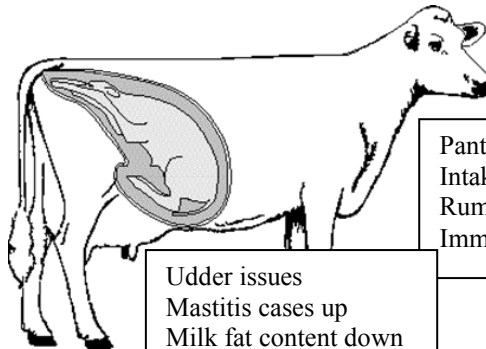


Newsletter August 2018

Management of Heat Stress in Cattle

Clinical signs?

Fertility problems
Heat undetectable
(shorter, no signs)
No proper cycle

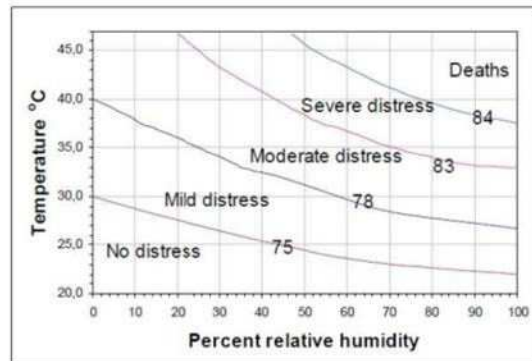


Panting ++
Intake down
Rumination down
Immune system down

Udder issues
Mastitis cases up
Milk fat content down
Protein content down
Somatic cells up

When?

- Relative humidity temperature index > 75 beginning of heat stress for dairy cattle
- 24° C in stormy conditions
- 29° C in dry conditions
- Particularly obvious in cows with underlying problems (chronic pneumonia, lungworms)



Management

General:

- Mechanical ventilation with fans, misting (limit excessive temperature in the building)
- Ensure a sufficient supply of water (quantity, quality)
- Distribution of the diet in the evening or feed twice a day (limit the extra heat of the rumen and the peaks of fermentation)
- Add water to the ration (limit the sorting after drying of the ration)
- Increase the Cation Anion balance (limit acidosis problems)



Acute cases:

- Move the cow to the shade, hose with fresh water
- Treat underlying problems
- Drench with Pump Selekt Restore sachets (1 sachet per 20 litres of water); water on its own is not that effective. Give I/V fluids if very dehydrated.

Watch out for Haemonchus Contortus

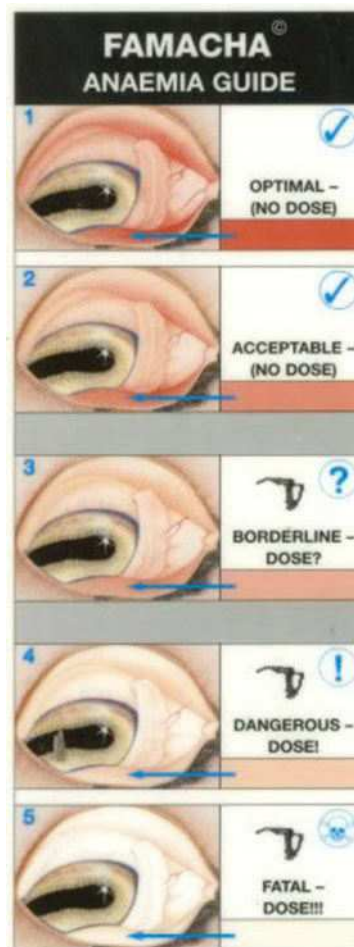
We have seen a few cases recently due to the recent warm weather. Be aware of the possibility of haemonchosis in grazing sheep and goats, particularly after heavy rains, as this tropical/subtropical parasite is much better adapted to surviving hot conditions than other gut parasites.

Signs include:

- Anaemia and pallor as seen above. There is a chart to help you assess the colour of the mucous membranes of the eyes called the FAMACHA chart as you can see on the right.
- Diarrhoea is **NOT SEEN**
- In severe cases submandibular oedema (bottle jaw) can be seen. This is where a swelling appears under the chin that if pressed on will leave an indent the shape of your finger
- Sheep and goats gain very little resistance to this parasite, so ewes and rams will be affected as well as lambs
- If a dung sample is submitted we can run a Faecal Worm Egg Count in-house to look for Haemonchus eggs, giving a diagnosis.



Haemonchosis
Severe anemia in acute infection.



Remember to vaccinate for abortion now...

Three types of infectious abortion are responsible for **86% of all sheep abortions**. These are *Enzootic Abortion (52%)*, *Toxoplasmosis (25%)* and *Campylobacter (9%)*. Through vaccination we can prevent 77% of these abortions. Cost-benefit studies carried out by ADHB showed an increase in income of £21.27/ewe where flocks were vaccinated against Enzootic Abortion and Toxoplasmosis. These vaccinations need to be administered in advance of tupping so contact us ASAP to speak about a vaccination programme for your flock today.



Johne's Plans

Johne's plans need to be in place by September. We will not be able to do dozens of plans in the last week so please plan ahead now.



August Bank Holiday

Our offices will be shut on Monday, 27th August 2018. Drugs can be collected from our Sedgemoor Office **by appointment only**.



Your local farm veterinary service

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