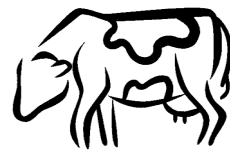


# NEWSLETTER

## September 2009 No 39.



NORFOLK FARM VETS

### Fog Fever

Fog fever is a cause of outbreaks of sudden death in adult cattle occurring 4-10 days after sudden movement from a dry, summer pasture onto a lush, autumn pasture.

Lush forage contains high levels of an amino acid known as D L-tryptophan which is converted by the rumen into a toxic substance that, in large amounts, causes a severe pneumonia with a large volume of fluid in the lungs, ultimately impairing breathing.

Often, a number of adult animals are affected simultaneously, 4-10 days after turnout on autumn pasture. Young animals (i.e. calves running with their dam) are not affected. Symptoms / signs include:

1. sudden death with no previous signs
2. laboured or open mouth breathing (rarely coughing)
3. frothing at the mouth depression, not grazing

If a large number of animals are affected, all animals should be removed from the pasture very slowly. Severely affected animals may fall and die if forced to move too quickly or if stressed. Milder cases often do better if left grazing in a stress free environment and given the opportunity to recover spontaneously.

There is no effective treatment so prevention is key. Prevention strategies revolve around grazing management and include:

- slowly introducing animals to new pasture over a period of 10-12 days
- grazing the pasture with young animals or sheep prior to turn out of adult cattle
- delay turnout onto lush pasture till after first frost

For further information, feel free to contact the practice.

### **A hello from our new vet!**

Hello, I am Katharine and I'm the new vet joining the practice, having graduated this summer from the Royal Vet College, London. I was brought up locally and went to school in Swaffham. During my training, I spent many weeks with Molly and Will and am looking forward to seeing some friendly faces as well as meeting some new ones.

### Aylsham Show 2009

Beautiful sunny weather brought crowds out for this year's Aylsham Show to see well attended cattle, sheep, goat and working dog classes. It was a pleasure to see so many of our clients' showing with many, as ever, standing top of the line. As yet we don't have a full copy of the results, however, there were impressive wins in big classes by Emma and Collison Snr. With their 'pen of 3 butcher's lambs', Houghton Organic Farm with their shearing Norfolk Horn ewe and Bridget, as ever, with her Castlemilk Moorits. It was Moore's Livestock turn to sweep the board in the beef classes with their Blonde Aquitaine's, with two 1<sup>st</sup> and a 2<sup>nd</sup>, being pipped in the Continental championship by a good looking Limousin. In the dairy classes Easton College must have been proud to come 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> only to the mighty Proctors in a large good quality cow class. Of particular note was a very impressive performance by Sophie from F.S Dann & Son whose hard work over the last couple of weeks on a novice commercial cow meant neither cow nor novice handler looked anything but at home in the ring against quality competition. Watch this space for more results of note when the final list is published.



### Runners Corner



Don't forget it is the Round Norfolk Relay this month and the intrepid bunch of older and obviously not wiser bunch of farmers, vets and others are off to run the 193 miles around Norfolk. Last year we won our class, raised money for RABI and vowed never to do it again! As ever we really need all the support we can get so please come out and support us at some point during the 24 hours as we pass in your direction and throw a few coins into the pot for RABI. More details can be found at [round-norfolkrelay.com](http://round-norfolkrelay.com)

## NADIS Parasite Forecast.

### **Liver Fluke:**

All the wet weather earlier in the summer means that there is a risk of another high prevalence of this disease this year. While we shouldn't be as badly affected as some other, wetter parts of the country, we are still likely to see a high level of this disease, especially as the previous two years have been favourable for both fluke and snail development and survival leading to high challenges this year. This is a very serious disease problem on a lot of farms, and we are seeing it more and more regularly and on more and more farms. Routine faecal samples should be submitted to check for the presence of liver fluke. If it is found on your farm, we can then work with you to devise a farm plan to minimise the input. This will involve treatments as well as pasture and grazing management. If you are at all concerned please get in touch.

### **Sheep Nematodes:**

Wet summers tend to lead to high prevalence of gutworms in lambs, allowing larvae to develop and migrate onto herbage. Therefore, the number of infective larvae on pasture usually reaches its peak from mid-summer. PGE is already causing problems, and late summer disease prevalence is likely to be high. In contrast, autumn and winter this year is likely to bring fewer problems than when a dry summer is followed by heavy autumn rains. Please remember that treatment should be based on faecal egg count monitoring, in line with the SCOPS Guidelines, to help prevent the selection of resistant worm strains.

### **Cattle Nematodes:**

September is typically the main month for the diagnosis of lungworm. Grazing cattle that are naïve (in their first grazing season or never exposed previously) and unvaccinated are most at risk. If you are at all concerned please get in touch to arrange a suitable testing protocol. PGE in cattle is also likely to cause problems this year in a similar way to that discussed in sheep above.

### **For Sale:**

**Simmental Bull**—Born 2004. Offspring can be seen. Contact John Smith at Chalk Hill Farm on: 07884490368

**Kerry Hill Shearling Ewes.** Also selected rams and ewe lambs. Contact Glenariff Pedigree Livestock, call Nick or Andrew on 01553 672440

**Land Rover**—110 HiCap pick-up. 51 Plate. TD5. Only 47,000. MOT until October. Call Nigel Carey on: 07850 823850.

**EB Feed Hopper**—13 tonne, fibreglass with low level discharge. Perfect condition. EB feeder system also available.

Contact James Ashworth on: 07715 464832.

**25 North Country Mule Shearlings and 10 Pure Texel Ram Lambs**—Vaccinated incl. BTv8.

Contact Philip on: 01366 385982 or 07788 131508.

**Ring feeder**—good condition.

Contact the Parkers on 01263 710245.

### **People/Equipment:**

**Mobile Sheep Handling**—Pratley mobile sheep handling system. For hire with operator. Call Mr. Fletcher on: 07977040358.

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 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month or directly from the producers listed below:

Duncan Jeary	Beef	07880 508104
Mrs Temple	Cheese	01328 820224
Pointen Bros.	Dairy Produce	01263 860338
John Garner	Game, lamb, turkeys	01328 700277
Houghton Hall	Lamb, Mutton, Beef, Pork and Eggs	07793 208655
Sandringham Beef and Lamb	West Newton Shop	01485 542219
Courtyard Farms	Organic Beef, Lamb and Pork	01485 525251 or courtyardfarm.organic@virgin.net
Perfick Pork	Pork, Lamb, Chicken & Beef	01328 829317
Mr Day	Pork, Lamb, Veg, Knitting wool	Hindolveston. 01263 860578
Simon Dann	Norfolk Farmhouse Ice-cream	On Farm/Local Shops.
Gavin Lane	Salt Marsh Beef	sales@saltmarshbeef.co.uk
Van Beuningen	Ash Farm Organics	01362 683228 www.ashfarmorganics.co.uk
Mrs. Willcox	Mohair Socks, Preserves, Eggs	Erpingham House Farm
Linda Cletheroe	Seasonal Fresh Vegetable	01263 587466 / 07780930903 Lindafreshveg.vpweb.co.uk
Moore's Livestock, Oak Farm	Beef, Pork, Free Range Eggs	Farmers Market
Rudi Jennings	Free range goat meat	01553 630772/07900 491679 01945 585467

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

Local Produce