

June 2026 NEWSLETTER



Welcome

PAPERLESS INVOICES

Going forwards, we will be moving to email invoicing in a step to be more environmentally friendly. This means you should receive your invoices more efficiently, and results in us using less paper, ink, stamps and manpower!

If you do not wish to receive a paperless invoice and would still like a printed copy in the post, please contact the office on 01455 710935 or office@ccfarmvets.co.uk to let us know.

Our newsletters will also be moving to an email platform, so all clients will be able to access these each month directly. If you wish to receive a paper copy, please contact the office.

WHATSAPP BUSINESS

We are launching a WhatsApp account for the practice. This means we can keep you up to date with meetings, events and other news straight to your phone. A welcome message has been sent to the main contact number for all active client accounts. If there are any additional contacts you wish to receive these messages, or you wish to change the number that receives the messages, please let us know and we can adjust our contact list. If you did not receive the welcome message and would like to be added to our mailing list, please let us know.

You can use the Business WhatsApp to order medicines, respond to meeting invitations and book visits.



Please note that the inbox will be monitored during office hours only so should not be used for emergencies.

We also have a new telephone system which will allow us to record our conversations, helping to make us more efficient and effective!

In this issue:

- Paperless invoicing
- Smallholders Club Meeting
- WhatsApp
- Performing FECs
- Beef Club Meeting
- Calving data analysis

** NEW DATE **

SMALLHOLDERS CLUB MEETING

Comparative anatomy of the upper gastro-intestinal tract of Ruminants, Camelids and Pigs

Thursday 18th June 2026
7.00 arrival,
7:30pm start



Held at the Welford office,
Elkington Lodge, NN6 6HE
Open to all
Tea and biscuits provided.



☎ 01455710935

✉ office@ccfarmvets.co.uk

Why was the hen promoted?

Sheep Abortion Vaccines

A reminder to start thinking about ordering your sheep abortion vaccines. Giving us plenty of advance warning to make sure we have your Toxovax and Enzovax/Cevac in stock for when you need it will ensure that preparation for tupping goes smoothly.

How to collect faecal samples for a WEC

1

- Mob up the group you wish to collect samples from.
- Ideally, you need 10-15 samples.

2 - Option A

- Collect samples from 10-15 random individuals and place them into separate bags/containers.
- Collect either directly from the rectum or as soon as the faeces lands on the ground.

2 - Option B

- Using a small spoon/scoop, collect equal amounts of faeces from the randomly selected animals.
- Place all samples into one bag/container.

3

- Clearly label the bag/container with:
- Your details
 - Mob/group name
 - Date collected
 - Any symptoms
 - Any treatment information (ie. wormer used recently)

4

- Drop the samples to the vets office as soon as you are able to.
- If you cannot, keep them refrigerated overnight and drop in the next day.



Worm egg counting (WEC), or faecal egg counting (FEC), is a valuable tool for monitoring parasite burdens in sheep. By measuring the number of worm eggs in a faecal sample, the test helps determine whether treatment is needed and supports more targeted use of anthelmintics.

Regular egg counts can improve parasite control, reduce unnecessary dosing, and help slow the development of anthelmintic resistance. They are also useful for checking whether worming treatments have been effective.

Results should always be interpreted alongside factors such as animal age, performance, grazing history, and clinical signs. Used as part of a flock health plan, worm egg counting is a simple, cost-effective way to support sheep health and productivity.

Let Your Calving Data Work for You This Summer

Spring calving may be over, but now is the time to review your records and plan to improve next year's performance.

Make Your Calving Data Count

Start by reviewing **calving ease**. Which sires produced calves that needed assistance? Repeated difficult calvings can increase costs, calf losses, and reduce cow fertility. Calving ease EBVs should be a key consideration when selecting bulls, particularly for heifers.

Next, consider **gestation length**. Longer pregnancies are associated with increased calving difficulty, and reviewing service and calving dates may highlight sires or cows that consistently run long.

Assess **calf vigour** too. Calves that are slow to stand and suckle are at greater risk of poor colostrum intake, disease, and reduced performance.

Finally, identify cows that **required treatment around calving**, such as for milk fever, retained cleansings, prolapses or metritis. Repeat problem cows should be carefully reviewed when making culling decisions.

Summer Health Priorities for Beef Herds

Fertility: Body condition score cows NOW. Animals below BCS 2.5 are more likely to have delayed return to fertility. Diet must be adapted to surpass energy demands. Investigate cows with suspected uterine disease before breeding begins.

Calf Pneumonia: March and April-born calves are entering a high-risk period. Review vaccination protocols and treat sick calves promptly to minimise long-term lung damage.

Parasites: Worm burdens are increasing on pasture. Use faecal egg counts (FECs) in 10x pooled samples from calves under 12 months old to guide treatment decisions and avoid unnecessary dosing. Drop your samples to us today!

The decisions you make now—using your calving records and addressing key summer health risks—can have a significant impact on fertility, productivity and the ease of next year's calving season.

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