



Breaking The Cycle Of Lameness

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent farm walk focussing on Digital Dermatitis. Sara Pedersen delivered an excellent informative presentation on this frustrating disease and showed ways in which its cycle can be broken on your farm. Anyone inspired by this to tackle digital dermatitis in their herd this autumn should know that we now offer a package to minimise disease on your farm that includes on-farm vet visit to carry out a risk assessment and formulation of an action plan, as well as a free visit to identify infected cattle to carry out blitz treatment. Contact Lauren in the office for details.

Christmas Party



ANNUAL FARMERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

LOCATION
Holt Lodge Hotel,
LL13 9SW

DATE
12th December 2019

TIME
7:30pm
Beer and Supper provided

@DalesideFarmVet
@DalesideFarm

Please RSVP to lauren@dalesidevets.co.uk
or contact the practice by calling 01978 311444



Red Tractor Alert!



As you will have read in last month's newsletter changes to Red Tractor scheme standards were brought in from 1st October. One key change is the requirement that, "...at least one person, who is responsible for administering medicines, has undertaken training and holds a certificate of competence/attendance from training undertaken since October 2016..." Some of you will have already had MilkSure training or attended our meeting last February in the Holt Lodge, but, for those who missed it, we are holding a XL Mastering Medicines/Lantra AMR Workshop on 4th December 2019 at the Holt Lodge from 10am until 2pm (lunch included!).

For farms that are eligible it will be funded by Farming Connect, but places are limited and will be allocated on a first-come-first-serve basis so please contact the office now on 01978 311444 to reserve your place.

As there is a high demand for this course, we are hoping to repeat it again in the new year

New Face

This month we welcome experienced vet Daniel Steerforth to the practice.

Daniel joins us from South Wales having previously worked in farm animal practice there and in Ireland. We are sure you will all make him feel welcome at the practice.



Fluke Sentinel Project

We are involved in the XL Vets fluke sentinel project that is designed to encourage farmers and vets to test for liver fluke to indicate when there is a risk of fluke infection and stock require treatment.

The timing of fluke infection varies year to year depending on the weather. 30 practices including ourselves are blood testing lambs on a pre-selected farm once a month to see when infection with fluke occurs.

In the treatment of liver fluke, triclabendazole is the only the active ingredient able to kill all life stages of the parasite. However, in some parts of the country there is now firm evidence that resistance to this flukicide has developed. Widespread resistance to triclabendazole puts us all in a very difficult position.

This map of the practices involved is available for everyone to see with some additional useful information about fluke testing at <https://xlvets-farm.co.uk/fluke-sentinel>.

The map shows that all sampling has been negative in July, but since August there have been four farms that have shown evidence of fluke infection (indicated by a red marker on the map). We will keep you up to date on Facebook and Twitter.

If you are concerned about fluke infection on your farm please contact us.



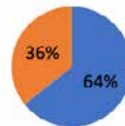
Disease Survey Results

As many of you know, we have been busy over the last month testing dairy herds for Leptospirosis and IBR infections through bulk milk testing.

The samples have thrown up some concerning results. Out of the herds sampled so far 64% of unvaccinated herds have evidence of Leptospirosis infection and a shocking 85% of tested farms contain IBR carrier animals:

PERCENTAGE OF HERDS TESTING POSITIVE FOR LEPTOSPIROSIS

■ Positive ■ Negative



PERCENTAGE OF HERDS TESTING POSITIVE FOR IBR

■ Positive ■ Inconclusive ■ Negative



IBR is caused by bovine herpes virus, BHV-1, the signs of IBR include problems in the upper respiratory tract. This can show as fever, coughing and discharge from the nose and eyes in both adult and young cattle, with the virus often adding to the weight of youngstock pneumonia problems in dairy herds. BHV-1 can also cause milk drop, embryonic losses and general fertility problems in milking cows.

The virus is spread by nose-to-nose contact and potentially through bull semen. Once infected, an animal has the potential to become a latent carrier and spread the virus in times of stress (e.g. calving) even without showing signs of illness. This can cause a resurgence of problems in an infected herd or could introduce the problem to a naive herd if exposed for the first time, for example by a bought-in, latently infected animal.

For more information on how to control IBR in your herd, speak to one of the farm team.

