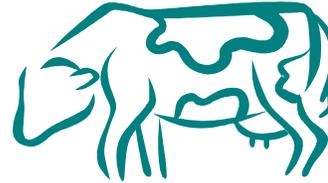




# FarmVets

S O U T H W E S T



[www.thefarmvets.co.uk](http://www.thefarmvets.co.uk)

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

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

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

## Newsletter May 2016

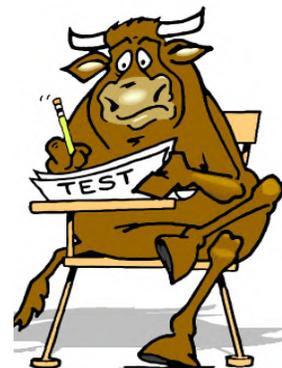
### Use our BSE to avoid expensive mistakes

FarmVets SouthWest can **improve your herd fertility with breeding soundness exams** in your bulls.

Cows are regularly blamed for poor fertility in herds while the bull is often overlooked. A bull can suffer infertility due to disease, injury, or simply overuse/old age.

Completely infertile bulls are obvious as every cow will return with absolutely no conceptions occurring. Completely infertile bulls are, however, rare - **but between 20-30% of bulls are SUB-FERTILE.**

**Sub-fertile bulls are a much bigger problem** as they continue to get a few cows in calf thus avoiding suspicion, but fail to successfully inseminate a significant number they serve. The result is **poor conception rates, extended calving intervals, and significant economic loss.** This is a particular problem if a tight calving pattern is important. New bulls should be tested **before purchase** and existing bulls should be **tested annually** or **before each service period.**



A **breeding soundness exam (BSE)** involves a general physical exam including scrotal examination and measurement, penis examination, a rectal exam to check internal glands, and collection of semen using an electro-ejaculator. The semen is then assessed under a microscope to look for any potential infertility problems.

**The consequence of missing a sub-fertile bull is costly. Contact our office for a price and to book in a breeding soundness exam with one of our qualified BSE vets.**

### Improve Abrupt Dry Off with Velactis



FVSW now stock **Velactis** - an aid to abrupt dry off in cows.

When given by single injection immediately after last milking, Velactis reduces milk leakage by 80% and decreases new intramammary infections during the dry period by 21%! Buy **Velactis** from FVSW to improve cow welfare, reduce mastitis, and save money!

### May Bank Holiday Opening Hours



Our offices will be shut on Bank Holiday Monday 30th May.  
Drugs can be collected from our Sedgemoor Office **by appointment only.**



## Our Health Plans will reduce your Worm Burden

**FarmVets SouthWest will reduce losses in your flock from just £60** using our **worm control plans**. Disease due to gut worms in sheep is the single biggest cause of lost production in the UK, costing the industry £84 million per year in 2005.



For £60 you will receive tailored advice on:

- Optimising use of clean grazing to minimise worm exposure
- Detecting wormer resistance within your flock (over 80% of English flocks have resistance to at least one class of wormer)
- Minimising selection for wormer resistance
- Treatment timing and selection to maximise effectiveness
- Avoiding unnecessary treatments
- Quarantine treatments to minimise the risk of importation of new resistant strains of worms

**FarmVets SouthWest also offer single issue control plans on lameness, external parasites mastitis, neonatal lamb mortality etc.** at £60 each. Alternatively, pay **£150** for a **complete flock health plan** which covers all of these topics.

Faecal worm egg counts are essential tools for determining the **need to treat** and whether **treatments** have been **effective** and are vital for the detection of **wormer resistance**. We can perform these tests in our own lab at the following prices:

- Individual counts (including pooled) - £12
- 5 or more counts - £8 each
- Faecal egg count reduction test (to detect wormer resistance) - £100 per drug tested (which includes 10 before tests and 10 after tests)

Speak to one of our vets to find out when you should be testing!

## Good Fly Control Starts Early

FarmVets SouthWest can help you prevent the **economic losses** and **welfare concerns** associated with **fly infestations**. In suckler cows and dairy heifers, fly species are a nuisance to the animal, **reducing liveweight gain**, but more importantly, flies are implicated in the spread of **summer mastitis**. Summer mastitis is a painful inflammatory condition spread by flies that typically leads to the loss of the affected quarter. In sheep, lambs may become affected by fly strike, a condition where the fly larvae (maggots) bury into the fleece of the animal and cause **severe damage to the skin and underlying tissues**.



With the weather warming up the risk of **fly-strike** is increasing. Aim to apply products in good time to prevent cases of this unpleasant, costly and potentially fatal problem. FarmVets SouthWest stock a variety of fly control products licenced to treat strike and prevent fly infestation in both cattle and sheep.



## Blackleg Vaccine

Vaccinate your cattle and sheep now with **Blackleg Vaccine** to protect them ready for grazing this year. Available from us now at a **special price**.

