



Lanes
farm vets

Newsletter

April 2023

Dates for your diary...

Flock management course 2nd module—Friday 14th April 12-2.30pm at Lanes Farm Vets, Brockholes Auction Mart.

The growing lamb—worming and growth rates. £50 per module inc. lunch

Also introducing...

'Shed loads of opportunity' series of meetings looking at the impact of buildings and management. The Game's Afoot-Lameness discussion and farm walk on Wednesday 26th April, 11am at Mowbreck Hall Farm, PR4 3HA. Join us for a lunchtime session focusing on how buildings can be modified and improved, and preventative action taken to improve lameness on your farm. Lunch provided, please ring the office on 01995 602468/01995 641000 to book your place. Location [what3word:///backyards.took.cascade](https://www.what3word.com/backyards.took.cascade). Kindly supported by Zoetis and the Pickervance family.

Future meetings will focus on mastitis, calf health and fertility.

DIY AI training—we are now an approved AI training practice and can offer AI training on your own farm or look out for one of the organised training sessions throughout the year. Contact Emmie for more information on 07552122819.



Lanes Farm Vets, Brock Auction, Claughton-On-Brock, PR3 0PH

What is *Coccidiosis*?

Coccidiosis is a highly infectious disease of the intestine in cattle and sheep which can destroy large amounts of the gut lining.



Coccidiosis is mostly commonly seen in young stock of around 3 - 12 weeks of age, usually as inappetence, scouring and weight loss. The most common type of coccidiosis is the economically important subclinical form where there are no obvious clinical symptoms but with appetite loss, significantly reduced feed conversion rates and 'poor doers'.



The parasite's oocysts (eggs) are passed out in faeces contaminating the environment and are able to survive for more than 12 months. Susceptible young stock then pick up the oocysts and within 2-3 weeks are shedding more. Multiplication of oocysts can be explosive causing sudden outbreaks of severe disease. Conditions favouring disease outbreaks include:

- a high stocking density with a new crop of lambs or calves
- concurrent disease
- mixing of groups, especially if different age groups

Managing coccidiosis: the aim is to reduce exposure to high levels of oocysts. Early exposure (up to 4 days) of lower levels, whilst the young animal is protected with colostrum, provides good immunity. Turning animals a few weeks old onto contaminated pasture can cause serious disease. Try to avoid turning youngstock out onto a pasture with a previous history of coccidiosis or after other youngstock have been continuously grazed on as oocyst levels will increase. Hygiene of bedding, buckets etc in housed animals is essential.

As well as essential management measures to help reduce exposure of stock to contaminated areas, there are oral treatments available to reduce the numbers of oocysts produced. The practice stocks Toltracol® (toltrazuril) and Vecoxan (diclazuril) both of which can be useful in different situations.

The timing of treatment administration is critical, so if you suspect you may be seeing signs of the disease, or have had it in previous years, please discuss coccidiosis diagnosis and control with our vets as soon as possible.

Closantel overdose danger

Please ensure you read the directions carefully and dose according to weight. Where we have traditionally advised dosing to the heaviest in the group, with any products containing Closantel we recommend splitting the group if there are a wide range of weights and dosing more accurately.

This advice comes after manufacturers have received a small number of reports in recent months of severe symptoms of overdosing resulting in permanent blindness.

Closantel is available as a narrow spectrum flukicide product and also as combination products such as Closamectin, Closiver, Mebadown super and

NADIS parasite forecast

With the weather warming up we urge those of you that haven't already signed up to the parasite alert forecast to contact Helen on 01995 602468 to get yourself on the list.

The service sends us up to date forecasts for your local area on what parasites the weather has favoured and what cases have been seen on farms around. It is especially useful at this time of year for a Nematodirus warning. Mass hatching of Nematodirus worm eggs occurs on pasture when the ambient temperatures exceed 10°C for a significant part of the day for 10 days. Sudden death is often seen in grazing youngstock above 5 weeks old when they ingest large numbers of this parasite. Timely dosing with a suitable product can prevent these deaths. White drench works unless resistance has been identified on your farm.

If you have any queries regarding parasite control please don't hesitate to contact us on 01995 602468. Our vets and vet tech Helen (qualified SQP) are happy to help.

Don't forget our faecal egg counting service to help you decide on effective worming strategy. Its easy, convenient and cheap (£12 per composite sample, free if a member of the Flock Health Club)



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

**Identifying Sources and Routes of Spread of Lamb Joint Ill
Bacteria in the Farm Environment**

**Problems with Joint ill on your farm
this lambing time?**

**Would you be willing to help support our
research into the disease?**

If you are lambing between February- May 2023 and you
would like to help, please contact Jennifer Duncan
(07521723710) or Louise Jackson (07889661900) for
free sampling and more information.



Funded by the University of Liverpool, AHDB Beef and Lamb
In collaboration with The Moredun Research Institute



Check out our Facebook page for up to date
information on meetings, news and topical updates.

Just search for Lanes Farm Vets and give us a like!

Contact numbers

Janet Horsfield	07737 938559
Tom Lyons	07850 713914
Lora Fryars	07946 627801
Harry Collas	07563 985756
Emmie Bland	07552 122819
Liv Cartmell	07877 487122
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