



NORFOLK FARM VETS

NEWSLETTER MAY 2007 No11.

BVD Eradication Scheme Update

We now have 18 herds that have joined the Norfolk and Suffolk BVD eradication scheme. 10 of these have passed the initial screen and hope to be accredited free in the next 9-18 months. For the dairies this requires routine quarterly monitoring of the bulk tank (at our expense for those on the dairy scheme) and for the beef herds this means testing 5-6 animals from this year's calf crop as they reach 9 months old.

Please **remember**, you are not accredited free until a second free test. It is very important that you do not "buy in" or hire any animals without testing them first or sourcing them from other free herds. Also show animals are a particular risk and must be maintained in isolation during the show season and should be tested prior to returning to the main herd in case they have picked up anything whilst at the shows!

Of the herds that have failed the original test the majority have decided to go down the eradication route. Although this can be expensive and time consuming at the time, it should pay huge dividends for the future with better health status, better growth rates and a premium for sale stock in the future.

If you want more information about the scheme just give us a call at the practice.

The following herds have passed the initial screen:

<u>Dairy</u>	<u>Beef</u>
Heaton	K.A and A.G Gray
Joice	Grove Farm, Langham
Palmer	Moore, Copper Beeches
Wales	Savory, Centre Farm
Pointen	Houghton Organic Farm

Show Season is here again.....



Good luck to everyone showing this season and please let us know how you get on. As most of you know we have a board in the practice displaying all the press coverage of our clients ~ so pop in some time and have a look. We also have a scrapbook containing all past triumphs.

*We are pleased to announce that Norfolk Farm Vets Ltd. shall be sponsoring all of the goat and Simmental beef classes at this year's **Royal Norfolk Show**.*

We will be attending the show so therefore the office will be closed but open to emergencies. I am sure we will probably see most of you there and good luck to the people who are entered in any classes.

Runners Corner



About the time you read this the Norfolk Farms Vets Knackers will have run, walked or staggered around the GEAR 10k run in King's Lynn on Sunday 6th May.

The team for the Round Norfolk Relay is in place and we even have our allocated number of reserves. Unfortunately due to injuries we have lost a few of the "originals" and hence are a few short to enter 2 teams unless anyone out there suddenly has a desire to put on their trainers and go for it!

Now the runners are sorted we need to sort the equally important support team to keep our team of farmers on the road for the approx 28 hours, yes 28 hours, it will take us to complete our tour of the county border.

Anyone in a position to sponsor the team whether by donating a few pennies to the RADBF, or physically by being there to hand out water and importantly give moral support is most welcome. So far we have received sponsorship from Udder Mint and Duffy's Knacker yardthink what you will.

A big **CONGRATULATIONS** to the Norfolk Farm Vet Knackers who ran the Flora London Marathon in the sweltering heat. All managed impressive times with Gary Zoller completing in a phenomenal time of 3hrs 17mins.

Gary Zoller	3:17:36
Roger Sayle	3:41:59
Freddie French	5:18:08

Blood Machine

We are now pleased to be able to offer an in house blood test facility. We can run full haematology and biochemistry profiles. This will be of particular use, for example, in obtaining fast calcium and magnesium results for down cows. You will also be able to drop in samples which can be run while you wait for rapid results. If you need a quick reminder on how to take blood samples just lets us know and we will give you a demonstration.

Blood tubes & needles available from the practice .

Price:

Down cow profile e.g. Calcium and Magnesium £8.75.

Contact details: Telephone 01485 609031 Fax: 01485 609029. Emergency: 07920104174

FOR SALE:

Rice Trailer 6ft x 12ft Twin Axle New wood floor with extra stays. £500. Contact: - Colin Grimes - Tel : 01485 600 059

10 x 3 teat, plastic calf feeders £5 each. Contact - Colin Grimes Tel: 01485 600 059

Aberdeen Angus Stock Bull. Contact:- Duncan Jeary 07880 508104

Freelander: 1.8 XEi '05, 15 months warranty, £9000 ono, call Molly on: 07977564882.

