

# July 2011 Newsletter

## Updated Computer System

The Practice has had an update to our computer systems this month. You may have two pages to your Statement, as the system changed on the 6<sup>th</sup> June. Please check your statements and contact us if you have any queries.

**Please also note that we can accept payment by a number of different methods:**

In Person during Office Hours; Credit/Debit Card\*, Cash, Cheque

By Post; Cheque

By Telephone; Credit/Debit Card\*

By BACS; Sort Code 30-94-85, Account Number 00455896, Reference: Surname and First Line of Your Address

*\*We are unable to accept American Express*

## Preparation for Lambing 2012

### Teasers

It is the time of year when many farmers may be considering plans for next year's lambing.

Vasectomising a ram, removes his fertility but maintains libido. A Teaser is useful for getting all your ewes cycling prior to putting in the fertile rams. Using a Teaser will reduce the duration of lambing and lambing will start much quicker. Some farmers may prefer lambing to take place in a more concentrated and shorter time.

If you would like to arrange for a Vasectomy please contact the Office, the cost is about £50 ex VAT. The Vasectomy should be performed 4 weeks before the Teaser is required and the Teaser should be with the ewes 2 weeks before the fertile rams.

### Vaccination of Ewe Lambs

Cevac Chlamydia is currently available but we cannot guarantee future availability.

It should be given at least 4 weeks before the rams go in, please ring the Office and place your order soon to avoid any disappointment.

## Zolvix – Lamb Wormer

Zolvix is a broad spectrum anthelmintic for the treatment and control of gastrointestinal nematode infections and associated diseases in sheep.

There is currently no resistance to Zolvix and we recommend it's use on lambs in mid season, usually at weaning, to clear out all worms, resistant worms included. We also advise performing a faecal egg count (FEC) on the lambs first to assess their worm burden. If lambs have low worm counts they may not need to be wormed. Also lambs may look OK but have significant worm burdens and this may be a reason for slower than expected growth rates.

If you have any questions about the use of Zolvix in your flock or to place an order please contact the Office.

A few points to remember when dosing lambs:

- It is strongly advised that a group faecal egg count (FEC) is performed before dosing lambs to avoid over use of wormers
- Dose for the heaviest in the group (you must weigh animals, don't guess)
- Do not dose and move, lambs should return the previous pasture for 3 or 4 days before moving on to clean pasture
- Ensure that dosing equipment is calibrated and administering the correct volume
- Dose over the back of the tongue
- Use Zolvix only once a year and only dose lambs (except where quarantine dosing incoming ewes, rams and store lambs)

## Dry Cow Therapy

With the risk of summer mastitis it is worth considering the options for preventative treatment of cows being dried off. Antibiotic tubes remain very popular but Orbeseal also seals the teat canal to prevent new infections entering the udder. This is useful at all times of year.

Mastitis remains a significant cost to the UK Dairy Industry, including West Wales. If you would like to discuss Mastitis Management, Dry Cow Therapy and reducing mastitis in your herd please contact the Office.