# Farm Newsletter August 2018



As normal, we will have a stand at **Glendale Show** on **Monday 27th August** so please come along and join us for drinks and nibbles throughout the day. Good luck to all our clients in their various classes and we look forward to hearing of your successes on the day.

Due to changes in the red tractor rules the antibiotic usage on each farm will now be listed in health plans. As a consequence of this we would like to have separate farm accounts for cattle and sheep to make this easier to do. Please contact us if you do not wish us to make this change.

The time is coming to start thinking about semen testing tups as ideally they should be done 3-4 weeks before they are used. It is sensible to test any teasers at this time to ensure that they are firing blanks. Any teaser tups that you want made need to be done at least 2 weeks before they are required (10 days before tupping starts).

Another reminder is that Cevac only lasts 3 years so and 4 crop + ewes should get a booster at least 4 weeks pre-tupping.

# Border Leicester and Vendeen Sheep Open Day at North Lyham- 12<sup>th</sup> August

Neil and Emma Howie, North Lyham, Chatton, NE66 5RY kindly invite you to attend their Open day on Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> of August. As winners of the 2017 National Flock Competition awarded by the Society of Border Leicester Sheep Breeders, you are assured of a fantastic and informative day out. Neil will have on show Border Leicester, Vendeen, Halfbreds & Texel x Border Leicester sheep. The event starts at 1pm and refreshments will be provided but please contact Neil on 07774832025 to confirm your attendance.



## Calving course

There has been interest in the autumn calving course. The course will take place on the 4th of September at Morwick Farm, Acklington. This will be a full day course with lectures in the morning (covering the preparation for calving, practical calving tips and aftercare of the newborn calf) and an on-farm practical session in the afternoon. If you are interested in attending please email: anna.bruguera@alnorthumbriavets.co.uk

## ADVANCE WARNING – Farm Client Meetings

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October – Dyke Neuk pub, Meldon Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October – The Coquetvale Hotel, Rothbury Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October – The Blue Bell Hotel, Belford All dates – hot buffet and drinks at 7pm, meeting starts 7.30pm Kindly sponsored by Elanco Animal Health and MSD

#### Topics:

Handling and Administration of Medicines – It is recommended by Red Tractor Assurance that at least one member of staff per farm attends and certificates of attendance will be provided. Delaying Resistance to Fluke Treatments – Up to date advice on when and how to treat.

Please reserve your place by calling your local branch now

# Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR) (Megan Shaw, University of Surrey Vet School)

In March 2018, we were involved in a severe outbreak of Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR), resulting in a number of deaths, including an adult bull. The outbreak was as a result of a carrier animal being brought home from a sale and coming into contact with naïve stock at home. Consequently, all ages of animals were affected, and medicine and production costs were high. Worst of all, the herd will now have a number of lifelong carrier animals which may trigger further outbreaks.

IBR is a respiratory disease caused by Bovine Herpesvirus (BHV-1), which is spread through the air or via contact with secretions from infected animals. The major signs of IBR include increased temperature, nasal discharge, respiratory stress and dullness. Most animals infected with the virus will become lifelong carriers. Various factors can increase the risk of a herd becoming infected with IBR; biosecurity, movement and mixing of animals from different establishments being the most significant.

There is no specific treatment for IBR, meaning prevention is key. Maintaining a closed herd greatly reduces the risk of animals becoming infected by new stock being introduced. It is advised that any new animals arriving onto the farm should be isolated and blood tested for IBR prior to their entry. Careful biosecurity is crucial. If a case of IBR is suspected or diagnosed, the affected animal(s) should be isolated from the group immediately to reduce spreading.

There are vaccinations available to protect animals against IBR. Although vaccination does not protect persistently infected animals or stop them from transmitting the infection, it will prevent new cases of IBR being established.

In light of this years events we are encouraging all farms to establish their status and review vaccination policy. This is particularly important for those of you who breed pedigree cattle and/or show them. EU rules mean that export and semen sales will be adversely affected if your stock become infected.



The Luing Cattle Society is hosting a farm and stock tour on the 16th of August at Lanton Estate, Marleyknowe Farm (NE71 6TG) by kind permission of Ian and Tocky McKie starting at 11am. There will be discussion topics with guest speakers, refreshments, lunch and a bar. The beneficial charities are The Teapot Trust and the Glendale Gateway Trust. All are welcome. For more information and to RSVP then email secretary@luingcattlesociety.co.uk, or call 01250 872897.

#### RABI Sunday Luncheon– Sunday the 16th of September

The Committee for RABI has organised a Sunday Luncheon on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September at Lady Waterford Hall, Ford, Northumberland. Anyone who hasn't been there is in for a treat. The Hall, in the pretty village of Ford, is decorated with murals of biblical scenes painted by Lady Waterford, using some of the villagers as models, in the 19th century.



Lord and Lady Joicey have very kindly offered the venue to us, so grateful thanks to them both. Tickets £30 and are limited. To book your tickets please contact Pauline Frater on 01289 388408 or <u>piccolo.pauline@gmail.com</u>

#### Don't Forget to Use ...

- Zolvix and other sheep wormers for weaning time.
- **Cevac Chlamydia** abortion vaccine—please order in advance if possible.
- **Toxovax** abortion vaccine—must be ordered at least a week in advance. Please note, there is **5%** off orders delivered before the end of August. Supplies often run out by September.
- **Rispoval 4** pneumonia vaccine.

