



Farming Connect Clinics

If you are registered with farming connect, you can qualify for a grant worth up to £250 for lab testing for a range of things from infectious disease, to worm egg counts to fertility.

The grants are only available until the end of July. Please speak to a member of the team today about how we can help you best utilize these funds.

There is also a separate fund of up to £250 available for veterinary advice on the effective and responsible use of medicines on farm. An antibiotic review undertaken by a vet is now a compulsory part of herd and flock health plans, and this funding is only available until the end of July. Please ask a member of the team today about using this funding as part of a robust antibiotic review.

Digital Dermatitis Meeting

Unfortunately, due to injury, we had to cancel last month's Digital Dermatitis meeting.

We know this was a disappointment to clients as well

as staff who were very much looking forward to hearing from Sara Pedersen an RCVS Specialist in Cattle Health and Production. It's great that so many clients are interested in the subject of digital dermatitis. As such, we are working to rearrange this meeting with Sara and will provide details when we can.



Daleside

Veterinary Group

MAY 2019

New Team Member

We are pleased to announce that our locum vet



Andrei Bradulescu, whom many of you will have met over the last few months has now accepted a permanent position with us. After a short break, Andrei will return to Daleside in June full time, to help manage the TB testing workload. Andrei has been a very welcome member of the team both with staff as well as clients and we are very much looking forward to welcoming him back.

Daleside Worm Watch

With the Nadis and SCOPS parasite forecasts predicting a moderate Nematodirus risk, a robust worm control plan is vital.



DALESIDE WORM WATCH

NEW structured plan which includes:

- 7 worm egg counts throughout the grazing season
- 25% discounted rate
- Optional Fluke check at the end of the grazing period
- In-house testing means same day results

Contact the practice for more information
01978 311444

• @DalesideFarm/Vet
• @DalesideFarm



Flies

With turnout now upon us, fly season has arrived and its time to start thinking about protection of your livestock.

Flies are not only a nuisance but can also cause several health issues for both sheep and cattle; the most obvious being blowfly strike. Flies can also cause reduced performance due to constant irritation reducing feed intake as well as being contributing factors to summer mastitis and “New Forest Eye”, not to mention traumatic injury as a result of dramatic escape behaviour! It is therefore well worth planning ahead for the fly season and getting fly control measures put in place.

Flock Check

Have you had any abortions or barren ewes this lambing season?

If so, there is some free lab testing available for up to 8 sheep to help diagnose the cause of abortion/barren ewes so that we can aim to minimise this next year. Speak to a member of the team today about how you can make use of this scheme.

FARM 2019 SHOWS

Come and find us

- 16TH MAY**
Cows On Tour Wrexham
- 18TH - 19TH JUNE**
Cheshire Show
- 31ST JULY**
Nantwich Show
- 3RD AUGUST**
Oswestry Show
- 15TH AUGUST**
Flint and Denbigh Show



Bull Fertility Its Important!

The fertility and genetic potential of bulls significantly affects the overall production efficiency of a herd.

When taking into account all the costs associated with feeding and keeping a bull, these add up to approximately £1660/year; you want to make sure he's fertile! To look at it another way, a bull will cost you on average, £55 per calf born if he sires 30 calves in a mating season or £33 per calf born if he sires 50; so its worth making sure he can produce lots of calves; BEFORE he begins work! Here at Daleside, both Marielle and Lara can carry out bull fertility assessments and it's something that we very much advise ahead of the breeding season to avoid disappointment later in the season when finding out that you've been running a sub-fertile bull will have already cost you a lot! Running a sub-fertile bull for 2 years can cost up to £9200; investing a small amount of time and money before the breeding season starts is, therefore, well worth it.

So, what is a fertile bull? There have been several definitions for the term "fertile" discussed among experts over the years such as "a fertile bull is

expected to get 90 per cent of 50 normal, cycling, disease-free females pregnant within nine weeks and 60 per cent of these should become pregnant in the first three weeks of mating". Put simply; a bull able to reproduce prolifically is fertile.

A short, concentrated calving period is one of the most important goals of an efficient beef suckler system. Subfertility in bulls will dramatically alter this. A concentrated calving period enables appropriate timing of animal husbandry procedures, vaccinations, parasite control and accurate nutritional management. When a concentrated calving pattern is not achieved, animal health and welfare management is compromised, uneven lines of weaners are created, there will be a wide weight range in heifers selected as replacements and difficulties in feed budgeting will be created.

It has been estimated that 20% of bulls are either sub-fertile or infertile. These bulls can result in major economic losses being experienced due to the total weight of beef weaned being reduced. As a general rule, when calves are weaned at the same time, the difference in weight between calves born in the first 3 weeks of the calving pattern and those born in the second three weeks should be approximately 21kg; when the calving pattern is spread, this will be much bigger.

We can assess how fertile your bull is by carrying out a breeding soundness exam. There are several reasons we may need to carry out a breeding soundness exam. Ideally it should be a normal part of bull management annually before mating; now is the time to start thinking about assessing the fertility of your bulls ahead of mating for next spring's calvers. Some breed societies also require bulls to have an examination pre-sale. Insurance companies may also

Bull Fertility Its Important!....

request a breeding soundness exam of bulls. Lastly, the one we want to avoid because it's almost too late then, is to carry out an exam when subfertility is suspected.

There are several components to a breeding soundness exam. A full assessment requires physical examination of the bull as well as examination of a semen sample. We are aiming to assess the ability of the bull to maintain itself in a normal functional state in its environment, locate oestrus females and to repeatedly mount and serve oestrus females and ejaculate a sufficient number of normal sperm. Please speak to either Marielle or Lara about scheduling in a breeding soundness exam for your bulls to make sure that this mating season is a successful one!

Changes to Withdrawal Times for Betamox LA

Please be aware there have been some changes to withdrawal times for Betamox LA as displayed in the table below;

Category	Old	New
Cattle Milk	79 hours	84 hours
Cattle Meat and offal	23 days	28 days
Sheep Milk and offal	Not to be used in sheep producing milk for human consumption	Not to be used in sheep producing milk for human consumption
Sheep Meat and offal	16 days	19 days
Pig Meat and offal	16 days	19 days



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SHOTTON
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