

Pneumonia

There have been numerous cases of bovine respiratory disease (BRD) in adult cattle over recent months. The current mild and moist conditions encourage bacterial growth, this coupled with housing allows easy spread between cows.

Adult pneumonia is commonly caused by a mixed bacterial infection. Some of the viral agents produce only mild clinical signs by themselves but when combined with other viral or bacterial agents and stress they may cause severe signs and death.

Points to note:

- Early detection and treatment is associated with much better outcomes. By the time physical damage has been caused to the lungs antibiotic treatment will often be ineffective.
- Isolate affected animals immediately.
- Overstocking, times of stress and poor ventilation will massively contribute to the prevalence of pneumonia.
- Clinical signs vary from simple milk drop to nasal and eye discharges, coughing, fever and sudden death.



Please feel free to speak to one of the vets if you are experiencing multiple pneumonia cases. We would invite anybody with unexplained deaths to have the animal post-mortemed within 24 hours, this may help to prevent further losses.

Beef benchmarking

Every year we run a benchmarking scheme for our beef farm clients. If you would like to take part, we will send out a questionnaire for you to fill in, then compare your data against targets recommended by EBLEX. Those that have taken part in the past have found it to be a useful free tool.

I have just compiled data for 2014/2015 and congratulations must go to the team at Natural England, Cherry Lodge for the best overall figures.

For more information, please e-mail Richard Talbot at rjt@garstonvets.co.uk

Courses in the New Year

Lambing Course

We would like to invite all our sheep and smallholder clients to a lambing course on the 20th January at the practice. We will cover all aspects of lambing, associated disease and emergencies and the day will conclude with an afternoon lambing simulator practical. The course costs £50 which includes tea/coffee and lunch and aims to be useful for all abilities.

If you would like to book onto the course or would like further information please contact Dru or Alex at the practice.

Lameness Course

We are again running a lameness course in the New Year (Jan 13th) with James Ryder and Duncan Williams. This will be a morning course of about 3-4hours of hands-on practical teaching on foot-trimming and treatments of the more common problems. There are 6 places on each course. It is purposely kept in small numbers to enable each attendant to get the most practical experience possible.

The cost is £100 and will include a bottle of anti-inflammatory and lunch at the local pub.

Information is on its way to the 6 attendees about venue and start time.

If you are interested attending a lameness course at a later date please phone the practice and let one of our receptionists know.



Congratulations to Georgina and Alex

Congratulations to our vet Georgina and husband Alex on the safe arrival of their second child – Toby Christopher Doel who was born on the 11th of November 2015. Toby is pictured here with his big sister Pollyanna who has just had her 2nd birthday.

In more baby news we all have our fingers crossed for Chris and Sarah who's first baby is due any minute now !

Greg's Useless Fact

Only two species of animal can pronate and supinate ! This is the action of twisting your wrist so obviously primates can do it. The only other species with limited ability is the cat.

Maybe this explains why only primates can pick their noses ?

