

Christmas Drinks 2019

We would like to invite you all to come and have a drink on us!

Wednesday 18th December from 8pm at the Tithe Barn, Garstang PR3 1PA.

As in previous years, there will be a prize for the best Christmas jumper. Robert and Sara Fryars won last year with their double jumper!



We would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas!

We are available as always over the Christmas break for emergencies.

Office open hours are:

Christmas eve— 8:30am—3pm

Christmas day—closed

Boxing day—10am -12noon

27th-30th—open as normal

New Years eve—8:30am—4pm

New Years Day—10am-12noon

2nd Jan 2019—open as normal

Contact numbers

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FARM VETS

Newsletter

December 2019



We would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous

New Year and thank you for working alongside us.

Dates for your diary:

**13th December 2019—Milksure course 12-2 at Green Lane., Garstang
£200 + VAT to include meeting and follow up on farm visit**

16th December 2019—Medicines course for Red Tractor compliance
Suitable for dairy, beef & sheep farmers
£75 (£50 for additional attendees from same farm)
12.30-2.30pm at Green Lane West, Garstang
Book now to ensure your place—lunch provided

20th January 2019—Medicines course for Red Tractor compliance
Suitable for dairy, beef & sheep farmers
£75 (£50 for additional attendees from same farm)
12—2pm at Green Lane West, Garstang
Book now to ensure your place—lunch provided

*'A local practice committed to delivering
outstanding service'*



Green Lane Vet Centre, Garstang PR3 1PR Tel: 01995 602468

Abomasitis

Abomasitis is usually a bloat which affects calves under three weeks old, but it can be present without bloat as well.

Clinical signs include:

Depression
Down or reluctant to stand
Bloat
Dehydration
Colic signs—grinding teeth, kicking stomach
Reluctance to feed
Death!

How does it happen?

Two things are needed for abomasitis to develop:
Bacteria need to be introduced to the abomasum
If there is a lot of easily fermentable carbohydrate in the abomasum, the bugs can replicate rapidly and produce gas and toxins which irritate the abomasal mucosa.
Sustained irritation causes bleeding and death of areas of mucosa.

Why does it happen?

There are 5 main risk factors:

1. Too high an energy content in the abomasum - Milk replacer has a higher energy content than milk and if the energy fed is more than the metabolic needs of the calf, there will be large amounts of easily fermentable carbohydrate left in the abomasum. This provides the ideal environment for the rapid growth of bacteria.
2. High volume feeds—Too much milk overwhelms the abomasal ability to digest contents and prolongs emptying time, which gives bacteria more time to replicate.
3. Insufficient colostrum—The calf needs enough antibodies to fight invading bacteria, so correct colostrum protocols are vital.
4. Rapid change of diet—Moving from milk to milk replacer too quickly has been linked with the development of abomasitis and bloat.
5. Contaminated feeding tubes, buckets etc—Dirty tools and bedding increase the likelihood of the calf ingesting pathogenic bacteria.

Abomasitis cont..

How can I prevent it happening?

1. Reduce the osmolality of the abomasum—Ensure access to clean, fresh water.
2. Increase frequency of feeding and decrease volume—Less distention and more frequent emptying
3. Colostrum, colostrum, colostrum!
4. Change diet slowly
5. Hygiene and environmental contamination—Ensure cleaning and disinfection of feeding tubes as well as general hygiene



Can I cure it?

Prognosis isn't good with this problem but the best chance is with rapid identification and treatment. I/V fluids and antibiotics will help with dehydration and infection of the abomasum.

Overall, this is a definite case of 'prevention is better than cure!!'