

## ---THE UPDATE---

### DRY JANUARY??

Well what a start to the new year! As we all battle on through the seemingly endless rain and snow, it seems hard to believe that spring should be lurking somewhere around that corner... Whoever decided DRY JANUARY was a good idea, clearly didn't work outside!!

For so many of you, the work load is about to drastically increase as we head into calving and lambing season. The Office team would like you to know that should you be heading into CountryWide for supplies, you are welcome to come in for a cuppa. They really enjoy catching up with you all.

Just to remind you, the Thame office is now open on Saturdays from 9am-1pm should you need to pick anything up.

We have been very busy down at NorCal Wantage, the cupboards are full, and our southern clients have managed to find where we are. (Elms Farm Business Park, opposite the builders merchants Tel:

01235 429 767

## LAMBING CHECKLIST

We have put together a quick checklist for all of you who are about to start lambing, when have plenty of the below in stock, so give us a call or drop in fill up your cupboards before you get too busy.

- ✓ **10% iodine to dip navels** – dip cup better than spray for 100% coverage, remember to clean out dip cups regularly, as iodine is deactivated by muck and rubbish!
- ✓ **Artificial colostrum/** frozen ewe or cow colostrum  
*(The average lamb needs 200ml or 10% of its weight)*
- ✓ **Stomach tube**
- ✓ **Rings** for tail docking and castration, remember to ensure lambs are >12 hours old and have had colostrum before applying rings
- ✓ **Heat lamp** – for warming up lambs with hypothermia
- ✓ **Calciject No. 6** - for treatment of pregnancy toxemia  
*(Affected ewes initially go off food before being found wandering aimlessly or recumbent and blind. Treatment requires 80-100ml under the skin of Calciject No.6 plus oral glucose drenching)*
- ✓ **Orojet/Spectam/Oxytet tabs (discontinued)** - these antibiotics should only be used once a case of watery mouth has been diagnosed on farm and not as a substitute for poor shed and lambing pen hygiene. Watery mouth is caused by E-coli bacteria which build up in dirty environments so lambing pen hygiene is very important.
- ✓ **Tagging equipment** and tags
- ✓ **Bimoxyl LA or PenStrep** – good to have on hand for either a dirty lambing or ewe with mastitis – speak to one of the vets if you are unsure of a protocol for this.

### Vaccines to consider:

- ✓ **Scabivax** - for protection of lambs against Orf, can be given to lambs from 1 day old
- ✓ **Ovivac P** - to protect lambs from Clostridial disease and Pasteruella pneumonia, can be given from 3 weeks of age, 2 doses required 4-6 weeks apart for full protection.

**\*\*Remember** if you have ewes aborting, and we are heading out to you, don't throw away the placenta or the dead lambs\*\*



## VACCINATING, WORMING, FLEA AND TICK CONTROL FOR FARM/ WORKING DOGS

I think it's fair to say that this is an area that many of us overlook. The silly thing is that your farm dogs are at far higher risk of ingesting worms and contracting diseases that can be vaccinated against than the everyday house dwelling dog.

**Vaccination:** In the UK pet dogs are vaccinated against:

- **Leptospirosis** as a practice we see working dogs die from this. Normally caught from rats, it causes rapid kidney and liver failure. Leptospirosis can also be caught by humans from dogs (Zoonotic). It needs annual vaccine top ups.
- **Distemper** is now very rare in the UK due to rigorous vaccination, but is still found in foxes.
- **Infectious Hepatitis** is uncommon, but can be caught from other dogs and foxes.
- **Parvo-virus** is common enough in the UK mainly effecting puppies with up to 90% mortality rate.

**Vaccination Protocol:** If the dog hasn't been vaccinated before or hasn't been vaccinated for a couple of years they need a starter course: 2 vaccines 4 weeks apart, after that they need 1 vaccine a year.

**Price:** Starter course £ 40. Annual Booster £24. More than 4 dogs discount £20 per vaccine (inc VAT)

### Worming

These guidelines are for dogs which over 8 weeks old, and not pregnant. Your dog and cat worming should be recorded in your medicine book to for your FABBL inspection. Worms that infect dogs can be simplified into these categories:

- Tapeworms (rice): Dogs pick these up by eating uncooked meat/ carcasses, and pass them to livestock via eggs in the dog faeces. The worm will encyst in the muscle/ liver of the cow/sheep. This effects carcass quality and can pass onto humans if the meat isn't cooked properly.
- Round+Hook worms (spaghetti): cause weight loss and stomach upsets in dogs and can pass to humans esp children.
- Lung worm: Dogs catch lungworm from slugs and snails, it doesn't pass to cattle or humans. It can cause fatal bleeding and is rapidly spreading in the UK with warmer weather. ([lungworm.co.uk](http://lungworm.co.uk) for more info)

### **Guide:**

- As an absolute minimum a dog should be wormed every 3 months to protect the people living around it
- A dog working cattle and sheep should be wormed every 6 weeks to prevent contamination of meat
- In areas of high risk for Lungworm, dogs should be wormed once a month (especially through the summer)

### **What to use:**

We are fans of keeping things as simple and cost effective as possible. We prescribe Milbemax® to worm dogs.

✓ Tasty and easy to administer ✓ Safe for use in all breeds including Collies ✓ Treats all the important worms mentioned above (*inc Lungworm, many wormers don't*) ✓ Simple dosing

**Price:** Adult tablet- £5.76 (ex-vat) Discount Offer- 4+1 free

- 5-25kg dogs = 1 adult tablet
- 25-50kg dogs = 2 adult tablets
- 1-5kg dogs = 1 puppy tablet

### **Flea and Ticks**

Fleas are far less common in dogs than they are in cats. Ticks are becoming more of a burden these days especially for dogs working with Game. We advise using Bravecto®, this is a tablet which when given will kill all fleas and ticks on the dog, and protect them from further infestation for the next 3 months.

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**NorCal Vets Thame**

**NorCal Vets Wantage**

Pearces Yard, Aylesbury Road, Thame, OX9 3AS  
Tel: 01844 260 616  
Mob: 07725 039 093 (Evan)  
[evan@norcalvets.co.uk](mailto:evan@norcalvets.co.uk)

Unit 8a Elms Farm Business Park, Grove Road , Wantage  
OX12 7PD  
Tel: 01235 429 767  
Mob: 07711 923 909 (Jono)  
[evan@norcalvets.co.uk](mailto:evan@norcalvets.co.uk)