

BVD VACCINATION: Value, not Price

Even if you are not yet using it, you will probably have heard of the 'new' BVD vaccine *Bovela*, launched in 2015. This protects against not only BVD Type 1 but also Type 2 disease. More importantly from a practical viewpoint, it is a *live* (not inactivated) vaccine and therefore provides immunity for one year a few weeks after a **single** dose, even in previously unvaccinated animals. This helps avoid many of the common vaccination pitfalls which typically beset BVD vaccination schedules and makes it well worth its price of £5.18+vat per dose. If you would like more information, please request a copy of our BVD Vaccination Factsheet.



Are you putting magnets in your heifers? If not, why not?!

Ingestion of metal such as wires, screws & feeder wagon blade shards by cows is a painful condition and can result in abscesses around the reticulum and heart leading to death. More commonly signs will be vague and include inappetence, milk drop and recurrent, non-specific abdominal pain, all of which cost you money. **Bovivet ruminal magnets** prevent wires by picking up any ingested metal from the rumen before it can penetrate the rumen wall and cause disease. We have found that preventative use results in a significant decrease in animals displaying symptoms and increases overall performance of the herd. Please feel



free to ask one of the farm team if you are interested in further information.

Ever find yourself trying to tube a calf and feeling as though you need extra hands?

We now stock four-quart calf colostrum bottles and reinforced plastic feeding tubes, with clamp, which fit together with a screw-top lid to prevent spillage. Ideal for effective tube feeding on your own. Cost is £21.12+vat with replacement feeding tubes at £15.21+vat.



Vaccination Guns

We all remember the days when 'free' vaccination guns came with most purchases.

One unintentional consequence of the continuous downward pressure on prices is that many of the previous freebies no longer exist and have become chargeable items. Many of you tell us that the quality of these plastic guns, for which you now have to pay, is depressingly poor. After some research and trial on farm we now also sell much higher quality, metal vaccination guns. The feedback from the farmers who have trialled them is that they would not go back to cheaper plastic versions. These are robust, long lasting, serviceable guns and are priced at £73.90+vat.



Woolly Subjects

We are all excited about Bryony's imminent new arrival and wish her well for her role reversal lambing. She will have things other than sheep on her mind for the next few months, and in her absence we can assure our sheep clients that they are not the Cinderella of the practice. All our farm vets are very keen to maintain the current standard of sheep services and within our team we have members of both the Sheep Veterinary Society and the XLVet Woolpack Club. The regular meetings enable vets with an interest in sheep to share the latest developments in sheep work and give advice on how best to pass this onto clients.





VET-TECH SERVICES

- Could you benefit** from an extra person at TB testing?
- Would you like** someone to manage your vaccination diary (& administer them?!)
- Do you have** more requirements to meet from your milk buyer?
- Are your calves** being dis-budded/castrated too late because you don't have time?
- Do your cows** need tail trimming but it's a job you haven't got around to yet?

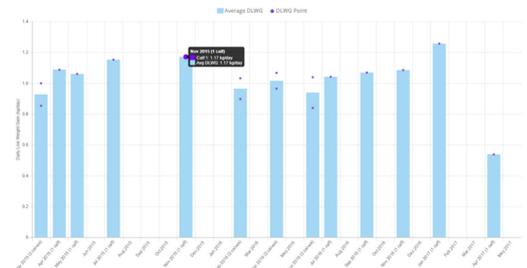
WE HAVE A SOLUTION!

Chrissie Viggers has over 20 years' experience working with cows and is a great addition to the Calweton Farm Team. Her time on farm can be tailored to your needs and at £25 per hour can achieve significant savings on your time whilst still checking those boxes, and more importantly optimising the health and performance of your herd.

CALF TRACKER

Optimising pre-weaning growth and development is essential to rearing healthy, high performing heifers for your future herd.

The Calf Tracker program enables us to collect, record and analyse data during this critical period for individual review and anonymous benchmarking. Those already engaged will be meeting periodically to discuss results and a topic of interest. If you would like to be involved please speak to Sarah.



Pneumonia Vaccination

As we head into winter again, pneumonia management in youngstock becomes a great concern for all. There are so many aspects to controlling this hugely expensive disease that offering a 'solution in a bottle' is rarely possible. Now is the time however, to start considering how to minimise the effects it may have on livestock. Vaccination has often given disappointing results in the past where it has been used in isolation in an attempt to solve this complicated problem. There is no doubt however, that in recent years, we have learned how to use these vaccines much more effectively as part of a 'big picture' approach to pneumonia. There is now a large range of different vaccines available, ensuring that an appropriate regime can be tailored specifically to your farm.

The starting point is to let us talk to you in more detail about pneumonia control on your farm, including a vaccination policy which is created to suit your farm and its needs. Call Angie to book one of our farm vets to come and talk to you.



NADIS parasite forecast

Due to the mild, wet conditions we have been experiencing, cattle and sheep are at **medium to high risk of fluke**.



Acute fluke is more common in sheep than cattle and may present as sudden death, and treatment with a product effective against immature stages is likely to be necessary. Chronic disease affects both species causing symptoms including anaemia, weight loss and weakness. Dosing around six weeks after housing with an adult-only product may be appropriate for cattle. **High gut roundworm burdens** are likely for store and replacement lambs—monitor reduced liveweight gain or faecal egg counts to guide dosing. Remember that ewes are unlikely to benefit from a pre-tupping dose—expect to treat just 5%, targeting lean ewes or those with 'dags'. A faecal egg count may be a wise precaution in case of anaemia-causing *Haemonchus*.