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Newsletter June 2013

BOVILIS SBV VACCINE NOW LICENCED

SBV, which emerged in late 2011, is transmitted via insect vectors (mainly midges) and causes transient clinical symptoms in adult cattle and sheep, such as fever, diarrhoea and reduced milk yield, as well as congenital malformation in newborn calves and lambs.

Bovilis SBV is indicated for the active immunisation of cattle to prevent viraemia against SBV and for the active immunisation of sheep to reduce viraemia against SBV.



Cattle from two months of age are to be vaccinated by intramuscular injection of two doses of 2ml, administered with an interval of approximately four weeks. Sheep from four months of age are to be vaccinated by subcutaneous injection of one dose of 2ml.

Bovilis SBV is now available in 20ml and 100ml vials.

ANTIBIOTICS - CORRECT DOSAGE AND RESISTANCE

Antibiotic resistance in humans is a hot topic at the moment. Although as yet there is no scientific evidence of a link between usage of antibiotics in agriculture and the acceleration of resistance in humans, there is certainly a political link.

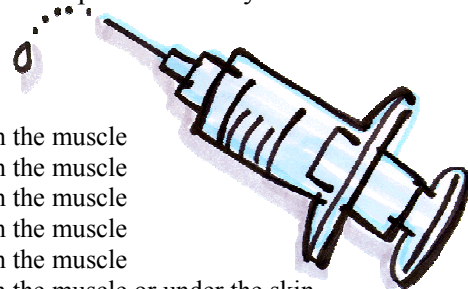
Having said that, we in the industry should be very keen to treat these products with respect and ensure that we will not be "in the dock" when the time comes. The use of antibiotics when not needed should be avoided - as should the use of the wrong antibiotic for a particular disease. Under dosage of antibiotics (as with anthelmintics) is contra-indicated, and could lead to resistance.

The classic 20-25mls dosage for cows with common products like Pen+Strep, Tylan, Duphamox, CombiClav and even Finadyne was fine in the '60s when cows weighed 500kg. The modern cow (Holstein, continental beef animals) is more likely to be 650kg plus, especially after calving. Therefore Pen+Strep, Tylan, Duphamox, CombiClav etc etc she should receive 33mls per dose.

Aha!! This will cost more you think.....**but** it is even more expensive to buy a bottle and then under dose and get zero value therapeutically.

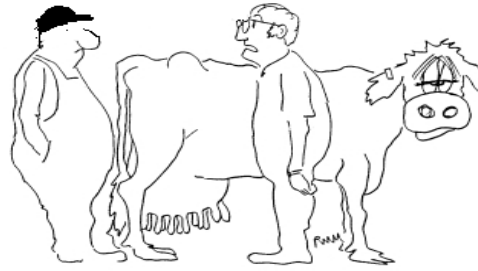
Pen & Strep	33ml (3-6 days)
Tylan	33ml (3-6 days)
Duphamox	33ml (3-6 days)
CombiClav	33ml (3-6 days)
Oxytetrin LA	65 ml once
Marbocyl	13-15ml (3-5 days)
Ceftiocyl	13-15ml (3-5 days)

In the muscle
In the muscle
In the muscle
In the muscle
In the muscle
In the muscle or under the skin
Under the skin



SUPERNUMERARY TEATS

Extra teats or supernumerary teats are commonly found in cattle. They can be really small and completely harmless but quite often are a nuisance during milking. Farms with automatic milking systems will lose some cows over this as the robot struggles to see the difference between the normal teats and the extra teats.



In the worse case scenario, supernumerary teats can be connected to the actual milk glands and cause milk dripping and even mastitis. Normally these are removed during disbudding but sometimes it is too difficult to make the difference between the right and the wrong ones (and they can of course be overlooked). We can remove these surgically if they are causing any trouble (this should preferably be done before heifers calf and are not yet bagged up, or in the dry period). Please contact any of the vets for more information.

Congrats!



Congratulations.....

To Brian Miller, Moorshard Farm and Matt House, Fowlers Plot on their success with their show cows at Devon County Show and to John Wylde, Martlands Farm on his success at Holsworthy Livestock Market....well done to all!

On our rounds.....David Taylor

After finishing a ceasar a couple of weekends ago I was asked to examine a lamb that had an extensive skin infection between the hind legs. It was the first time I had seen anything like it. In one of those bizarre coincidences that life sometimes throws up, two days later another lamb on a different farm was presented with a very similar problem but in a different pattern.



The cause of the problem was “bacterial super-infection of severe contagious ecthyma lesions” or rather, really severe orf lesions that became infected with the stinking bacteria that cause foul and womb infections. One lamb was euthanased and the other, less severely affected, is under treatment to control the bacterial infection. This begs the question, “Why?”. We can’t be sure but with many ewes in very poor condition, and with small amounts of poor quality colostrum being produced, it is not a wild stretch of logic to link the poor year to run-down, susceptible animals being unable to cope with common infections.