



## MAY NEWSLETTER...

Dear Customer

As I write this the weather has been unseasonably warm (20°C) – great for all of you lambing outdoors and for turning out cows and calves. However, it has led to complaints of lack of grass growth and potential lack of forage for winter and summer grazing. In general though, dairy cattle have seen a rise in milk production and suckler cows have had plenty of milk so are maintaining condition. On the downside, the flies are out and I have seen several cases of fly strike with many farmers already starting to shear ewes and rams.

### Sheep

With the warmer weather, beware of *Nematodirus* worms in lambs. *Nematodirus* eggs are deposited on pasture by last year's lambs. After the last frost of the year (late March) followed by this warm weather, the eggs are awakened and become larvae and are ready to infect this year's lambs. Clinical signs are profuse watery green diarrhoea, weight loss and in many cases death. I have already seen cases this year.

This condition is easily treated with normal worming: white wormers ie Panacur work better than the clear wormers ie Ivermectin.



### Suckler Cow

The spring calving season is coming to an end for some while just starting for others. For those who are finishing now is the time when potential calving problems can occur - often due to large calves and over-fat cows. This could be avoided if cow service dates were recorded so to manage cow condition better, and if a tight calving pattern is maintained.



There have been a few reported cases this year of 'stagers' despite the dry weather.

Hot weather has brought out the flies early this year. Flies can cause summer mastitis, eye problems and are a nuisance to cattle. It is important to keep up with prevention treatment (Spot On, Flypor, Swish) as described by the manufacturer.



Summer Mastitis is transmitted by flies. Clinical signs are hot, swollen quarter with a foul smelling thick secretion from the udder. Treatment needs to be swift or cows will die. Treat with anti-inflammatory and antibiotics.

The aim is to save the cow's life and the calf inside.

## New Products

Eficur is the *new* Excenel - it is exactly the same, just less expensive! Eficur is also available in a 250ml bottle size offering greater savings.



I know this is a problem on all farms. It is important to identify *Streptococcus uberis* positive cows either by SCC or bacteriology. The best chance of cure is to treat early...



## Dairy Cow Mastitis Mamyzin



*Streptococcus uberis* is the second most common bacteria isolated from samples taken this year, after *E.coli*. *Strep uberis* and can be quite difficult to cure. It can be caught from the environment, spread in the parlour or picked up during the dry period.

Mamyzin has demonstrated an 81.2% bacteriological cure rate against gram positive bacteria like *Streptococcus uberis*. Mamyzin achieves this as it contains a 'pro-drug' of penicillin. The 'pro-drug' ensures that the penicillin will be trapped in the udder where it is needed.

Mamysin is injectable ensuring it treats all 4 quarters with one injection. Manufacturers recommend giving one 10gram vial per day for 5 days. Note: we have seen better results with treating for 7 days.

## Farmer Meetings

The recently held 'Maximising Suckler Cow Fertility' and 'Game Bird' meetings were a success judging by the number of attendees – so thank you for your support at these. The next round of meeting dates and topics will be announced shortly...

## Price Increase

Unfortunately, please note that future visit costs will be increasing by £5 across the board due to high fuel costs.

## Reminder of Contact Details:

**Mobile: 077725 035093**  
**Vet Practice: 01844 212034**

## Business Opportunity

Clare, my wife, is also a Vet as you may know. She has also started a business from home in the health and nutrition industry, supported and underpinned by a large International Company.

She is looking to expand her business and needs ambitious, open-minded people (men and women) who are looking to earn more money and have more time. It is very flexible and doesn't need to compromise current work/family commitments. Give Clare a call 07789 070296 if you'd like more information!