

# Calf Scour

## Background:

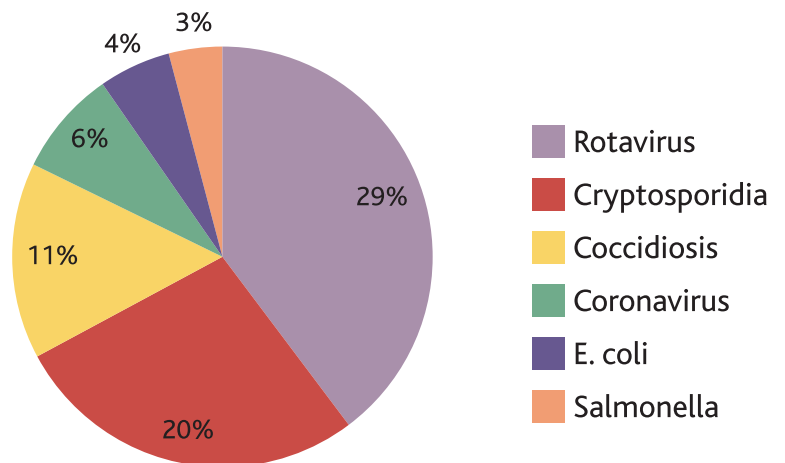
Calf scour is a common and costly disease on farm. The common pathogens include Rotavirus, Cryptosporidiosis, Coccidiosis, Coronavirus, E.coli and Salmonella. Mixed infections are often seen.

Beware some are *Zoonotic* = can be transmitted to humans e.g. *Crypto*, *E.coli*, *Salmonella*.

### Commonly:

- E.coli < 3 days old
- Rotavirus ~10 days old
- Cryptosporidiosis 1-3 weeks old
- Coronavirus 1-3 weeks old
- Salmonella ~2-6 weeks old
- Coccidiosis: > 3weeks

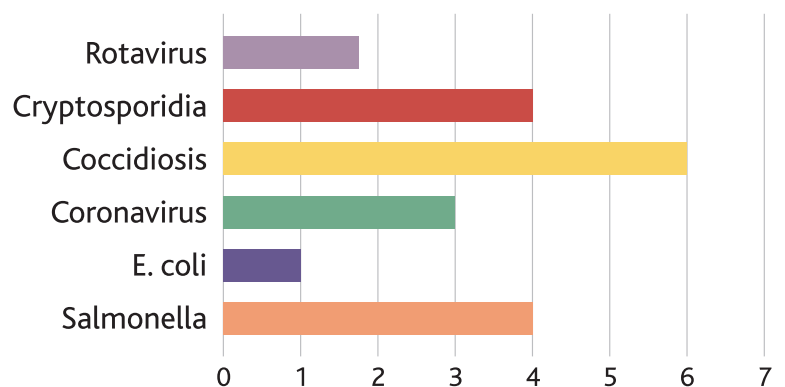
### Diagnosed Calf Scour Pathogens



## Clinical Signs:

- Loose Dung/Diarrhoea
- Off-feed
- Ears down
- Temperature

### Common Timings for Scour Pathogens



## Diagnosis:

- Calf-side scour kit
- Faecal (dung) sample

# Calf Scour

## Treatment/Prevention:

- Often the main line of control is improved management and hygiene. It is essential that calves receive enough good quality colostrum and that the environment/equipment is kept as clean as possible. Calves should have ample, clean bedding and access to clean water and feed at all times.
- Calves should continue to receive their milk feed for energy with rehydration therapy used in addition.
- It may be necessary to isolate sick calves to reduce the spread of infection.
- Cleanliness/Hygiene: calving and calf pens should be cleaned out regularly with steam-cleaning and disinfection where possible.
- Colostrum management is important in ensuring the calf has adequate antibodies to aid the fight against disease. **At least 3 litres of good quality colostrum within the first 6 hours is the target.**
- Vaccination of the dam may be necessary depending on the causative agent.
- Raise feed and water troughs to reduce faecal contamination and therefore reduce the spread of disease.

**Please contact the practice for advice or if you have any concerns on 01373 451115.**