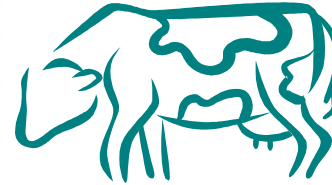


FarmVets
S O U T H W E S T



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Newsletter August 2014



Honiton Show - Thursday 7th August 2014

Visit us at **STAND 135 - AVENUE B**
at Honiton Show for a chat and a bite to eat
...let's hope the sun is still shining!

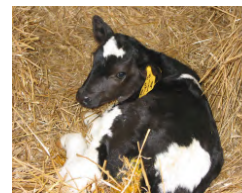
Calf Scours...Part 1

Neonatal calf scours remain an extremely common problem on our farms. This month we will look at the bugs causing the problem. Over the next few months we will look at treatment and prevention options. Obviously we need to know which bug we are up against in order to treat effectively, and then ultimately, prevent further disease. Unfortunately scours can be caused by any one of three different types of bugs (or a mixture of all three) as well as by nutritional upsets.

Common causes of scours

Bacteria	Viruses	Protozoa
E. coli	Rotavirus	Cryptosporidium ("crypto")
Salmonella	Coronavirus	Eimeria ("cocci" in older calves)
Campylobacter		

There is considerable overlap between the different causes which is why full diagnosis is so important. Thankfully, our labs now have scour testing kits and we can carry out microscope examinations to diagnose almost all of the above causes of scour. Drop in a sample, we only need a small amount (teaspoonful) in a glove or clean container, and let us do the rest. Samples are best collected from the calf if possible and not the floor.



Welcome and Farewell.....

This month we welcome two new vets, Graeme Martin and Matt Swanborough. Graeme hails from Northern Ireland and Matt comes from just up the road in Bristol. We also sadly say farewell to Corein - all of us at FarmVets wish him all the very best for the future.

Fog Fever.....



I have recently dealt with a most dramatic outbreak of fog fever. 45 suckler cows were turned onto aftermath that was not particularly lush. Six days later a cow died suddenly and was Anthrax negative. On the seventh day another cow died overnight without symptoms. A post-mortem was carried out on this cow on-farm and fog fever diagnosed. Examination of the group on the seventh day revealed three more cases and by the time the farmer treated them another one was showing signs of respiratory distress.

All the adults were wormed, in case of an underlying lungworm problem, and given Oxytetrin LA. The sick cows were given cortisone (Dexafort) and Metacam. Most importantly the cattle were moved to different pasture. One week later no further cows had died. Always be vigilant when turning cattle onto aftermath - suckler cows appear to be more susceptible but it is very difficult disease to predict or prevent.

Foot Trimming Course

The next 2 day Foot Trimming Course is on Wednesday 20th and Wednesday 27th August. The course is held at Rodway Farm, Cannington College and the tutor is David Taylor. Cost is £200 + VAT.

Contact any of our offices to book a place.



On my (final) round.....Corein Selles

I have tried, and will try, to say goodbye to as many people in person as possible but would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for making me feel very welcome during the last three years in lovely Somerset (and parts of Devon) and for making my stay here as good as it has been. Unfortunately, my partner Margit and I have decided we would like to move closer to our family and friends back home in the Netherlands, which means we have to say goodbye to vistas like the one below. From now on, our lives will be in Dutch again and very flat! Our relatives and friends and the new farmers had better make up for that!



We will definitely come back to visit, so I would say: See you again!!



AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS

Our offices will be closed on Monday, August 25th. Drugs can be collected at our North Petherton office **by appointment only**.