

NEWSLETTER

February 2010 No 44.



NORFOLK FARM VETS

DID YOU KNOW.....

- The national average mastitis rate is 70 cases per 100 cows per year. (Dec 2009) – *how do you compare?*
- Lactation decline is 7% per month – *you may think you differ but is it truly so?* A quick look at Interherd or CIS will tell you – so get those cows back in calf as soon as possible ideally 45-65 days post calving.
- Average death rate on a dairy farm is 5% annually – *how do you compare?*
- 1 in 25 in calf dairy heifers in the market place is carrying a PI (calf persistently infected with BVD) and therefore could potentially devastate a naive herd with BVD!!! *Do you know what you are buying?* – do you really want BVD or TB or any other nasty? No, well investigate thoroughly before you buy if you have to buy at all.
- An RVC research project in Wales has shown that there is a 7:1 benefit from Herd Health Planning!
- Did you know that, despite what the papers say, grass fed beef and lamb has as low a carbon footprint as hedgerow blackberries?
- Once cows are Neospora positive they are positive for life. Therefore, there is no need for them to be tested year on year if they have tested positive already.
- Neospora positive dairy cows should always be put to beef semen or to a bull to break the chain.
- The introduction of Neospora has been proven to be almost always connected to the introduction of a young dog on farm or a young dog at the feed source. Usually it is a contaminated feed source which is the source of the infection in the cows.
- Foxes on farm reduce the risk of Neospora infection, not increase it!

Congratulations to the Dunthornes.

Hill Farm Limpenhoe

for being recently presented with

**British Beef Producer of the year
2008**

by Kate from Dovecote Park.



New products

CEVAXEL - There is a new cephalosporin antibiotic available for cattle. It is similar to Excenel. It is a sterile powder but once made up it lasts for 7 days. It has a zero milk withdrawal time and is £8.50 cheaper a bottle than Excenel RTU with a similar dose rate of 1ml per 50kg BW.

NAXCEL— is also a cephalosporin similar to Cevaxel, Ceporex and Excenel and it also has a zero milk withhold, however in stark contrast to the others it **does not** require daily injection. It is given as a single injection behind the ear. It is absolutely vital that it is given in the correct place as if it is given into the muscle instead the **meat** withdrawal changes from 9 days to 6 months! Presently it is only licensed for lameness however, there is every reason to think that it would be effective everywhere cephalosporins are known to be effective; in metritis, pneumonia etc. The beauty is the single one off injection—no having to remember to repeat treatments, no having to leave messages in the diary for the relief etc.

CARPRIEVE -There is a new anti-endotoxic, anti-inflammatory available to rival Ketofen. Ketofen is often avoided because of expense despite its zero milk withhold. Carprievie is significantly cheaper at 88p per ml rather than £1.71, has a zero milk withhold and is supposed to have a half life of 72 hours. Dose rate is 1ml/35kg and it can be given under the skin or i.v.

For Sale:

Limousin Bull—Unregistered but pedigree.
Contact Scott McInnes on: 07876 047746.

Kerry Hill Shearling Ewes. Currently running with a ram. Also **Beef Shorthorn Bulls.**

Contact Glenariff Pedigree Livestock,
call Nick or Andrew on 01553 672440

11 Texel X Mule Ewe Lambs

Philip Shipp on: 01366 385982 or 07788 131508.

People/Equipment:

For hire—Mobile Cattle Handling Comprising pen, race and crush with weight scales. **Cow Catcher** — with operator. Call Will Hancock on: 07979641597

Mobile Sheep Handling—Pratley mobile sheep handling system. For hire with operator.

Call Mr. Fletcher on: 07977040358.

Molecatcher—for hire. Tracey Palmer: 01485 600717.

Trevor Buxton—Full time milker with years of experience: 07909935597.

Pauline Buxton—Sheep dog training: 07979500879.

Wanted:

Lambing Assistant—From 22nd February 2010 for 5 weeks. Accommodation provided (bring bedding).

Contact John Garner on: 01328700277 / 07785397746.

Old towels— for the practice—just drop them in.

Please call the office if you would like us to put an advert in for the next newsletter.

Goat Kid disbudding

It's that time of year again when we are starting to get some kids born. Therefore, we thought it would be good to note a couple of reminders and answer a couple of common questions about disbudding these new arrivals so that everyone can get prepared. Firstly, this is a procedure that has to be done under general anaesthetic, which makes the job an act of veterinary surgery. The best time to do it is in the first week of life. At this stage it is quite a quick procedure, lasting around 10 minutes, and is therefore relatively inexpensive. In addition, carrying out the procedure at this stage limits the stress to the animal. We can de-horn older goats, but the procedure is more involved, carries more risk, takes longer and is more expensive. So, when you have kids born that will need disbudding, give us a ring to organise a suitable time.

Anglia Farmers:

Last month was the first set of invoices that went through our new link with Anglia Farmers. Those of you who now pay your invoices in this way will have noticed the teething problem that occurred. Anglia Farmers added the wrong levy charge back onto your invoice. We pass on their apologies and add ours. Please rest assured that these initial problems should be ironed out for this month's invoices. If you have any concerns please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Land or Buildings...

As we have expanded over the last few years, we have steadily outgrown our current office. It has been a perfect starting place, but we are now looking for something a bit bigger and a bit more permanent. If you have any land or redundant farm buildings that you think might be of interest to us we would love to hear from you. We are approaching this with a very open mind so any suggestions will be gladly received. Please give Molly or Will a shout with any ideas. Thanks.

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:

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 www.lindasfreshveg.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