

Watery Mouth Treatment

Last month we included an article on how to prevent Watery Mouth. Now we look at what you can do with affected lambs to try to save them.

- **Antibiotics:** Alamyacin LA (1 ml/10 kg) or Trymox LA (1ml/10kg i/m) or Diatrim (1ml/16kg) i/m once daily for 3 days). Ideally, we should test samples to see which antibiotics will work on your farm, as resistance is not uncommon.
- **NSAIDS:** Allevinix (1ml/25kg i/m once only)
- **Oral Rehydration:** Rehydion Gel (2 ml) orally twice daily until recovered. Avoid feeding milk initially, as studies suggest the gut stops moving and so the milk does not clot. Once they improve, start feeding milk again.
- **Keep them warm** using a heat lamp or warming box.



**SHEEP SCANNING
NOW AVAILABLE
CALL FOR DETAILS**

Worming Ewes Many of our clients have traditionally treated all their ewes with a wormer on turnout after lambing. We are seeing worm resistance to white, yellow and clear drenches with increasing frequency on farms in the area. To reduce the risk of this, we are advising farmers to keep the use of wormers to a minimum. Fit healthy ewes in good condition are unlikely to need worming. We would advise that only thin, young, or very old ewes are wormed and those carrying triplets or quads. It can be useful to take faeces samples from groups of ewes carrying singles, twins and triplets to get more information on which to base the worming decisions. For more information on this please call and speak to one of the vets.

BRANCH AT HIGH HOUSE FARM

Our office at High House Farm is open on market days **from 10.30am to 2.30pm.**

In addition to wormers and flukicides, we will have lambing and calving supplies on sale and a select stock of prescription-only medicines (e.g. painkillers and commonly used antibiotics).

Please remember to ring in advance for the prescription medicines.

The first 5 callers each day will receive a FREE hat!

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR LAMBING?

One of our suppliers, Nimrod, is hosting a new talk to support our clients in preparation for this year's lambing. Find out:

- How, when and why to use oral fluid therapy
- How to manage twin-lamb disease & hypocalcaemia
- How to give your lambs the best start

The talk is on the 2nd March at 7.30p.m via Zoom.

Everyone who attends will be entered into a prize draw and CPD certificates can be issued if required.

To register please email your name to:
wilton.e@nimrodvet.co.uk

TB Rule Changes in Wales

Since 17th January there have been new TB rules to follow in Wales.

If we find an IR on a non-breakdown herd, the whole herd will be put under restriction until the IR's are re-tested. Also, if we find a reactor in a non-breakdown herd, we have been instructed to immediately re-interpret the test on severe reading, which means that some animals that have been through the crush and passed the test may now be identified as IRs or even reactors.

*** FREE TESTING AVAILABLE ***

Free Sheep Scab Testing

APHA Carmarthen are running free testing on suspected sheep scab cases from 13th December 2021 to 31st March 2022. There will be a set fee to take the samples of £35.37 + VAT by us, there will be no additional lab fees. If you have itchy sheep, please give us a call so that we can get you the correct diagnosis. Our most recent samples sent off were shown to have lice, so the client avoided unnecessary and expensive treatment for sheep scab by getting the samples taken.

Free Schmallenberg Testing

This lambing season, APHA will again offer to test samples free of charge. A fresh brain sample will be tested free of charge if submitted to APHA from lambs with stiff joints. Since the virus is only detectable in the fetal brain depending on the stage of gestation when the fetus became infected, a PCR test may be negative. Therefore, in addition, if blood samples are also submitted from up to 6 ewes, including those that abort lambs, they may also be able to test those to detect antibodies to SBV in the ewes. **If you have any abortions or lambs born with stiff, deformed joints, please contact us to discuss if free testing can be carried out.**

Free Barren Ewe and Aborting Ewe Sampling

Once again, Ceva and MSD are providing us with free blood tests for Enzootic Abortion and Toxoplasma in ewes which are scanned empty, or which have aborted. **Please contact us if you want to have up to eight ewes screened for these common diseases, both of which can be prevented by vaccination.**

Annual Consent Form

To comply with current legislation and RCVS guidelines we are required to obtain client consent for various purposes including surgical procedures, use of drugs and GDPR. To make things a little easier we have prepared one document to cover all of these items. You will be sent a copy of this by email and the form can be printed off, completed and returned to the office via post, email or in person. Alternatively, as it is an editable document, you can complete, save and return to the office via email: info@farmfirstvets.co.uk.

If you have not received your form or if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Spring Opening Hours

The practice will be open every Saturday from 5th February until 30th April 8:30am to 12:30pm

FOR EMERGENCIES CALL 01873 840167

JOKE TIME!!!

What is the difference between UFOs and honest politicians? People have actually seen UFOs...

Don't miss our lambing promotion!

Collect your starter bucket today...



SPECIAL OFFER... 500g PREMIUM COLOSTRUM for just £22 (RRP £28) when purchased with the starter bucket

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Cattle Coughing at Grass
XL Vets Virtual Meeting
Thursday, 17th February at 7pm

Lambing Losses (Part 2)
Thursday, 17th February at 7pm
Llanover Village Hall

Rearing Healthy Calves
Monday, 28th February at 12pm
Llanarth Village Hall

Please contact the office or visit our website for further details