Flock or Herd Health Plan including:

- Animal Health and Welfare advice
- Animal Productivity advice
- A Veterinary Attestation number if needed.

You can do a new review every 10 months – up to 3 reviews in total.

AFTER you have completed a review you can now do an endemic disease follow up where you will continue to look at BVD for cattle but on sheep you can look into a whole host of other diseases and conditions – this is also funded as follows:

- **£639** for sheep
- **£837** for BVD positive farms,
- **£215** for BVD negative farms
- **£1,714** for dairy BVD positive farms (not yet released).

You can do up to three follow-ups on the same herd or flock and the follow-up has to be within ten months of the review.

The scheme ends on 19 June 2027 and all reviews and follow-ups need to be completed by that date.

There is a MASSIVE amount of funding available, for example, a sheep farmer could claim **£3,225** over the next thirty months!

Please contact the practice for more information.



24 HOURS IN FARMING

Back at the start of the month we got involved in Morrisons 24 Hours in Farming. Here are a few of our pictures if you missed them on Facebook.



SEPTEMBER
2024



WWW.DALEHEADVETGROUP.CO.UK

