

Newsletter

Dec
2014



EBLEX update

Georgina recently attended the EBLEX annual conference at Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire. A host of speakers delivered thought-provoking presentations about the current and future beef and sheep industries.

Waitrose are implementing a BVD eradication scheme and are aiming to actively reduce the use of antibiotics on farm.

Michael Sandergaard from Tulip Ltd gave an insight to the Chinese market. Their meat consumption has increased by 23% from 1998 to 2011. Pigs ears were previously sold to the pet industry for 50p but are now washed (in a washing machine in the abattoir!) and sold for £3 to China! This is an exciting market which the beef and sheep industry are beginning to launch into, so watch this space!

Allan Wilkinson from HSBC discussed pressing financial issues and how to increase your overdraft successfully! He stressed the importance of benchmarking within the sector. Along with budgeting and adaptability, he advised that volatility is here to stay and we must learn to maximize the ups to get through the down times. The biggest variable is YOU!

Other speakers challenged the current thinking within the industry, including ways to become more profitable and remove/reduce inefficiencies. It is important to have data and not to rely on perception, have a goal and change must have a value e.g. save labour, increase profit.

A motivating selection of speakers who covered very different angles of the industry challenging us to think outside the box. Don't just settle for "we've always done it this way"...

Youngstock Service

Garston Veterinary Group will be offering a specialist service to aid calf-rearing and performance.

Cold weather feeding:

Have you considered increasing the milk powder concentration this winter?

As the temperature drops, calves use more energy to keep themselves warm, reducing the amount of energy available for growth. By in-

creasing the amount of milk powder fed, you can reduce the cold weather effects on your calves giving better growth rates even during the colder weather. There are two ways you can increase the energy level intakes:

1. Increase the concentration by adding more milk powder but keeping the volume of the feed the same e.g. Mix milk at a rate of 150g/litre instead of 125g/litre.
So a calf drinking 3 litres twice a day would receive 900g of milk powder per day.
2. Increase the volume of the feed at the same concentration of milk powder e.g. 4 litres twice daily at 125g/litre.

What goes in must come out and an increase in volume often means wetter beds requiring more frequent bedding-up! Also don't forget ***Increased bedding/straw, Exclude draughts, Add shelters, Calf coats, Prompt treatment***



LARGE ANIMAL VETS: Greg Mallard BVSc MRCVS, Duncan Williams BVMS MRCVS,
Chris Mangham BSc (Hons) BVSc MRCVS, Georgina Doel BVetMed MRCVS, Vicky Webster BVSc MRCVS,
Samara Johnstone BSc BVetMed MRCVS James Ryder BSc (Hons) BVSc MRCVS, Dru Shearn BVSc MRCVS
Veterinary surgeries at: Frome, Warminster, Westbury and Trowbridge
01373 451115



Merry Christmas



Christmas opening times



Christmas Eve - 08.30 - 16.30
Christmas Day - Emergency service
Boxing Day - Emergency service
Saturday 27th - 08.30 - 12.00
Sunday 28th - Emergency service
Monday 29th - 08.30 - 17.30
Tuesday 30th - 08.30 - 17.30
New Year's Eve - 08.30 - 16.30
New Years Day - Emergency service
Friday 2nd - 08.30 - 17.30
Saturday 3rd - 08.30 - 12.00



Greg's (anatomically) Useless Facts

It is impossible to lick your elbow - and for those of you who are desperate to prove my useless facts wrong, I look forward to watching you try.

You can't kill yourself by holding your breath - although obviously if a friend helps you the outcome may be different.



For Sale !

Wopa crush for sale complete with belly bands and blocks - one careful owner. Please contact Chris Brake, Church Farm, Berkley £250



The easiest way to pay your bill.

If you'd like to pay your vet bill by direct debit please contact reception for a form.

