

PRACTICE NEWS

APRIL 2009

KENDAL ●

KIRKBY LONSDALE ●

ULVERSTON



Westmorland
Veterinary Group

Kendal Surgery

Monday to Friday
8.30am—7.00pm

Saturday
8.30am-12 noon

Tel:01539 722692

Kirkby Lonsdale Surgery

Monday & Thursday
8.30am-7.00pm

Tuesday
8.30am-6.00pm

Wednesday & Friday
8.30am-5.00pm

Saturday
8.30am-12 noon

Tel:015242 71221



XL
vets
Excellence in Practice

Dairy:

Lame cows are the flavour of the month at the moment, with a whole range of foot conditions being present. Chronic ulcers which have turned into a septic toe joint usually need some surgical drainage and now is the best time to get them assessed, before turnout. Most professional foot trimmers seem very busy as usual, with up to a 2 month wait. If you need to get someone booked in, do it now! For end-stage lameness, single toe amputation is a last resort, which can often salvage a cow; these often make a good recovery. When treating cast cows for lameness, check the meat withdrawal before treatment as this can often have an impact on whether a cow will be able to be sold as soon as she is transportable. For advice on treatment and withdrawal periods, please contact the surgery. Preventing the lameness in the first place is obviously the best course of action and doing a critical assessment of how, why and when cows are going lame can often shed light on where to efficiently focus efforts for prevention in the future.



Beef:

A large degree of financial confidence in this sector (at long last, and for the time being!) has shown as an increase in the amount of individual cow work being done. It is early days for most folk calving yet (see back for an article on uterine prolapse), but there seems to be more willingness to pursue a live calf birth. If you have unexplained still births, or wish to review your calving standard procedures, then please contact the surgery for advice, and make a conscious effort to speak to all your friends to see how long they leave a cow before investigating, and when they will calve her. Improvements can only be made by speaking to as many folk with knowledge as possible.



Sheep:

Fluke and worms don't seem to have gone away this winter- they have been an ever present threat/menace. The forecast this year after two wet and warm summers is that the fluke snail population will be very high. Any risky pastures need treating with extreme caution and preferably fenced if the history within the flock is bad. If you are regularly dosing them throughout the summer with Fasinex, don't assume that fluke is not a threat as you may come unstuck. Please

take advice on the frequency of fluke treatments and also the need for further samples such as blood liver enzymes. We have not really seen triclabendazole resistance yet but we always need to be mindful that things change. If you don't know what triclabendazole is, then look on the side of the bottle you are using and see what the active ingredient is- think in terms of active ingredients rather than trade names and the whole thing will be clearer.



General:

We are holding a joint meeting through XLVets with Paragon Veterinary Group. The meeting is titled; "Minerals and their Role in Production and Fertility". The meeting will offer something for all livestock farmers. The date is Tuesday 28th April at 7.30 pm. The venue is Westmorland Hotel, Westmorland Services, Tebay just north of J38 on the M6, to enable it to be convenient for clients of both practices. There will also be a free hot supper! Please let Catherine at Kirkby Lonsdale know if you would like to come on 015242 71221.

**PLEASE NOTE:
WE ARE TRYING A
NEW INVOICE LAYOUT
PLEASE LET US KNOW
YOUR VIEWS.**