

It was brilliant to see such a good turnout for the recent farm client meetings. Firstly the Red tractor training, BVD and fluke evening which has not only allowed people to comply with the new Red tractor regulation by attending and receiving training, but we have now got a good number of farms signed up to the BVD Stamp it Out Scheme. This client meeting served as the first of the cluster meetings to get involved in. If you are interested in signing up for the scheme we will hold a further first cluster meeting, so get in touch with your branch and get the ball rolling. Secondly, the younger vets put on an evening of talks for young farm workers which proved popular with over 20 people attending. We hope to hold more of these events in the future and if you have ideas about what you would like us to be doing then let us know.

Mydiavac will be unavailable this season, an alternative is Cevac Chlamydia but it cannot be given to pregnant ewes.



Congratulations to Anna— Winner of the BVD Zero Award!

A huge congratulations to Anna who has won first prize in the BVD Zero Awards. This is organised by Boehringer Ingelheim (the makers of Bovela) in Europe and Anna had to write about a case of BVD on a farm. Anna was a finalist and attended the award ceremony in Barcelona on 23rd October. There Anna gave a presentation about her case study and was awarded first prize along with a big cheque for her efforts!

Her case talked about unvaccinated cows that were bought in-calf. Although these animals were isolated and vaccinated as soon as they arrived to the farm, since they were already in calf the vaccination did not protect the unborn calves and three persistently infected calves were born. Prompt testing of the calves allowed the control of the outbreak quickly; however, this case highlighted the importance of vaccinating cattle before they run with the bulls and the potential hazards of buying in cattle.



Don't forget...

- **Ovivac P / Ovipast** boosters for lambs. We're seeing lots of the usual seasonal cases of Pasteurellosis even in vaccinated lambs which we believe is due to the *Pasteurella* part of all vaccines not lasting more than 6mths which means it wears off just when it's most needed. This applies to Ovipast, Ovivac P and Heptavac P. For this reason we recommend a single of booster of one of these vaccines prior to high risk periods (ideally September).

- **Pneumonia vaccines for cattle** e.g. Rispoval 4, Rispoval Intranasal, Tracherine. (due to improved purchase terms from CVS these were between 2.5% and 35% more expensive this time last year)
- Fasinex, Endofluke and other **fluke treatments**
- **Enovex** (ivermectin) pour-on.

Alnwick v. Rossendale Rugby Match

We are sponsoring the Alnwick v Rossendale rugby match at Alnwick on the 8/12/18. Kick off is at 2.15pm. Meet from 12.45pm to get fired up. All clients are welcome.

Fluke Treatment at Housing– Eilidh Batchelor

Following on from the discussions at the client meetings regarding fluke infection, here is a summary of the best products to be using now, at housing, and which to avoid.

The first question to ask is ‘do the animals need treating?’ as unnecessary treatment is a great way to create resistance to flukicides. Fluke egg counts only show that there are adults within the bile ducts of the liver, early infection will go undiagnosed. A faecal coproantigen test may be more useful as it does not rely on the presence of adults and can detect proteins produced by immature fluke down to 1 week old. This is particularly useful in sheep and youngstock who are more susceptible to acute infection than adult cattle.

Targeting treatment to the age of fluke present is incredibly important as different products will kill down to different ages. Using an inappropriate product is a great way to promote resistance to flukicides and should be avoided. At the moment infection is most likely to be immature fluke which have not yet started to produce eggs so there isn’t much point in doing fluke egg counts right now.

Cattle: dose with fasinex 240 2 weeks after housing to kill adult fluke all the way down to 2 week old juveniles. This should kill the majority of fluke present. A second dose at least 8 weeks later or just prior to turnout with another flukicide should be given to kill any overwintered fluke in the liver and to ensure animals are clean going out so as not to contaminate pasture. Sheep: dose with a Triclabendazole containing product now to kill acute infections. Repeat dosing depends on the on-farm challenge. Keep an eye on the NADIS forecast or ask your vet.

Drug	Tradename	Age of fluke killed
Triclabendazole	Endofluke Fasinex Combinox	>2 weeks
Closantel	Solantel Closamectin	>5 weeks
Nitroxynil	Trodax	>8 weeks
Albendazole	Endospec Albenil	>10 weeks
Clorsulon	Ivomec super Bimectin Plus	>10 weeks
Oxyclozanide	Zanil	>10 weeks

Summary:

- Faecal sample to decide whether treatment is necessary
- Treat appropriately for the life stage present

BVD Stamp It Out: New funding available to control BVD

A reminder that DEFRA has launched a new RDPE funded programme to tackle BVD in the English cattle herd. The funding is open to everyone, including farms that are already testing for BVD and that may already be members of BVDFree England and/or the PCHS. The project will consist of an initial and final cluster meetings, followed by two vet visits. The project will pay for a check test and there is some limited funding to search for PI animals if the first test shows evidence of infection in your herd. Everything will be free of charge, with the vet visits, time and lab fees funded through the project; however, attending the cluster meetings is essential to receive the funding.

We encourage everyone to join the programme, please contact us if you are interested. We will soon be organising new cluster meetings for those that missed them at the start of October.

Free Webinars for Small-scale Pig Keepers

Are you thinking about getting pigs, but are unsure about the legislation or what equipment you should get? Do you have pigs, but would like to broaden your knowledge of pig behaviour, health and welfare? Are you an experienced keeper with concerns about the bulletins on notifiable diseases drawing closer to the UK? Held in an easy-to-use online location, with provision for poorer internet connections, there is something for everyone in our free pig webinar series!

Join Carla Gomes, Emma Baxter and Jos Houdijk (SRUC researchers) and Caroline Robinson (SRUC Vet) for talks and discussion:

Pig health, Biosecurity and Legislation
31st October: 7pm - 8.30pm
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6109430156847910913>

Pig Welfare and Behaviour
14th November: 7pm - 8.30pm
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3008260909240638721>

Pig Nutrition
28th November: 7pm - 8.30pm
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8983896599482322177>

Access can be via PC/Mac, or via free GoToWebinar app for iPhone/iPad, or Android.

Registration is essential to access the talks – for more information or to receive your invitation please contact:

- Carla Gomes: carla.gomes@sruc.ac.uk
- Caroline Robinson: caroline.robinson@sac.co.uk



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