



## Calf Club meeting

Thank you to those who came to the dairy calf weaning meeting last month. For anyone who is interested in focusing on their calf health and performance, do get in touch with the farm team about our Calf Club service.

## Barren ewes

Reproductive failure can have detrimental effects on a sheep farm's profitability, whether this is down to an increased barren rate or an increase in abortions.

Flock performance figures are important to help us identify key problem areas and allows us to act upon it. Abortion rates above 2%, a greater than expected number of barren ewes and weak or sickly lambs are all significant, and could indicate an infectious problem.

The two main infectious causes of abortion in the UK are Enzootic Abortion and Toxoplasmosis.

If you are concerned about the performance of your flock over this lambing season, then specific testing could be beneficial. Barren or aborting ewes can be blood tested to evaluate if there is an infectious cause. Luckily vaccines for Enzootic Abortion and Toxoplasmosis are highly effective at managing the impact of these infectious diseases.

Please speak to one of the vets if this is something of concern for you, funding options are also available.



## Teat Sealant Meeting

We are hosting an evening meeting on Monday 25th April focusing on selective dry cow therapy and teat sealant use.

There will be the opportunity to gain confidence with correct teat sealant infusion technique. We will also discuss selecting cows for antibiotic plus sealant dry cow therapy, or teat sealant only at dry off. Look out for full details in the next newsletter. If you would like to attend, please let us know by 18th April.



# Shape the future of dairy

Have your say on the vital support we offer  
Register **now** at [ahdb.org.uk/shape-the-future](https://ahdb.org.uk/shape-the-future)

**AHDB**

## AHDB shape the future

In April this year AHDB levy payers will be able to have their say and influence the work AHDB does across the beef, lamb, dairy, pork and cereals & oilseed sectors. They will also be able to voice what they think are the major challenges across the industry.

AHDB has looked at what they believe is important to levy payers and will be asking questions about whether this is the right focus.

For dairy, this includes the work that goes into protecting the reputation of the industry and marketing the benefits of dairy to consumers at home through their We Eat Balanced campaign. Or the work that helps you build on the already strong environmental credentials of dairy in the UK.

Maybe you use their market intelligence to check whether you're receiving a fair milk price or to see what's likely to affect your business in the coming months? Or perhaps

you make the most of their genetics data to guide your breeding programme and inform your next choice of bulls?

Whatever's important to you, now is your chance to have your say on how your levy money is spent by registering now and taking part in the survey.

Register to have your say at <https://ahdb.org.uk/shape-the-future>

Registration should take no more than five minutes and needs to be completed by 31st March. You will then be contacted to have your say from 11th April.

