



Lanes
FARM VETS

Newsletter

April 2021

Dates for your diary

We are pleased to have two excellent speakers lined up for zoom meetings. If you would like to join these meetings, please ask Jo & Helen (01995 602468) to add your name to the list and arrange to send you a **zoom goody bag**. If you need help setting a zoom up please ask – it's very straightforward.

Thurs 22nd April 7.30 – 8.15pm—Bess Jowsey, Pasture to Profit consultant

Simple tips for improving grazing management

Regardless of your farming system, grass is the most abundant and reliable crop for farmers in the North – not to mention the cheapest! Therefore it makes sense to understand how you could grow and utilise more grass in your farm business. Join us for an interactive webinar where we shall discuss:

- The value of grass to your stock, and to your business
- Tips to improve grass yield
- Tips to improve grass utilisation
- Overcoming common challenges that you encounter across the grazing season

Thursday 20th May 7.30 – 8.15pm—James Bretherton, soil enthusiast

Linking soil to Animal Health – is soil health having an impact on key minerals and grass quality? Including – easy wins with soil health

Medicines courses—we continue to carry these out on farm and hope to announce a group meeting date very shortly once we have a suitable venue. Please call to register your interest.

Advance notice— our **annual AI and foot trimming courses** will be running later in the year. DIY AI in September and Herdsman Foot trimming in December. Call for more information or to book a place.

'A local independent practice committed to delivering outstanding service'



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

We want your opinions ...

We are excited that building work at Brockholes Auction is likely to get underway soon. In order to make sure our move is a positive step forward for everyone we want to ask you a few questions about our service and location and what would suit you best.

We will be sending out a very short questionnaire by email and a paper version in the next newsletter—we want everyone to be able to have their say. Please don't hesitate to chat to us about it.

Oral rehydration

Unfortunately our favourite oral rehydration product Effydral has ceased to be produced. Once our stocks have gone we can no longer get it. We have sourced an alternative product called Lactade Plus.

Lifeaid comes in a sachet with 2 compartments—both of which are mixed in 2 litres of warm water and fed fresh either via teat, bucket or tube. It comes in boxes of 12, 48 or we can sell individual sachets.

Lactade Plus contains electrolytes and an energy source to support a dehydrated calf. It should be fed alternate feeds with milk.

The ideal regime for scouring calves to improve survival and maintain growth is feed calves 4 times with the following regime:

Morning: up to 2-3 litres milk

Lunch: upto 2 litres Lactade Plus

Afternoon: up to 2-3 litres milk

Evening: upto 2 litres Lactade Plus



Parasite forecast

Nematodirus: watch out for the nematodirus forecast which will alert you to likely mass hatching time of overwintered nematodirus eggs on pasture. Average temperatures above 10oC for several days usually triggers hatching. Grazing youngstock can be found dead before any clinical signs.

The most vulnerable stock are those 1—3 months old grazing during the hatching period. Strategic dosing with a white drench (usually 2 doses 3 weeks apart) can prevent losses. Prevention can also be achieved by avoiding grazing young animals on pastures grazed by youngstock the previous year.

If you are not signed up to our parasite alert system yet please speak to Helen on 01995 602468 to add your name to the list.

COWS: The ‘Control of Worms Sustainably’ group (who are dedicated to reducing wormer resistance) are strongly advising that calves are tested before worming at turnout this year.

The effect of the odd winter weather (very variable periods of wet & cold) on overwintering roundworm larvae is unknown. The risk to young calves depends very much on the challenge on the pasture they are turned out onto.

By taking a faecal egg count from ideally 15 calves in early June, you can gauge the level of pasture contamination. Low egg counts suggest that intake of infective larvae from pasture has been low at the start of the season, so no need to treat the calves with wormer immediately. A second test in early July should be carried out to check this remains the case.

Please don’t hesitate to ask for more details, we can carry out faecal egg counts on the same day—its cheap and quick, just ask!

Fluke: we are still seeing some evidence of disease caused by fluke as a result of the late wet fluke season last year. Please ask if you are unsure about fluke control or testing.

Harry's Challenge!

Earlier this month Harry took part in the David Goggins challenge with his CrossFit team to raise money for the charity, Centrepoint. He completed a total of 12 runs equalling 48 miles in 48 hours. Many ice baths (in the wheelie bin!) and plenty of ibuprofen got him through the runs and he would like to thank everyone for their support and donations.

The final total raised for CentrePoint was just under £11,000!

An amazing achievement by everyone involved.

A message from Mike...

I will be leaving the practice on June 30th- you've had to put up with me for 30 years now, and that's long enough for anyone!

Thanks for all the support you've given to me and the practice over those years, we've gone through some tough times together, but I've enjoyed all the time I've had working with you.

I'm leaving the practice with two hard working and committed directors in Janet and Emmie at the wheel, and an excellent team of vets and support staff behind them, so I'm happy that Lanes will be going forward into the future in really good hands.

I wish you all the best for the future, and I'll probably turn up on my motorbike some time soon for a chat (at an appropriate distance of course!)

We are really sad to see Mike go but are sure he will keep in touch. We are pleased to introduce our new member of the team, Seth Kennard, who will step into Mike's sizeable shoes in a few months! More details on Seth next month...

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