

June Newsletter

Changes to TB Testing Rules

Some new rules which came into force on 25th May are worth noting. The full details are available from Animal Health South Wales Regional Office in Carmarthen, 01267 245400 or www.wales.gov.uk

- Late tests will mean a penalty in compensation paid for reactor animals and could mean penalties to your Single Farm Payment
- Animals travelling to shows which are either indoors or exceed 24 hours in length must be Pre-movement tested (this includes shows outside of Wales)

It is important that tests are booked with the Practice in plenty of time, if you book close to your deadline and the test is late, you will be liable for penalties.

Watch out for fly-strike in rabbits

This occurs when flies lay their eggs on your rabbits fur or skin. The larvae, commonly referred to as maggots, then hatch out and cause severe wounds by burrowing deep into the soft tissues. Keeping the cage, run and rabbit as clean as possible is important, but sometimes infestations still occur. "*Rearguard*" can be used to prevent infestation for up to 10 weeks by applying it to the skin/fur along the spine.

Boarding your pets this summer?

If you are putting your cat or dog into a cattery or boarding kennels make sure that their vaccinations are up to date, including Kennel Cough Vaccine for dogs. Kennel Cough Vaccine is an intranasal vaccine (given down the nostril) which requires 2 weeks in which to become fully effective, so get it done in plenty of time.

Booster injections cannot be given at the same time as the Kennel Cough, we recommend that they are done 2 weeks earlier.

Sheep Faecal Egg Counting (FEC)

Following on from the success of the meeting held during May which was very well attended, we have had large uptake in Faecal Egg Counting.

A large number of the samples already examined have had white drench (BZ) resistance. Do you know if your worms are resistant to the wormers? The best way to find out is to start with a faecal egg count (FEC) to see if the lambs need worming to start with. Following worming a repeat sample is performed to check for a reduction, if there is no resistance the FEC should reduce by at least 95%.

We have a full factsheet on FEC which can be downloaded at www.steffanvets.com and will be sent to all sheep farmers in the next few weeks.

Coupled with FEC we have promotional packs of sheep wormers at very competitive prices in stock. More to the point if you have a FEC done we will also discount the wormer by a further £7.50.

We are planning a FEC Open Day Event in the near future, please keep an eye out for an invite.

Within the Farming Connect Scheme we are able to offer full Worm Control strategies subsidised by WAG, as well as other health issues. Please contact us if you wish to discuss this scheme.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of worm control on your farm please contact the Office

