

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

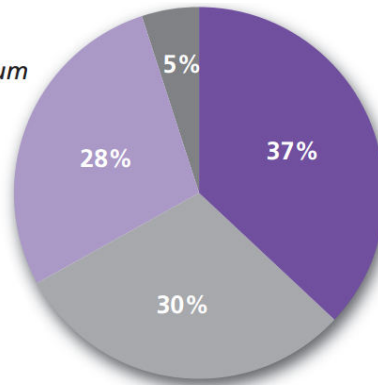
5, Larchfield Industrial Estate
Dowlish Ford, Ilminster
Somerset TA19 0PF
t:01460 55004

Newsletter January 2017

New Year's Resolution Edition

Happy New Year! For those of you still looking for a New Year resolution that's easier than giving up chocolate then read on!

- Rotavirus
- Cryptosporidium*
- Coronavirus
- E.coli* K99



It's easy to get into bad habits, and **drug choice on farm** is no exception, especially when it comes to things like **calf scour**. When presented with a scouring calf it's very tempting to grab the nearest antibiotic you happen to have on the shelf in the hope you are doing some good. In reality you are probably just **wasting money**.

The graph on the left shows the most common causes of scour in pre-weaned calves. *E. coli* K99 is the one bug on the

list that actually responds to antibiotics and this only accounts for 5% of the scour cases. This means for 95% of cases the antibiotic is doing absolutely nothing!

- **Rotavec Corona vaccine** helps protect against **Rotavirus, Coronavirus, and E.Coli.**
- **Halocur** is the treatment for **Cryptosporidium.**

Make your New Year's resolution to **first find out what bugs you are fighting** with **Scour Check**. This costs only £19.50 + VAT and is an **instant on farm test** for the main causes of scour in pre-weaned calves. The biggest killer of calves with scour, **regardless of cause**, is **dehydration**. Mildly dehydrated calves can be managed with **oral fluids** but those which cannot stand need a **vet visit** to **drip with fluids in the vein** as oral fluids alone are not sufficient for these calves.

FarmVets SouthWest invites our Dairy clients to an Evening Meeting

Thursday, 16th February 2017 (prompt start at 7pm)

Sedgemoor Auction Centre

'Would you like to get more milk from grass this grazing season?'

Come along to our talk on improving grazing management for your dairy herd and maximising productivity from your fields.

Free bar and hot meal served at the end of the meeting.

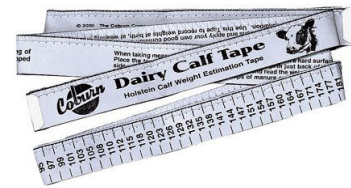
Please contact one of our offices to reserve your place as soon as possible

Get the Dose right—the importance of correct dosing

Getting the dose correct is important. **Under dosing** may result in **treatment failure**. **Overdosing** is **wasteful**, can lead to **toxicity** (the safety margins vary a lot from drug to drug) and runs the risk of **residues in meat or milk** even after the standard withdrawal period.

Follow these steps to get doses correct:

- **Always read the dose rate on the packaging/bottle**
- **Weigh animals and calculate doses accordingly**



If weighing isn't possible, **weigh tapes are available** for cattle and pigs which quickly give a reasonable estimate of weight. Contact the practice to **order yours today!**

Vaccines: Cutting Corners Will Cost You Money

Attention to detail in regard to the storage, handling and administration of vaccines is paramount in order to avoid perceived vaccine failure which is costly in terms of reduced animal performance.



Unopened vaccines can be stored in a fridge (2-8°C) until they reach their expiry date. However, **once the vaccine container has been broached the vaccine needs to be used immediately.**

Vaccines should be administered using a clean sterile needle and in order to allow the animal's immune system to respond appropriately. For this reason **administering more than two vaccines at the same time is not recommended.**

Vaccines do not provide any reliable level of immunity until after the primary course has been completed. This will often consist of two injections and it is important to remember to complete the primary course correctly following the protocol given on the data sheet. It is also important not to let boosters run overdue as otherwise a repeat of the primary course will be required. **Whilst FarmVets SouthWest hold a wide range of vaccines in stock, we encourage all our farms to place orders well in advance of their booster due date.**

Upcoming Foot Trimming Course

For those of you that are interested there is still time to **book one of our last few remaining places on our first Foot Trimming course of 2017.**

On the **18th & 25th January** FarmVets SouthWest will be running a Foot Trimming course alongside Category 1 foot trimmer Phil Jones. Whether you are a first time trimmer or you're just after a refresher on both routine and corrective trimming techniques **call now to book your place for just £200 +VAT. Can't make it this time but still interested?** Call now to register your interest for the next available date.



Remember - you can like FarmVets SouthWest on Facebook to be kept up to date with all future AI and Foot Trimming courses, as well as our regular free client meetings.

