

## THE UPDATE

Evan and Clare are pleased to announce the birth of our daughter born on Tuesday the 2nd of July. Both Clare and baby are doing great.

## GOODBYE.....

Hi everyone,

As some of you know, I will be leaving NorCal Vets on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July. I am moving to a mixed practice in Norfolk to be closer to family. I will still be working as a farm vet but as it's Norfolk I'll also get to do a bit more work with pigs.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working at NorCal and it has been lovely to meet so many of you over the last 18 months.

Hopefully I will see some of you again as I will still be working as a farm vet and will try to go to lots of the shows, and will remain involved with the local young farmers club!

Hannah

## Caseous Lymphadenitis

Caseous Lymphadenitis (CLA) is mainly found in sheep and goats. It is bacterial in origin and causes an infection of the lymph nodes. The disorder is chronic and very contagious and generally the prevalence increases with age.

The bacteria must penetrate the skin to establish an infection which can occur most commonly after an injury has occurred e.g. Shearing, Castration, Fighting

The most common clinical signs are lymph node abscesses (e.g. below the jaw, on the shoulder, in front of the hind legs).

However, if the disease spreads to internal lymph nodes, other signs could be:

- Long term weight loss (+/- Cough)
- Pus-like nasal discharge

### Diagnosis:

- A positive blood test shows the animal has been exposed to the bacteria
- Generally, the clinical signs are suggestive of CLA

### Treatment:

- Due to CLA being very contagious, culling infected animals from the herd is the best option.
- There is no cure but treatments such as draining the abscess and giving antibiotics can be done in an attempt to manage the disease.

Shearing equipment, tagging equipment and feeders can act as vectors for the disease and therefore strict hygiene and biosecurity is very important for prevention as well as removal of hazards that could cause injuries. This is to prevent the bacteria entering through the skin in the first place.

## **Infectious Bovine Keratoconjunctivitis (Pink Eye/New Forest Eye)**

Pink eye is an eye infection by the bacterium, *Moraxella Bovis*.

The bacterium, *Moraxella Bovis* produces a toxin that attacks the cornea and conjunctiva, causing inflammation and ulceration.

### **Physical factors and eye irritants predispose to IBK in cattle:**

- flies
- dust
- wind
- sunlight
- chaff

### **Clinical signs:**

- watery ocular discharge
- aversion to sunlight
- blinking
- reddening and swelling of the eyelids and third eyelid

Other differentials can include corneal ulceration and uveitis.

### **Treatment:**

Antibiotic containing oxytetracycline, which is a broad-spectrum antibiotic that covers against gram positive and gram-negative bacteria. It is possible the cow may have an ulcerated cornea, therefore corticosteroids should not be administered, as this type of drug causes immunosuppression and predisposes to ocular infection. Clinical signs in a cow with IBK are likely to have resolved within 3-5 weeks.

### **Preventative methods:**

- fly control, for example through using insect repellent impregnated ear tags
- mowing pastures
- minimizing dust in hay and feed bunks
- providing shade

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**NorCal Vets Thame**

Pearces Yard, Aylesbury Road, Thame, OX9 3AS  
Tel: 01844 260 616  
Mob: 07725 039 093 (Evan)  
thame@norcalvets.co.uk

**NorCal Vets Wantage**

Unit 8a Elms Farm Business Park, Grove Road,  
Wantage, OX12 7PD  
Tel: 01235 429 767  
Mob: 07711 923 909 (Jono)  
wantage@norcalvets.co.uk