

## MSD Flockcheck 2025

MSD are running their annual FlockCheck Bloods for antibodies for Toxoplasma and Enzootic abortions in ewes. These bloods should be targeted at 6 to 8 ewes post lambing who have aborted or are barren at lambing. The scheme is available from 1st February for Toxoplasma and from 1st April for Enzo. This is open for flocks of 100 or more breeding ewes and the cost of lab testing is covered. Please mark any suitable ewes at lambing time and give us a call to discuss/arrange bloods.

A reminder on what to do if abortions occur:

- Practice extremely good personal hygiene
- All aborting ewes should be immediately separated for at least three weeks (time for vaginal discharge to cease)
- Keep aborted foetuses and any placenta to send off. Give us a call.
- Ill ewes should be treated with antibiotics (generally Trymox LA) and anti-inflammatories (Emdocam) and fluids if necessary. Always call to check if unsure.
- Mark any ewes for blood sampling later
- Do not foster any ewe lambs you intend to keep as replacements onto aborted ewes.
- Consider vaccination for the following year - here bloods/tests on aborted lambs can identify the problem in your flock and guide vaccination accordingly.

## 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. Lambings:  $\frac{1}{4}$  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.

## 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.

### **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 where as 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.

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.

### **New Office Whatsapp Number For Drugs Orders**

We have introduced a new Office Only Whatsapp number for any drug orders, admin/accounts queries or booking routine call outs/tb tests. We hope this new service will be more convenient and spare any confusion over the phone. - **07822 012874**

Please do not use this number for any sick animals concerns or calls as it is not always monitored.

A reminder of phone numbers:

Office: **01844 260616**

Vets:

Evan David: **07725 039093**

Rebecca Collins: **07860 920479**

Alex Moldovan: **07860 928279**

Kathriona Vagg: **07711 000937**

Maddy Cole: **07955 268738**

Vet Tech:

Jenni Lewis: **07542 941022**

Follow us on Instagram @norcalvets.



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