Poll BSH Bulls for sale; 4 year old and 2 year old bulls ideal for crossing, easy calving, please call Nick Barrett on 07789 764117

Pigs for sale 2 Saddle back x Old spot boars, born August 2006, Fed on mixed fresh fruit & veg & pinenuts, friendly to handle perfect size for meat or stud, ear tagged and registered £65 each ONO please call Rudi on 07771994098

WANTED:

Local stock sought by two different calf rearing & finishing units. Stock must come from local high health status animals and prices paid to reflect this. Please contact Molly for further details.

Stockman—Houghton Organic are looking for someone to cover every other weekend—tractor driving essential. Call Carwyn on: 07793 208655.

Client News:

Tiff and Judith Hall are presently trying a new goat mix which they have had specially formulated by Goat Nutrition Ltd. It is 17% protein and being fed to kids as creep and "diluted" to the dams. They have only been on the mix a month but are very happy with it having seen no scour in the kids and no laminitis in the dams. Presently Bearts do 1 tonne runs which come in bags.

Need a hand?

Andrew Barrett Is available for work with livestock. He has lots of experience handling both cattle and sheep. He can be contacted on 07717 821891.

Andrew Spinks Agriculture student from the university of Nottingham looking for farm work from the beginning of June end of Sept. I have experience with pigs, sheep & cattle and am able to handle a tractor, trailer and front end loader. Please contact Andrew on 077890 20927

Local Produce:

As most of you are aware we are strongly behind the campaign to encourage people to buy locally and reduce food miles, hence we recommend that everyone buy locally either via the Fakenham Farmers Market on the 4th Saturday of the month or directly from the producers listed below:

Duncan Jeary	Beef	07880508104
Trevor Stebbings	Beef	01553630603
Mrs Temple	Cheese	01328820224
Pointen Bros.	Dairy Produce	01263860338
John Garner	Game, lamb & turkeys	01328700277
Houghton Hall	Lamb, Mutton, Beef, Pork and Eggs	07793208655
Tony Barratt	Beef and Lamb—West Newton Shop	01485542219
Courtyard Farms Ltd.	Beef, Lamb and Pork	07789366080
Mr Day, Hindolveston	Beef, Lamb and Vegetables	Farmers Market.

If your name is missing just call the office and we will get your details added.

Disease Focus



The brilliant sunshine we have had of late does have it's drawbacks....

- Without rain soon grass is going to run short...start thinking about rotating grazing & supplementary feeding. Not only are there worries with nutritional problems but also worm burdens. Monitor pasture burdens with faecal analysis—amalgamate samples from several animals in a pot, ideally 5 of similar age group i.e. youngstock or adults or calves, drop the pot into the practice and we can look for worm egg counts for £12 (free to Beef scheme clients).
 - Photosensitisation secondary to liver disease or ingestion of certain plants
 - Sunburn
 - Dehydration
 - Flies and midges bring a host of trouble;
 - Summer mastitis
 - New Forest eye
 - Fly strike
 - Wound infection
 - &
- Bluetongue**

Prevention of all these is dependent upon good fly treatment—we have heard people try many things but had reports back last year that Buttox and Spot-on still appeared the most effective.

Bluetongue....yes it is likely to arrive in the UK at some time. Please remember that Bluetongue is a notifiable disease and hence you must report any suspected cases to us or DEFRA.

Clinical signs—often nothing is seen in infected goats and cattle, however, you may notice nasal discharge, ulceration of the mouth and swelling of the teats—all of which helpfully fit a number of other diseases. In sheep symptoms may include fever, swelling of the head and neck, respiratory problems and death!!

Please be vigilant and call if you are worried.

Please Note: Our bank has requested that you write "Ltd" on all cheques. We would also be grateful if you could advise us of your VAT reg. no. Thank you for your help in these matters.