

## Post movement testing – NEW RULES!

From **1<sup>st</sup> August 2023** any cattle moved to herds located in annual surveillance testing parts of the Edge Area from **higher incidence areas of England** and from Wales will require **compulsory post movement testing (PoMT) between 60-120 days after their arrival.**



**Higher incidence areas include:** Six monthly surveillance testing parts of Edge Area of England and the High Risk Area of England and Wales.

This policy change applies to **direct movements** of cattle from one holding to another and to **indirect movements** of cattle **via markets and shows**. Compulsory PoMT must be **arranged and paid** for by the **keeper**. Cattle requiring a PoMT cannot be moved off the holding until the test has been completed with negative results. You will receive notification from APHA at the beginning but ultimately it is **your responsibility** to arrange the test and ensure it is completed in the required time frame.

## Flies - New Forest Eye

With the hot weather and arrival of the flies we have been seeing and being asked about eye problems in cattle almost daily now. Prevention is key so if you haven't done so already it's advisable to apply a fly prevention product. Please check the box though as there is varying persistence (4-8 weeks!!) between some commonly used products e.g., Spot on and Butox Swish. Also please read the instructions carefully as not all products are applied in the same way.

Cattle affected with New Forest Eye show tear staining, closing the affected eye and can progress to ulceration of the cornea leading to eventual scarring and blindness. Affected cattle should be treated with Alamylin LA 300/Engemycin and an anti-inflammatory: Emdocam/Meloxidyl. You can also use eye tubes such as Orbenin or Opticlox.

Flies can also spread summer mastitis between cows at grass - another reason to get on top of them.

## Ram Vasectomies

Vasectomised rams (teasers) are a useful tool for ensuring a successful sheep breeding season. Teasers are particularly useful for:

- Early lambing flocks, to encourage ewes to start cycling early in the season.
- Ewe lambs, to encourage them to start cycling before the rams are introduced
- Teasers can also be used to synchronize ewes at the start of the breeding season.

To be safe to use without risk of unwanted pregnancy, teasers need to be vasectomised a minimum of 6 weeks before they are introduced to the ewes, so the sooner you can get them done the better! Most rams or well grown ram lambs are suitable to be vasectomised - when choosing them consider that although they aren't serving ewes, you are investing in them for the future and their effect relies on them behaving and interacting like rams. It's therefore important to pick sound sheep with good teeth and feet, and adequate bodyweight and testicular size. Finally, it is advisable to permanently identify (e.g. management tag) teasers at the time of surgery - this will help to avoid the chance of any mix-ups that could be costly!



## Abortion vaccination availability

### Enzovax (MSD) and Cevac Chlamydia (CEVA)

- Live vaccines reduce disease for several years from a single injection.
- Ewe lambs should be vaccinated **from 5 months of age at least 4 weeks before mating.**
- **CEVA** have indicated that there may be a supply issues with their live EAE vaccine later in the season, so the advice is to **vaccinate animals as early as possible** (following the above rules) to avoid supply issues closer to tupping.
- **Remember** live EAE vaccines and toxovax can be given on the same day (at separate injection sites)
- **CEVAC Chlamydia vaccine is currently 25% off before July.**



### Toxovax

- Vaccination with a single dose of Toxovax (MSD) is known to help protect from the effects of infection for at least two lambing seasons and possibly longer.
- Ewe lambs can be vaccinated from **5 months of age at least 3 weeks prior to mating.**
- Supply issues last year means that many shearlings and older replacements will not have been vaccinated. Remember to vaccinate them this year- they should be vaccinated between 4 months and 3 weeks prior to mating.
- The vaccine is made in New Zealand therefore orders must be placed in advance as takes a week or so to arrive.
- Also has a short shelf life (approximately a week) so need to work out timings before ordering.

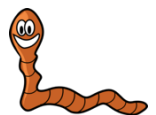


### Sheep Meeting Success

We successfully held a meeting for all our sheep flock owners at the end of May this year. Thank you to everyone who attended, if anyone else would like the handout from the presentation please email us and we will send it out to you.

Our focus was on the future of worming and the best way to get the most out of the products available and minimise resistance in your flock by 'farming your worms' alongside your sheep!

Remember we provide a Faecal Egg Count service in the practice – results of which we endeavour to get back to you either at the time of drop off if a vet is available or by end of day along with advice as to what product to use if needed.



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### NorCal Vets

Unit 2 Rycote Lane Farm,  
Rycote Lane,  
Milton Common  
OX9 2NZ

Tel: 01844 260 616  
Mob: 07725 039 093 (Evan)  
thame@norcalvets.co.uk

### DON'T FORGET!

- **MSD Flock Check** free bloods for sheep abortions runs out this month!
- If you haven't done so already sign up for the **Animal Health Welfare Review Pathway** using the following link: <https://apply-for-an-annual-health-and-welfarereview.defra.gov.uk/apply>