

PEAK VETERINARY NEWS

February 2019

Upcoming Farmers Meetings

Lambing

We are holding another lambing meeting sponsored by Norbrook

25th February, 7.30pm onwards

Duke William, Church Street, Matlock

Points for discussion will be: ewe nutrition, abortions, colostrum management, hygiene and neonatal care

Please let us know if you are planning on attending by 22nd February so we can confirm numbers with the pub for food purposes ☺ !!

Responsible Use of Medicines

We are aware that a number of you have been questioning us regarding medicine meetings.

We can confirm we will be running the first one on the evening of **Wednesday 24th April** covering all required elements for the red tractor inspection.

Venue to be confirmed.

We will need to have definite numbers confirmed for this meeting, so get in early to secure your place.

Hollie is compiling a list of attendees, so just let her know if you would like to attend

Yearly Farm Visits

We would like to re-iterate about yearly farm visits, particularly for those of you who don't have many animals and don't see us as often.

Legally we have to have visited your farm within the last 12 months in order to dispense prescription drugs. For cattle farmers this is less of an issue as we come out regularly to do your TB test. However, sheep farmers please keep this in mind before/during lambing.

We now do a set price of £37.14 (excluding VAT) to come out to the farm to check your flock, discuss lambing protocols, medicine use and records.

TB Testing

We have had a notification from APHA that any farm that has been free of a TB breakdown for 6 years as of 1st May will be returning to yearly testing. If your window opens before 30th April, or you have had a breakdown, you will stay on 6 monthly testing.

You may also be aware that spot checks by the APHA are happening, and reading day is being targeted. We have had them turn up to our tests. If this does occur, please don't be alarmed and just continue with reading as normal and we thank you for your cooperation.

Prepare For Lambing

It's that time of year again! Our cars are all prepped and ready to assist; the first caesarean has been successfully completed

Make sure you have your lambing equipment clean and ready:

- Ropes
- Lube
- Gloves
- Navel dip
- Stomach tubes
- Thermometer
- Frozen colostrum
- Spoon for vaginal prolapse
- Any medicines that may be needed



Prepare for clostridial / pasteurilla vaccination between 8 – 2 weeks before lambing depending on which vaccine you use.

Prepare to worm sheep between a week before lambing and few weeks after due to increase in number of eggs shed around lambing (peri-parturient rise).

Monitor for abortions. No more than 1-2% of sheep within flock should abort, if it is greater than this then the foetus and afterbirth should be sent for post-mortem. All aborted material needs to be kept away from other ewes. We have abortion kits and can help with any of this.

Watch ewes for pre-lambing diseases such as pregnancy toxaemia and milk fever. Have some ketosaid and blue top calcium at the ready.

Spectam is also a good product to have at the ready to prevent against the likes of watery mouth.

BACS Payments

As RBS in Matlock are closing, we have made the change to start accepting BACS payments. If this is more convenient for you, please let us know and we will give you the details to get payments set up!

Ear Tags in Cattle

While we have been TB testing we have noticed a lot of cattle with only one tag, and some not at all. Don't forget that they need to be replaced within 28 days and legally all cattle should have two tags in at all times. I know it is a hassle, but Trading Standards are on the prowl and have the ability to prosecute, and will do.

Don't be caught out and fined.

As always, any issues you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact us,

*Warm Regards:
Andrew, Hollie, Ken, Maddy & Wenna*

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