



FREE CATTLE WORM EGG COUNTS

By Helen Rogers

APHA have launched a scheme to collect information on the levels of worm infestation in first season grazers. They are going to genomically test any worm eggs identified, to assess the presence of genetic mutations which can cause resistance to benzimidazole/white wormers. Post worming faecal egg counts will be encouraged to increase knowledge of the correlation between potential wormer resistance and how well anthelmintics actually work in the field.

A FREE WORM EGG COUNT WILL BE PROVIDED!

Samples must be collected from:

- First season grazers
- Untreated animals or animals not treated in the last two weeks (animals treated with Cydectin LA cannot be sampled)
- Fresh faeces
- 5 to 10 animals (preferably 10)

Worm egg count results will be reported within 72 hours. The genetic data will be reported back at the end of the grazing season. If worm egg counts are high and we advise worming, a post worming sample can also be sent off to assess how well your wormer has worked.

This is a great opportunity to contribute to some research and gain some really useful information to use on your farm. Please let the office know if you have samples for this project and they will fill out the correct forms when you drop them off.

NEWS FROM THE PHARMACY:

We have now moved from Halagon to Kriptazen. You will notice the dosing nozzle for Kriptazen allows you to select the volume you would like to deliver to each calf, which results in a more precise treatment. Please ask a Vet if you have any questions.



TRIP TO INDIA

Yoav and Paul travelled to India last month as part of a consultancy project. They were able to see a wide range of Indian livestock farming and several research institutes during their visit, as well as the Taj Mahal. Below are a few photos from their trip.





WHERE DOES YOUR ANTIBIOTIC USAGE SIT?

By Helen Rogers

The graph above shows the mg/kg or mg/PCU antibiotic usage of all of our dairy farms over a 12 month period. The average mg/kg of antibiotic used per Friars Moor herd has reduced from 11.7 to 9.6 over the last twelve months. This is a huge step in the right direction.

RUMA targets for 2022 are for the annual mg/kg usage of all herds to be below 20mg/kg and for this to reduce by 15% by 2024. Currently there are only nine farms who would not achieve this target using these figures! Further reductions within the national herd, are targeted at reducing dry cow and lactating cow tube usage and a reduction in dairy herd lameness, mastitis and calf mortality.

As with all data, it is important to understand how the data is generated and what anomalies there may be. Herds which have expanded or reduced in size over the last twelve months may not have had this adjustment made, so where anomalies are flagged we will be checking our records of your herd size. Some farms in this data set have not had their youngstock antibiotic use included. In the future when ordering drugs from the surgery, we will ask whether the medicine is for youngstock or adult use to allow us to increase the accuracy of comparisons that we make.

One of the real limitations to the RUMA data and the targets they produce is their lack of access to accurate data from all farm animal species. As more processors request uploading of antibiotic data to portals such as the AHDB medicine hub, more accurate data from the national herd will be generated which will allow better conclusions to be made on a national stge.

Please do use this graph as a means of generating discussions on farm with us and your team to identify both positive and negative influencers on your antibiotic usage. Have a look and see where your farm sits in this benchmarking graph and how your usage has changed in the last twelve months. It is a genuinely interesting exercise!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:



Dung Beetle Safari with Claire Whittle (Dung Beetles for Farmers) Please ring the practice to reserve your place. Youngstock, beef and flock group members FOC.



Knowing Your Cow Inside Out with Crediton Milling Company. 10:30am-2pm @ Brickyard Farm, Bagber, Sturminster Newton, DT102HS.



Selective Dry Cow Meeting with Zoetis 10:30am-1pm @ Stalbridge Village Hall, Lower Road, Stalbridge, DT102NF.



Dairy Youngstock Meeting Reducing the incidence of stillborn calves in the dairy herd. 11am-2pm @ Causeway Farm, Sherborne Causeway, Shaftesbury, SP79P. **Non youngstock members are very welcome - £10/person**



Practical Calving Course 10:30am-3pm @ Longmoor Farm, Gillingham, SP85QW. £100+VAT **25% discount for youngstock members. Places are limited!**



Calf Rearing Course 10:30am-3pm @ Leweston Farm, Longburton, Sherborne, DT95NU. £100+VAT **25% discount for youngstock members. Places are limited!**

More information on our courses can be found on our website at www.friarsmoorvets.co.uk/calendar/

STAFF NEWS:

In May we wished Jess well as she left to go on maternity leave, we wish her all the luck and can't wait to meet her little one! We are happy however, to have Steph back in the office back from her own maternity leave! For any TB enquiries please speak to Steph.



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