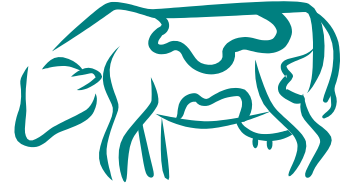


FarmVets

S O U T H W E S T



Unit 8 Sedgemoor Auction Centre
Market Way North Petherton
Somerset TA6 6DF
t: 01278 663399

www.thefarmvets.co.uk

Stopgate Cross
Yarcombe, Honiton
Devon EX14 9NB
t: 01404 861214

5, Larchfield Industrial Estate
Dowlish Ford, Ilminster
Somerset TA19 0PF
t: 01460 55004

Newsletter August 2016

Our Dairy Mastitis Control Plan will give you long term savings

FarmVets SouthWest will **cut mastitis costs** on your farm using the **AHDB Dairy Mastitis Control Plan**. A single case of mastitis costs, on average, **£250-300**. These costs include **treatment costs**, **cull costs**, and **economic losses** from **decreased production**, **cell count penalties** and **dumped milk**.



The exact costs vary considerably between farms and this is because the **underlying cause is different for every farm**. While for one farm improving the milking routine may be critical, for another farm it may be the dry cow housing that needs attention. For **£500 + VAT**, FarmVets SouthWest will undertake a **full mastitis investigation on your farm**.

During this visit we will:

- Measure and assess all your cattle housing
- Observe and assess milking routine
- Ask a series of questions relevant to all aspects of mastitis on your farm

Using this information, and all of your **mastitis data** (clinical cases and cell count data), we will diagnose the primary cause of mastitis and produce a **targeted plan specific to your farm**. This plan will **prioritise** changes on your farm that will have the **biggest impact on reducing mastitis in your cows**. Once we have produced this plan we will then return to your farm to give you feedback on all our findings and discuss how our proposed changes can be practically implemented on farm.

Contact our office to book your plan for only £500 + VAT

FarmVets Welcomes Stephen Hazelton

Stephen is originally from a suckler and sheep farm in Northern Ireland. He has graduated from Glasgow Vet School. Stephen is interested in all aspects of farm practice, especially herd health. Outside of work he enjoys playing football and swimming.



We support the BVD Free Campaign



ENGLAND



Want to eliminate BVD from your farm?

Want to keep your farm BVD free?

Want to find out the BVD risk of animals you are buying in?

Then pick up a registration form from our office or visit www.bvdfree.org.uk



ENGLAND



How do your calves measure up?

FarmVets SouthWest can help ensure your calves are **meeting required growth rates**.

Any of our vets will be happy to perform investigations into youngstock growth rates. **Parasite burdens** may be holding back your youngstock and choking your profits. Simply bring in a **faecal sample to the office** and one of our vets can carry out a faecal worm egg count. We can then advise which wormer is best on your unit (if one is needed). If coccidia are found, FVSW stock Vecoxan, to treat coccidiosis affecting your youngstock. Have you considered **trace element deficiency** in your stock recently? Copper deficiency, in particular, is rife on the Somerset Levels. FVSW stock all the trace element products you may need.



If you have scouring calves on your unit it is important that this is investigated. Again, simply **bring in a faecal sample** to the practice and we can perform a test 'while you wait' to find out the causative agent and provide suitable treatment/prevention plans. Cryptosporidiosis is a major threat to calf health and can be diagnosed this way; FVSW also stock Halocur for the prevention of this costly disease.

Iceberg diseases—what's below the surface?

Improve your flock productivity with FVSW by tackling chronic diseases in your flock. Johne's disease, Maedi-Visna (MV), ovine pulmonary adenomatosis (OPA) and caseous lymphadenitis (CLA) are iceberg diseases - **some sheep have obvious disease, but many more will be infected**. These infected sheep will go on to develop clinical signs, but they may have a prolonged period of sub-optimal productivity before this point. **What signs should I look for?** All four diseases cause wasting/weight loss. MV and OPA lead to an increased breathing rate and effort and exercise intolerance. MV also causes a hardening of the udder. CLA causes abscesses within lymph nodes leading to swellings (especially around the head and neck).

How can FarmVets SouthWest help? Never waste a cull ewe! **Examination of a group of thin ewes** can help point in the right direction, especially by ruling out other causes like fluke, haemonchosis, broken mouths etc. OPA changes in the lung can be seen with an ultrasound scanner. **Blood sampling is necessary** to confirm the diseases but can also be used to determine if there are **trace element deficiencies**. **Sacrificing cull ewes for post-mortem examination** can also provide a diagnosis and is definitely worth considering if the ewes are not fit for sale.



Reduce deaths in growing lambs with Heptavac P Plus

Clostridial related deaths in growing lambs are occurring in large numbers. Maternally derived protection from vaccinated ewes will be gone by 2-3 months of age. There is **no treatment**, but vaccination with **Heptavac P Plus** is **very effective at preventing disease** (2 doses, 4-6 weeks apart, from 3 weeks old).

Honiton Show

We look forward to seeing you at Stand 130 Avenue B on Thursday, August 4th.
Please be aware that the Yarcombe office will not be open until 11:00 on 4th August.

Bluetongue Update

There are now two vaccines available (Zulvac 8 & Bluevac BTv8). Speak to us today about protecting your herd or flock from this potentially deadly disease.