

Congratulations!!

For those of you who have not seen the balloons and cake in the practice or noticed Becca waving her left hand around....

Congratulations to Becca and Elliott on their engagement last weekend!

*Please note Becca's NorCal contract has been amended to include no work involving blue spray or anything that risks nail breakage or bruising in the two months coming up to the wedding so plan your visits accordingly.



Beef Suckler Group Meeting

**Thursday 22nd February 2024
6:30pm @ Chinnor Rugby Club, Thame**

This will be a chance to discuss and go through all your data (anonymously) - as well as any updates and information going into spring calving.

Please can you get your questionnaires back to Becca this week at the latest!
- either via email or by dropping into the office.

If you have any questions, please call Becca on 07860920479.

Animal Health and Welfare Review

Just a reminder that the Animal Health and Welfare review grant is still running. You can have an agreement for a review of one eligible type of livestock every 10 months. If you have more than one eligible type, you must choose the one you would like reviewed.

You cannot apply for another review of the same herd or flock until 10 months after you submitted your last application and accepted an agreement offer. Please let us know if you would like to apply as the timing is important and you must have received the agreement number before we take any samples as part of the pathway for you to receive payment.

Electrolyte Treatment of Scouring Lambs – £27.79 excl. VAT

Rehydion gel is designed to be fed with milk or if an animal is suckling, given directly into the mouth and the lamb is allowed to return to the dam, minimising stress. Rehydion gel addresses the issues of electrolyte imbalances effectively whilst allowing recovery, repair, and growth to continue as the lamb is still receiving milk.

It has been recognised for a number of years that removal of milk from scouring animals does not encourage recovery. Continued milk feeding allows all of the benefits of milk, especially it's high energy levels, to be utilised by the scouring animal to start repairing the gut damage.

One bottle of Rehydion Gel = 160 feeds (2ml per feed). Feed each lamb 2 times a day until scour stops. It is important to note that the animals will continue to scour until the gut is healed, so they may appear clinically well, but still have loose faeces.

Using Nimrod Red Start to improve survival in newborn lambs and calves.

Nimrod Red Start is recommended for use following a difficult delivery or following caesarean section and contains five ingredients that will reduce the mortality rate in the new-born lamb/calf:

- Caffeine and Glucose to stimulate breathing and to correct low blood-glucose concentrations.
- Medium-chain fatty acids to offer a readily available energy source for the new-born animal. Providing these fatty acids allows glucose to be freed up for essential use in the brain.
- Vitamin A to help combat increased mortality rates associated with vitamin-A deficiency.
- Selenium to improve absorption of antibodies (IgG) in colostrum.

Nimrod Red Start can be given immediately after birth to provide energy to encourage the new-born to get up and begin to suck colostrum. Lambing's: $\frac{1}{4}$ of a tube of Nimrod Red Start immediately after birth and this can be repeated 6-8 hours later. Calvings: 1 full tube as soon as possible after calving; this can be repeated the next day if necessary.

Please get in touch if you have any questions/would like to purchase Nimrod Red Start - £5.35/tube, £32.10/box of 6

Schmallenberg virus – Free APHA testing

Following the detection of foetal malformations associated with Schmallenberg virus infection in 2022 and 2023, APHA will continue to offer free-of-charge testing in 2024 on samples from lambs, kids, and calves born with joint stiffness or other musculoskeletal deformities. Please contact us if you have any suspicion of Schmallenberg and may require samples to be tested.

Coccidiosis - Tolracol vs Vecoxan?

Outbreaks of coccidiosis can be complex and multifactorial with the health status of the youngstock, concurrent disease and environmental factors all playing a significant role. Tackling these other factors are as important as the treatment itself. Prevention is key to stopping the severe economic losses associated with coccidiosis, so please seek the advice of one of the vets.

- Tolracol is active against all intracellular development of coccidia, so that all stages are destroyed so it is coccidiocidal. (coccidia cause disease by multiplying in the gut cells and destroying them).
- Vecoxan is active against one or other of the stages so has a coccidiocidal effect, so it would appear Tolracol treats more stages.

Tolracol is licensed for prevention of clinical signs of coccidiosis and reduction of oocyst shedding in housed calves and lambs whereas Vecoxan is licensed for the treatment and prevention of coccidiosis in lambs and an aid to control of coccidiosis in calves.

Whilst the timing of administration is important for both products in that both are best given before clinical disease is seen, a second dose of Vecoxan may be needed in lambs after 3 weeks in conditions of high coccidiosis numbers which is not unusual, whereas the datasheet for Tolracol does not state this is necessary.

MSD Price Increases

Just to make you all aware MSD have introduced price increases across their range of products therefore unfortunately products through them including certain vaccines will be raised accordingly.

NorCal Vets

Follow us on Instagram @norcalvets



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

01844 260 616 thame@norcalvets.co.uk