



November 2023 Newsletter

Do you sell your sheep at market, and are you a NON-ASSURED farm?

From the 13th of December 2023, **non-assured** vendors will be required to have a **veterinary declaration / attestation**. This is due to the possibility that the sheep or sheep product may end up being exported to the E.U. (Product of Animal Origin (POAO)).

For a Veterinary Surgeon to sign this attestation that allows your sheep to be accepted at market, we must have visited your farm in the last 12 months (and annually thereafter). This is for the purpose of disease prevention and the detection of biosecurity risks.

The visit and time are charged, but you can apply for the Animal Health and Welfare Pathway (AHWP) through the Sustainable Farming Incentive Scheme (SFI). The AHWP will give you funding from the government that will pay for the visit, as well as 2 hours of vet time and some worm egg counts for sheep. It is quick and easy to apply online.

We will not physically be able to do all these visits at the last minute, so book up **NOW!**



Legal Requirements to Dispense Veterinary Only Medicines (POM-V)

Art McAlonan

It is illegal for a Veterinary Surgeon to dispense vet only (POM-V) medicines to a farmer if they have not been on the farm in the last 12 months, for the purposes of advising on disease prevention and biosecurity. The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons has been very clear on the Veterinary Surgeon's legal obligations on this matter recently. FarmVets SouthWest will refuse to dispense vet only (POM-V) medicines unless the above criterium is met.

You can use the Animal Health and Welfare Pathway (AHWP) through the Sustainable Farming Incentive Scheme (SFI) to get funding from the government for the required visit, plus funding for 2 hours of vet time and some testing based upon the animals that you have on farm. It is quick and easy to apply online.

Useful, Handy Information

David Taylor

Colostrum quickie - 1kg minimum

Be careful when buying colostrum products, some are “supplements” and some are “replacers”. Colostrum supplement products are designed to be fed alongside maternal colostrum not instead of it. A colostrum “replacer” is needed when no maternal colostrum is available (replacers can also be used as a supplement). We recommend 10% of first-milking colostrum is given within 2-4 hours of birth, this will give about 1 to 1.2kg of solids to the calf (fat, protein and sugar). 2 sachets of Calf Choice Total Bronze colostrum replacer will give 1.4kg of solids to the calf. If the instructions for the colostrum product you use are only, for example, 200g per calf, then it won't be doing the job. A newborn calf needs 150 to 200g of antibodies alone, plus all the protein, fat and sugar it needs to get going.



AHDB Milk Replacer Tool



There is a downloadable calculator that can help you make decisions about feeding calves. You simply put in a few details e.g. fat and protein levels etc. of your replacer, how much of it you feed and how much cake the calves eat. The program then calculates what growth rates you should expect from this. This is important because for every extra 100g of daily weight gain from birth to weaning, that calf will – when it calves down itself – give on average an extra 80 to 150 litres of milk over the first lactation. If you would like someone to come out to your farm regularly to monitor growth rates, as well as disbud and vaccinate your calves for you, this is a service we offer with our vet techs.

QuarterPro

Anybody who has a monthly cell count testing service can sign up to a monthly report that can be sent directly to you and us. If you pass on details of mastitis cases to NMR/CIS etc then it makes the report even better. It is not cluttered with lots of graphs, it simply analyses your data to show where your problem is likely originating from e.g. dry period environmental or lactational contagious etc. Please speak to one of our vets and we can help you get signed up.



We have 50 Magnesium (Magniject) bottles for sale. They are short dated. They will be sold on a first come first served basis. **£3 + VAT.**

Freeze Branding

We now have larger cow brands as well as heifer brands. We will always send 2 vet techs to minimize number of staff you need to commit. Price based on numbers, please ring if you would like a quote.