



NEWS

We are pleased to inform you that we have been accepted by, and have now joined **XLVets**.

What is XLVets?

XLVets is a group of 42 **independently owned**, progressive veterinary practices, all committed to the future of the UK livestock industry. Spanning the length and breadth of the UK, we work together, sharing experience, knowledge and skills in order to define and deliver the highest standards of veterinary practice, animal health and productivity.

Founded in 2005, XLVets originated from a group of dynamic farm animal veterinary practices, who worked hard to create what they saw as a model of how individual practices can work successfully in partnership. Following a period of rapid growth, XLVets is now becoming recognised nationally as a 'quality mark' for veterinary care; not only for livestock, but also in the fields of small animal and equine care.

The group also endeavours to source and supply the highest quality, best-priced medicines, equipment, products and accessories.

In addition, XLVets works alongside academic bodies and commercial research and manufacturing companies; forging strong industry partnerships to place its member practices at the forefront of veterinary science. For farm clients of XLVet member practices this gives local access to many of the unique national initiatives the group develops; from health management, consultancy advice and disease prevention, through to bespoke analytical services to improve farm productivity and financial returns.

XLVets member practices are dedicated to providing a high quality, cost effective service to their clients, to support long-term growth and future prosperity within the UK livestock industry.

Veterinary Drug Prices

On the back of this development we can currently reduce the price of certain product lines, for example:

Cevac Chlamydia vaccine 20 Dose £48.00

Terramycin LA 100ml £14.50

Cephaguard DC 180 tubes £260.00

Estrumate per ml £1.70

We will keep you informed of other seasonal offers.

However it is not just about drug prices. This is a buying group, but also we hope that the networking with other practices will enable us to improve our service to you and make it even better!

ORBESEAL

NO

This is not intended to be a case of teaching grannies to suck eggs

YES

We enclose (for the dairy guys among you) guidelines for administering Orbesal, a drug very commonly used by you.

At a recent meeting with Pfizer, they made us aware again of some problems that occurred with cheese that was made from milk that still had some traces of Orbesal in it. This was causing mould.

Now I realise not all milk will be used for cheese making, but a small reminder of administration, and especially removal of the product before the first milking, seems to be appropriate.



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NEW CALF PNEUMONIA PRODUCT

Zactran® is a new generation antibiotic that has been designed and launched specifically to treat the key bacteria which cause calf pneumonia. Chemically this product is from the same family as *Micotil*, which used to be very popular with our clients, but *Zactran* is longer acting and safer for the operator to be working with!

It gets to work in the lungs after just 30 minutes following administration, helping to prevent any additional lung damage and allowing the calf to begin returning to normal behaviour.

It can also be given to animals not yet showing clinical signs, and as it lasts for up to 15 days, this offers both sick and in-contact animals the protection they require during the risky re-infection period

Only one low-volume shot (1 ml per 25 kg bodyweight) by subcutaneous injection is required and, unlike some products, it is easy to administer even in colder temperatures, which should help prevent unwanted sore thumbs!

The product is only available in 100ml bottles at £130.00 which equates to just £2.60 per 50 kg calf – surely a cost effective option at this autumn's expected calf prices!

For more information on calf pneumonia and Zactran®, please contact the practice .



FLUKE

Liver fluke is a serious disease that has major implications on animal welfare, economic losses, mortality and ill thrift in sheep and cattle.

Adult fluke live in the liver and bile ducts of sheep and cattle, and eggs are passed in the faeces. These eggs infect certain snails in the environment and develop further within the snail. The infective stage then migrates onto grass and is eaten. This infective stage then migrates through the intestinal wall, and into the liver.

The disease can be characterised into three categories: chronic, acute and sub acute. Typically acute and sub acute fasciolosis are seen in sheep, often in late autumn and are caused by large numbers of immature flukes migrating through the liver. Signs include sudden death, severe haemorrhage and anaemia. The chronic form of the disease is seen in sheep, dairy and beef cattle, often in winter and spring (but can be any time of year) characterised by weight loss, failure to thrive, diarrhoea, anaemia and can also be fatal.

Fluke can be diagnosed by either a faecal sample egg count which can now be done in house, or a blood test/ bulk milk sample which would confirm contact with fluke in the previous 6 months. Treatments are available although some do not kill all stages of the fluke and will therefore not entirely resolve the problem. Modifications to the pasture can help prevent disease, either providing better drainage to wet areas or fencing these areas off - as the snail, the intermediate host, is found in wet ground.

In summary, fluke can cause a significant reduction in growth rates and is now commonly seen in many local areas. It can be diagnosed with a faecal sample, thus saving the need to splash out on treatment if it is not required! Please ring for advice on the treatment options.

