

Spring Newsletter



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TARN FARM VETS

Sheep Vaccines – Scabivax

A reminder that Scabivax vaccine against Orf is available –

Supplies are low nationally, however we do still have a few bottles available. If you want to use this vaccine please get in contact with us as soon as possible—available on a first come first served basis.



Colostrum-Guidance and Supplementation.



Real colostrum is a superfood rich in fats, protein and growth factors. Colostrum replacer should be as close as possible to the real thing. Calves and lambs depend on

the antibodies they get in the colostrum to fight disease for the first few months of life.

Newborns not receiving any colostrum from their mother need to be supplemented. A rule of thumb is to give the newborn 10% of their body weight within the first 8-12 hours. Half in the first 1-2 hours after birth, followed by a second dose 4-6 hours later. Supplement at risk animals with real colostrum from a teat. If this isn't possible stomach tube lambs with 150 -200mls of colostrum and calves with 1.5-2 litres. Did you know... a dose of poor quality artificial colostrum will make a newborn feel full, meaning they won't suckle as much from their mothers. This could result in reduced intake of antibodies and fat.

(XLVets)

Cattle Lungworm – Huskvac?

Has your farm had a problem with lungworm in cattle in recent times? Now is the time to start planning your lungworm vaccinations for this year to enable you to ensure both doses can be given in advance of Spring turnout.

For animals that have never been vaccinated before, 2 doses are required, separated by at least 4 weeks. Ideally animals would not be let out to grass until 2 weeks after the second dose.

The vaccine is a live vaccine – i.e. it actually gives the cattle a dose of lungworm (the lungworm have been irradiated so as not to reproduce and spread infection). Because it is a live vaccine, many calves will cough for several days after giving the vaccine, so it is vital the vaccine is not used in sick animals.

The vaccine is given orally, and the aim is for

the live worms given to stimulate the animals own immune response to fight off future infection. For that reason, it is crucial that no wormers are used during the vaccination program and for at least 2 weeks after the second dose.

Supplies of Husk-vac are seasonally available and there are frequently supply issues, so if you think you'll want to order this vaccine please can I ask that you let me have your requirements as soon as possible so that we can be sure to get all that you need.



Feedback

Its now 3 months since we merged the farm clinical teams of Tarn Farm Vets and Paragon. We'd really appreciate your feedback and comments so we continue to improve our services. Please get in touch with Ben to discuss.

Weaning Lambs- Planning Ahead and Avoiding Problems.

In order for lambs to remain in good health and grow well, it is vital to plan early for weaning. By getting the weaning right, it can be the difference between a healthy and fast-growing lamb or one that really struggle to thrive.

In order to develop the rumen and the microbiota effectively as well as avoid a dip in performance, it is important to introduce concentrate feed via a creep feed well in advance. Many lambs who receive only milk and grass without the introduction of starch can then experience an under developed rumen papillae and may have difficulties absorbing nutrients and digesting concentrate feed. In addition, a live yeast could also help to establish beneficial microflora.