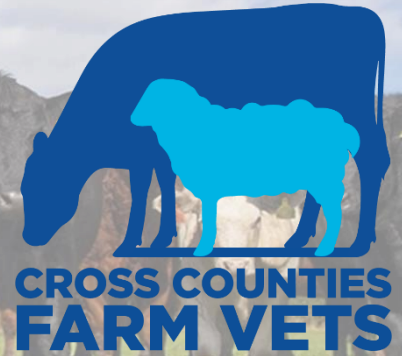


Emergency ☎ 01455 710935

August 2024 NEWSLETTER



Welcome

Calf scoring and colostrum:

Did you know our vets and vet tech can perform routine visits to assess and monitor calf health. Calf health visits include scoring calves for the following aspects:

- Daily live weight gains
- Nasal and ocular discharge
- Ear position and head carriage
- Demeanour
- Coughing
- Respiratory category – lung health
- Rectal temperature
- Faecal consistency
- Navel health
- Joint appearance

Good colostrum management is one of the essential aspects of calf health. During these visits we can take bloods for total protein levels, allowing us to assess if there has been adequate colostrum delivery from dam to calf and if the colostrum is of appropriate quality.

Ensuring a good quality backup source of colostrum is available on farm is also key in cases where the dam has insufficient quantity or quality of colostrum. We always have some in stock at the practice and recommend you do too.

How is this useful to me?

The data collected during a calf health visit is analysed and collated into a report, forming part of a bespoke plan for your farm. This allows us, farmers and stockpersons to track trends in calf health and take early action if calves require treatment or more in-depth monitoring.

With earlier interventions, response to treatment typically improves, shortening disease duration and reducing the impact of disease on growth rates, future health and mortality levels.

Get in touch today to book in for our calf health services.

Product updates: Kexxtone

Kexxtone boluses have been temporarily suspended from the UK market due to a previous manufacturing issue. Elanco are working to get the product returned to the UK market as soon as possible. We will update you further once we have more information.

Announcements

This month we welcome Teri and Sally to our farm support team! Please expect to hear some new voices on the end of the phone and be patient whilst they are learning the ropes.

Sadly, Sam from our farm support team is moving onto pastures new, and we wish her all the best in her next adventure.

Jessica goes on maternity leave this month. I'm sure you will join us in wishing her and her family all the best

Christmas Quiz

Please save the date for this year's quiz, which will be held on Friday 6th December 2024.

Did you hear about the wooden tractor?

It had wooden wheels, a wooden engine, wooden transmission and wooden work!

New Forest Disease

New Forest disease or Infectious bovine keratoconjunctivitis is a contagious eye disease that spreads rapidly in the summer months, usually within youngstock. It is caused by the bacteria *Moraxella bovis*, which can be transmitted animal to animal by nuisance flies.

Clinical signs:

- Tear staining of the face
- Pain leading to disrupted grazing patterns
- Pus and matting of the eyelids.
- Temporary blindness in one or both eyes.
- Ulceration of the eye
- Sensitivity to light



Prompt treatment, including pain relief, is essential. However, please be aware that other diseases can present with similar clinical signs (e.g. foreign body in the conjunctival sac, silage eye and Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis) and it is therefore always worth speaking to a vet first. Good fly prevention and control is important to help reduce disease levels.

In some cases, New Forest disease can be brought in with purchased stock, so ensure new animals are isolated or managed as one group away from the main herd.

Haemonchus Warning:

Haemonchus, also known as barber's pole worm, is a blood sucking worm affecting sheep and goats. It can cause anaemia and death in some cases. Haemonchus loves warm and wet conditions, which fits this summer well. The juvenile and adult worms found in the animal can cause a lot of damage and just 10 worms can consume 0.5ml of blood per day. The adult and juvenile worms can be present and cause disease before they start laying eggs and appearing in faecal egg counts. Therefore, vigilance of flocks and checking for the clinical signs is key at this time of year.

Clinical signs:

- Pale mucous membranes
- Swelling underneath jaw or brisket
- Failure to thrive / weight loss
- +/- diarrhoea
- Collapse / sudden death.



If you have any concerns or would like further resources on how best to check your stock's mucous membranes and other clinical signs, please get in touch.

Cross Counties Farm Vets

Lutterworth Branch: Elizabethan House, Lutterworth, Leicestershire, LE17 4NJ. ☎ 01455 552117

Welford Branch: Elkington Lodge, Elkington Road, Welford, Northampton, NN6 6HE. ☎ 01455 710935

Broughton Astley Branch: 12 Swannington Road, Broughton Astley, Leicestershire, LE9 6TU. ☎ 01455 282512

Email: office@ccfarmvets.co.uk **Website:** www.ccfarmvets.co.uk **Facebook:** Cross Counties Farm Vets

Broughton Vet Group Ltd trading as Cross Counties Farm Vets. Company number 9243007 registered in England & Wales. Registered office: Spitfire House, Aviator Court, York, YO30 4UZ