

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

from the Wright and Morten Farm Animal Team



Welcome back

Welcome back to Jenny Marmion- Jenny returns to work this week from maternity leave. She will be working on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays and is back on the duty rota. Rupert will be attending nursery and hopefully enjoying lots of new activities.

Upcoming Courses

Lambing Courses

This month sees the return of our ever popular lambing courses, these will be running on **January 27th & February 8th** at Hollytree farm. Learn how to safely correct malpresentations (leg back, head back etc), treat common periparturient diseases and ensure that your lambs get the best possible start in life. £60 per person (excl. VAT) please contact Hollie for details on 07733 121545 or book in with Vicky at the office.

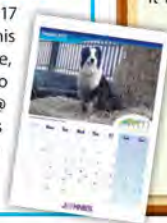
Calving Course

January 18th at Hollytree. Learn how to correct malpresentations, deal with common problems around calving and how to prepare for calving to minimise problems. **£75 per person (excl. VAT)** please contact Hollie for details on 07733 121545 or book in with Vicky at the office.

Watch out for our newly established Flock Health Clubs and the return of the Calf Health Club. We will be holding a refresher session on care of the young calf as well as reviewing progress with the calf tracker programme and weaning to bulling weights.

Winner of the Farm Calendar Competition

Thank you to everyone who entered our competition for the 2017 calendar, we had lots of beautiful photos to choose from! This year's winner of the £50 prize is January's photo of Rex the collie, by Colin Sherwin of Vale Farm, congratulations! If you'd like to enter photos for the 2018 calendar, send them to stephlyth@wmvets.co.uk. We don't get many wintery (or autumn) photos submitted, so keep your camera handy and you might have a good chance of it appearing in the next calendar!



Product News

Preparations for calving / purchase of young calves

The article overleaf addresses Cryptosporidia- an extremely challenging problem in young calves, also seen in lambs. We have some products in stock which are useful for prevention and treatment of scour in calves, especially in block calving herds or where large numbers of young calves are being bought in for rearing.

C+ paste - similar to the old **Rotaguard** paste- can be given to calves as soon as possible after birth to help boost their antibodies to scour pathogens. It claims to give some protection against Cryptosporidia.

Vet Calf Protect - is an oral paste which helps to support growth, immunity and health in new born calves. It contains a probiotic so it can also be given to help calves recovering from scour.

Diakur Plus is a 3 kg bulk tub of oral rehydration electrolytes and energy powder - which can be mixed up in big batches to feed in milk/ milk replacer/ water. This is particularly useful as a supplement to feed for bought in calves on their day of arrival at a unit.



Alamycin LA/Tetroxy vet

The price of **Alamycin LA** will be rising on 1st January. We have an alternative product available - **Tetroxy Vet**. This is equivalent to Alamycin LA- it is licensed for cattle, sheep and pigs, is long acting, has the same dose rate (1ml/ 10kg intramuscularly) and same meat and milk withdrawals. The price of TetroxyVet will be the same as the old price of Alamycin LA. We will be stocking both products.

Foot Trimming Services Update

Bryan Robertson can be contacted directly on **07506 139047** or via the office at Holly Tree for foot trimming bookings. No job too big or small - in his first 8 months with us Bryan has trimmed Longhorn, Highland, Simmental, Hereford, Angus, Dexter and of course many black and white cattle, with regular repeat visits to dairy farms. There is no minimum number of cattle for a visit - if fewer than 10 animals are trimmed a visit fee is added to the headage charge.



Cryptosporidiosis

Here are the key points from Moredun's interesting talk on Crypto last year:

- ▶ Cryptosporidiosis (or 'Crypto') is the disease caused by infection with the protozoan parasite *Cryptosporidium*.
- ▶ Four species are known to infect cattle but only one, *Cryptosporidium parvum*, causes disease and generally only in neonatal calves.
- ▶ *Cryptosporidium parvum* is also zoonotic, which means it can infect humans.
- ▶ The parasite can survive over a year in soil, on pasture and in water, and can also survive heat (up to 60°C), cold (to -20°C), many commonly used farm disinfectants and water chlorination.
- ▶ Clinical signs can range from mild scouring to calf death depending on the parasite burden, susceptibility and health status of the calves.
- ▶ Cryptosporidium transmission to young calves can come from many sources including other calves (especially older calves), their dams, animal handlers, other animals (including sheep and deer) and the environment (including sheds, bedding, pasture, soil and drinking water).
- ▶ Cryptosporidium infection can cause serious problems on some farms and current statistics indicate this parasite is the commonest cause of scour in young calves in the UK.
- ▶ The life cycle of the parasite allows it to multiply rapidly in the host leading to the rapid spread of the disease within a susceptible group of animals.
- ▶ Infected animals can shed billions of infectious parasites into the environment, and on top of this the infectious dose is very low - ingesting as few as 10 parasites is enough to cause disease!
- ▶ Accurate diagnosis is crucial - we can test for this in our lab in 15 minutes.
- ▶ Currently there is no vaccine available and treatment options are limited; there is one product licensed to treat cryptosporidiosis (Halocur), although this aims to reduce shedding (and therefore the spread of disease) and does not 'cure' the disease.
- ▶ There are effective management solutions that can significantly reduce the parasite burden on farm and thereby the impact of disease, including:
 - Steam cleaning of buildings.
 - Regular cleaning of calving areas.
 - Deep and regular straw bedding.
 - Good colostrum management.
 - Rehydration of sick calves.
 - Don't mix old and young animals.
 - Quarantine of sick animals until 1 week after scouring stops.
- ▶ The parasite is opportunistic and is therefore diagnosed in many mixed infections where prevention/treatment of the other pathogens will reduce the impact of cryptosporidiosis.
- ▶ FAM and Sorgene won't kill cryptosporidium; 2-3% KenoCox, 2-4% Neopredisan, 10% Ox-Virin, and 3% Hydrogen peroxide and some examples of effective disinfectants.

Whaley Bridge News

We have an ever expanding client base in the Whaley Bridge area and have enjoyed meeting lots of new people during our introductory flock and herd health visits. We now have a lambing/ sheep caesarean facility available on the ground floor of the building so will be happy to carry out lambings and sheep caesareans there if you would prefer to bring a sheep in rather than have it dealt with on farm. Please phone Kate at Whaley Bridge on **01663 732564** if you would like any more details. There will be a vet based in the Whaley area every weekday during the Spring.



Farm & Equine Offices Lower Withington

The Barn, Holly Tree Farm,
Holmes Chapel Road, Lower Withington,
Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK11 9DT

Tel: 08458 230034 or 01477 571000
Email: hollytree@wmo vets.co.uk

Whaley Bridge Farm Branch

Block B, Ringstones Industrial Estate,
Whaley Bridge, High Peak, Derbyshire, SK23 7PD

Tel: 01863 732564

 Like us on Facebook for up-to-date news and the latest events! Search 'Wright & Morten Farm Animal Services'

