



"BLEEDING CALF SYNDROME"

We would like to draw your attention to this emerging disease.

Affected calves will show signs of persistent fever, bleeding from nose, gums, ear tag holes, injection sites and occasionally blood in faeces. Unfortunately so far the cause has not yet been identified.

The first cases were seen last year in countries like Germany and the Netherlands. Since then there have been 25 confirmed cases in the UK, mainly in Scotland, the majority of which have occurred in suckler herds.

We would urge you to be extra vigilance for cases of unexplained bleeding and sudden death in calves less than one month. If you have any suspicion of this disease occurring in your animals please give us a ring to investigate further!



Sheep enjoying the global warming

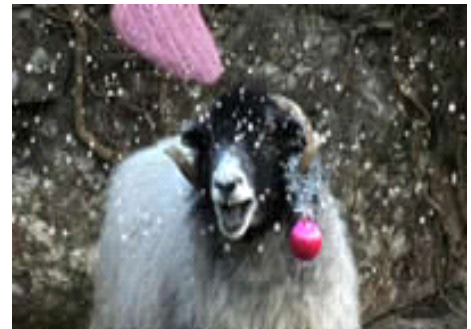
ARE YOUR COWS PREGNANT?

For suckler herds, with cows calving in the spring, now is the time to get them PD-ed.

With the beef prices as good as they are at the moment it is worth finding out which cows are empty so these can be sold. Also by selling them now they do not have to be fed over the winter so you're saving on expensive winter feed.

If less than 95% put to the bull are PD positive, investigations as to why they are not in calf (infection? bull?) can be started a lot earlier. Why let it rumble on until spring?

All good reasons to find out if you're cows are pregnant!



**FROM ALL OF US :
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!**

GLOBAL WARMING

After a very warm start to autumn discussions about global warming have flared up again. It is now estimated an increase of 2 degrees could lead to the extinction of as many as a third of all animals and plant species.

With regards to livestock, changes to the global weather will have an effect on prevalence and geographic spread of significant diseases. Endoparasites, that depend on prevailing weather conditions to complete their lifecycle, in particular have changed appearance. Some examples of changes:

Due to higher temperatures *Haemonchus*, the blood-sucking worm mostly seen in the south of England is now seen as far north as Scotland.

Fluke, previously only seen in the wetter west of Britain is moving east due to warmer wetter summers. We are certainly diagnosing it more frequently in our practice.

And think of diseases like Blue tongue moving north from the Mediterranean due to a warmer Northern Europe.

But it is not all bad news, eg. *Nematodirus* outbreaks that have been rising since the mid-90's due to warmer weather are believed to decrease again due to spring starting earlier year on year. With spring starting earlier the infectious larvae will appear on the pasture before the lambs are old enough to be consuming large amounts of grass. They are therefore exposed to a lower dose of larvae and therefore do not have a clinical disease.

With the current debates no longer being about IF temperatures are rising but more about how bad it is, we can certainly not ignore the effect of global warming on our livestock.

MEETING

Wednesday 16th of December 11.00—14.00

DAIRY COW NUTRITION & FERTILITY

NUTRITION, a vital element to the success of your business but a very complicated subject.

We have invited Dr. Tom Chamberlain BVSc PhD MRCVS, who is a practising vet and an independent nutritional consultant, to come and talk about this topic. An initial discussion/workshop is followed by a farm walk to look at different aspects of nutrition.

**To find out more, or book a FREE place, please
PHONE— Jo on 01273 473232 or LHSE on 07549 843380
EMAIL— Jo.spencer@cliffevets.co.uk or
info@livestockhealthsoutheast.co.uk**

PNEUMONIA IN CALVES

Pneumonia is one of the biggest causes of death and decreased growth in calves. Although deaths are easy to quantify, losses from poor growth are harder to measure and are often financially more significant.

Most pneumonia is caused primarily by a virus with secondary bacterial infection. Common viral causes are: Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus (BRSV), Parainfluenza 3 (PI3), IBR and BVD.

There are different vaccines on the market that can protect your calves against these viruses. Which vaccine to use very much depends on the system used on the farm.

Vaccination should always be combined with good ventilation of calf sheds. Sheds should be designed so air can enter through the sides and exit through the roof, maintaining constant air flow through and up. The aim is to have air drawn into the shed and up removing any unwanted organisms and stagnant air. However care must be taken to avoid exposing calves to draughts coming in one side of the shed and out the other.

If you have any questions regarding vaccination and how to optimise housing please contact us.



STOP PRESS: NEW PRODUCT

NAXCEL CATTLE is about to be launched as a long acting form of EXCENEL RTU. It is effective for up to 7 days, has a meat withdrawal of 9 days and still has a nil milk withhold. This product **MUST** be injected at the base of the ear. Injected anywhere else will result in an extremely long meat withhold (ears are routinely discarded at abattoirs). WE will not dispense this product unless some on-farm instructions of this new technique has been performed by one of us, e.g at a routine visit. Please contact the surgery if you are interested in using NAXCEL CATTLE.



21 Cliffe High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2AH
Tel: 01273 473232 - Fax: 01273 472216
enquiries@cliffevets.co.uk
www.cliffevets.co.uk