



FarmVets

S O U T H W E S T



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Newsletter April 2013

Schmallenberg Update

MSD have an application for a vaccine with the VMD which is being fast-tracked to be released as soon as possible. The immune status of sheep and cattle in the South West is bound to be variable between flocks and herds. Any animal that has already been infected will have lifelong immunity.

It is also important to vaccinate livestock before the critical stage of pregnancy; this is 25-50 days of pregnancy for sheep and 120-170 days of pregnancy for cattle. With these issues in mind you will probably need to speak to us re: vaccinating your cattle or sheep when we have the vaccine and know any restrictions on the data sheet.



IVOMEC & EPRINEX SPRING OFFERS

Ivomec

£40 cash back on 1000ml packs

£20 cash back on 500ml packs



Eprinex

£40 cash back on 5 litre packs

£20 cash back on 2.5 litre packs



To claim the money back don't forget to pick up a voucher with every purchase of Ivomec Super/Eprinex from any of our three branches. This is a limited time offer available only until from 1st –30th April 2013



**GOOD NEWS.....
UBRO YELLOW IS
BACK IN STOCK!**

Fluke treatment

We are now able to source a product with no milk withdrawal
Please contact Art or Rob if you are interested in this.

.....EVEN MORE GOOD NEWS.....

After an awful Spring we have a little bit of good news for you. The Lepto/BVD vaccine deal was due to end on 31st March but to try and help in these hard times we are extending the deal until the **END OF APRIL**. Use this opportunity to buy your BVD and Lepto vaccines at some the lowest prices nationally.



Johne's Disease: Ten Top Points

1. Johne's disease (also known as paratuberculosis) is a slow developing disease that causes thickening of the intestines. It affects cattle, goats, sheep, rabbits, deer, llamas, alpacas and other ruminants.



2. The first sign of the disease is a usually a slight loss of production and susceptibility to other disease (e.g. mastitis and lameness). Failure to gain weight comes next, followed by weight loss and scouring. Cows with Johne's may suddenly go downhill with no warning, particularly in the months after calving.

3. Not every cow with Johne's will scour. Scouring is due to disease being in the large intestine and weight loss is due to disease in small intestine—these don't always come together.

4. Cattle shed the bug in dung and also in colostrum and milk. Infection may pass from dam to calf during pregnancy, although the most common route of infection is calves being exposed to infected dung and colostrum—don't pool colostrum!

5. Infected calves show no signs until around 3-6 years of age (the age range for the disease is 9 months to 12 years!).

6. If you buy in animals you will almost certainly have the disease.

7. If cattle are not shedding bugs in the dung or are not producing antibodies then we cannot diagnose the disease. Unfortunately cattle don't produce antibodies until the disease starts winning the battle between the bug and the immune system. Testing cattle less than two years old is a waste of time.

8. Simply culling obvious Johne's animals is not enough to control the disease—regular testing is necessary. False positives and false negatives are reasonably common.



9. 80-90% of all herds tested within the practice as part of the Healthy Livestock Initiative are positive for Johne's disease. Many farms report that they have not had a case of Johne's disease and are shocked to find it on farm.

10. Johne's is a significant source of loss on farm. It is a horrendously complicated disease to control and each farm should have an individual control policy. It is not too late to get the 70% funding towards diagnosis and control of the disease on farm.

BRIDGWATER YFC DINNER & DANCE

On the evening of Saturday 23rd March Bridgwater Young Farmers held their 79th annual dinner and dance. The guest speaker was FVSW vet Art McAlonan. The evening was a great success and enjoyed by all.

FVSW would like to wish Bridgwater Young Farmers all the very best for the future



May Bank Holiday Opening Hours

Our offices will be shut on Bank Holiday Monday on 6th May. Drugs can be collected from our North Petherton office by appointment only. Let's hope the sun shines!