

Newsletter December 2018

Medicine Residues

Milk buyers are now testing more bulk tanks for residues and their test can find more medicines than was previously the case.

MilkSure✓

Now, following a bulk milk antibiotic failure, most buyers will use the “Infiniplex” test which can find up to 40 products which were previously unlikely to be found.

These include flukicides, wormers, steroids and NSAIDs, as well as antibiotics which shouldn't be used in milking cows. Now more than ever it pays to be extremely vigilant with regards to withholding milk appropriately when required.

New Product: Ketofen 10%

Given the current unavailability of Finadyne we have sourced a new alternative. Finadyne was an NSAID (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory) or “pain killer”. Other NSAIDs that are available include Metacam or now, Ketofen.



The advantage of Ketofen is that it has a very short meat withhold (1-4 days depending on the route of administration) and **zero milk withhold**. Ketofen can be used to treat the same conditions that we would have used Finadyne for and can be i/v or i/m.

The zero milk withhold will be very useful considering the increased awareness of medicine residues in milk. See the related article above on medicine residues.

Merry Christmas from FVSW



Our offices are open as normal over the Christmas period except for the following;

Christmas Eve - Close at 3pm
Christmas Day & Boxing Day - CLOSED
New Years Day - CLOSED

Don't forget to order and collect medicines in good time!

All at FarmVets SouthWest wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous 2019

DIY- Lamb Post-Mortem Workshop

On Wednesday, **12th December** we are running a DIY Post-Mortem Workshop for members of our 'Flock Health Club' which we have decided to open up to other sheep clients for a fee of £30.

There will be an afternoon meeting taking place in the **Ilminster Office at 2:30pm** and an evening meeting in **Sedgemoor Auction Centre at 6:30pm**. The same content will be covered in both meetings.

This workshop is designed to provide you with the skills to confidently examine lamb carcasses following death in the first few days of life and determine common causes of death to aid in prevention of further deaths and treatment decisions. Please ring any of our offices to book your place today.



FVSW Beef Club 2019: Suckler Cows

Over the past 12 months we have trialled an in-house suckler cow discussion group. This is a farmer led, vet facilitated discussion group aimed at producers with over 30 breeding suckler cows.

It has proved very successful and so will be continuing in 2019. Membership for next year costs £150 and for that we will run four bespoke farmer meetings every year where we discuss specific topics which you have chosen. The meetings are usually on farm and this year's group have loved having a look at each other's farms just as much as taking part in the discussion!

Last year we covered Fertility, Worms, Fluke, Pneumonia and BVD with the specific emphasis on suckler cow systems. In between meetings you have the option to do follow up work on your own farms with a dedicated Vet.

We are now enrolling farms for 2019 so if you are interested please let the office know. Spaces are limited as the group works better with restricted numbers.



Sheep Scab Blood Testing Vouchers

We have received a number of '**£20 off vouchers**' from BioBest Laboratories to aid in the cost of screening flocks for Sheep Scab bringing the cost of a 12 ewe screen down to £52 + VAT for the Lab testing. ***Time to take bloods and visit cost are not included in the price above.*** A 12 sheep screen can detect 20% prevalence in a single flock of up to 2000 sheep. Incidence of sheep scab has increased in recent months across the country, and ensuring your flock are free of this disease is prudent. Furthermore, minimising the use of products such as Dectomax will help limit the build-up of resistance on your farm and a blood test will help identify whether costly injectable drugs are really required.



Your local farm veterinary service

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