



Newsletter September 2020

Red Tractor Warning

With every year the red tractor herd health reviews are becoming more involved. Dairies require extended herd health plans, antibiotic collations, BVD and Johne's plans. Beef farms also require much more detailed plans and antibiotic collations.

We can no longer complete all the Vet review requirements at short notice. We now require at least 2 weeks to complete herd health reviews. Failure to give us this notice may result in us being unable to complete the reviews in time for your inspection.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions all health planning now must take place on farm as access to the office still has to be restricted. Thank you for your co-operation!



Biosecurity: Getting the Basics Right

We have conducted an anonymous audit on cleaning and disinfection facilities for visiting personnel on our farms. Unfortunately, we still visit farms with poor facilities to clean and disinfect. This makes it difficult for the Vets to be clean when travelling to the next farm. It really helps if we have a hose, hand-brush and disinfectant available near where visitors park their cars. Unfortunately for our dairy farms, it is not acceptable to wash up in the Dairy. Although our vets can improvise with their own buckets, brushes and disinfectants, wouldn't it be better for these things to be available for all the other visitors to your farms to use? The risk of contracting disease from visitors can be significant especially when foot trimmers, AI technicians, nutritionists and consultants are all regularly visiting lots of different farms.

Some of our clients have great, simple facilities situated away from the dairy like these below at Greens farm, Chedzoy:



Milk Vending Machine

Good luck to the House family with their new farm shop and milk vending machine at Fowler's Plot farm in Chedzoy (TA7 8RQ). Art has been carrying out weekly Vet visits at the farm for over 14 years. It is great to see a new innovative venture like this on our doorstep. The farm shop is well worth a visit, its open Wednesday to Saturday 10am-4pm and the vending machine is open 24/7.



Lambing Losses Survey

Cormac White

Want to see how your farm compares with the rest?

As part of our sheep services within the practice we are conducting a lamb losses survey of our farms which will allow you to benchmark yourself anonymously against other farmers within the practice and identify areas where you may wish to improve. If you would like to participate then please fill in the **below form** and return it to any of our practices or hand it to any one of our vets when they are out on farm.

It is always nice to know how you are doing and where you can improve. If you don't measure it you can't manage it.

All data will be **anonymous** and a report will be produced with **anonymized data**.

2019/2020

Name:

Farm Name:

Production Objective (Please Circle):

Finished Lambs Store Lambs Pedigree/Breeding Stock Other

Ewes tugged:

Scanning Results:

Singles:

Doubles:

Triplets:

Total Lambs Sold:

Total Lambs retained for breeding:

(Please use as exact numbers as possible- all you need is your scanning records and your movement book!)

Signed: