

THREE RIVERS VETERINARY GROUP

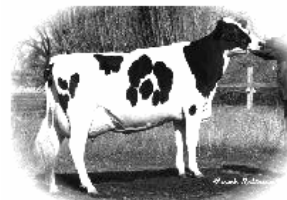
FARM ANIMAL PRACTICE

THE VETERINARY CLINIC,
LONDON ROAD, BECCLES,
SUFFOLK. NR34 9YU.

TEL: 01502 712169 FAX: 01502 712694

CATTLE PRACTICE

NOVEMBER 2008 NEWSLETTER.



For those of you unable to attend the recent dairy farmer's meeting on the '100 day contract' I have given a brief summary of the concept in this newsletter and I have a few copies of the talk available at the Beccles reception.

'100 day contract' for dairy cows.

The 100 day contract is a dairy management program to optimize early pregnancies. For each cow, the 100-Day Contract focuses on the critical period of 30 days before calving to 70 days after. The aims of the 100 day contract are:

- ⊙ High fertility at first breeding.
- ⊙ 100 percent service rate for the first oestrous cycle after the voluntary waiting period.
- ⊙ Significantly increased pregnancy rates.
- ⊙ Improved cow health.
- ⊙ Improved calf health.
- ⊙ Improved peak milk.
- ⊙ Improved fertility at first breeding.

The program is divided into three main areas:

1. Dry Cow Program.
2. Fresh Cow Program.
3. Breeding Cow Program.

If you require further information please contact us.

New Product - Nuflor Minidose.

Nuflor is now available as Nuflor Minidose – a higher concentration Nuflor formula ideal for batch treatment of cattle with pneumonia or scour. The product has a lower dose rate and is less viscous at lower temperatures, which means it's easier to inject. The cost per kilo of bodyweight is

the same as Nuflor. Nuflor is effective against the three main bacterial causes of cattle pneumonia, and its bacterial killing activity ensures that within 24 hours bacteria levels are low enough to prevent any re-growth. Nuflor Minidose is available in 100ml and 250ml sizes.

Batch Pneumonia Treatment.

For every animal visibly affected with pneumonia in a group you can expect another 10 in-contact cattle to be affected. A recent French trial showed that even apparently healthy calves in-contact with sick animals took an extra 33 days to reach finishing weight. This shows the value of treating the whole batch of calves as soon as possible once a few of them develop pneumonia.

Practice Web Site.

Our web site has been expanded greatly over the last few months. Please log into www.threeriversvetgroup.co.uk to see all the information and changes.

There is comprehensive information on cattle diseases and their prevention for beef and dairy enterprises with links to various web sites with further specialist information.

New Mastitis Tube Launched.

A new mastitis tube has been launched this month called 'Ubrolexin Intramammary Suspension'. Whilst the name does not roll

M. E. BARDSLEY B. Vet Med. Cert CHP*. MRCVS.

off the tongue, it is quite exciting to have a new mastitis product added to our armoury.

Ubrolexin contains two antibiotics which are **Cefalexin** and **Kanamycin**.

Cephalexin is a cephalosporin; these are in products such as Cephaquard, Cobactan, Mastiplan and Ceporex Dry Cow.

Kanamycin is an aminoglycoside and is a new antibiotic to the cattle world and has not been previously included in a mastitis or injectable preparation. Furthermore both products are synergistic i.e. the effect of cefalexin is enhanced by kanamycin and vice versa.

The combination of cefalexin and kanamycin has a broad spectrum of bactericidal action against Staphylococci, Streptococci and Escherichia coli.

Dosage and administration:

Treat the infected quarter(s) twice, leaving an interval of 24 hours between treatments. Use the contents of one syringe per quarter per treatment.

Withdrawal periods:

Milk: 5 days

Meat and offal: 10 days

We now have Ubrolexin in stock.

Pen/Group Movement of Dairy Cows Prior to Calving.

The effect of moving cows between groups in the 3 -9 days before calving has been investigated and the results are quite marked. Food intake was disrupted for some cows, they spent less time eating and more than double the rate of feeding disturbances occurred after the move. In addition lying time decreased and there were reduced bouts of grooming and social interaction.

There was a tendency for these cows to develop a negative energy balance, which resulted in fat mobilisation. This is measured by the levels of NEFA's (non esterified fatty acids) in the blood stream. The fat mobilisation will result in the development of 'fatty liver syndrome'. The degree of fatty liver is proportional to the amount of fat mobilised. Fatty liver related to infectious and metabolic disease after calving, even in mildly affected cows sub clinical ketosis affected yield and subsequent fertility.

Recent work has shown that NEFA's are toxic to ovaries and follicles and therefore any fat mobilisation before or after calving will adversely affect subsequent fertility.

The Cost of Disease on Milk Production.

Some recent analysis of the cost of disease in a lactating dairy cow in the first 70 days after calving has shown the lost milk production in Kg for the lactation:

- ⊙ Off-feed (no specific cause) - 2,746 Kg lost
- ⊙ Left Displaced Abomasum – 1,734 Kg lost.
- ⊙ Lameness - 1,286 Kg lost.
- ⊙ Ketosis - 1,117 Kg lost.
- ⊙ Metritis - 245 Kg lost.
- ⊙ No Disease - 62 Kg gained.

Closamectin Injection – Special Offer.

NB There is a 60 day milk withdrawal.

Treats cattle for liver fluke (adults & immatures), gastrointestinal roundworms, lungworms, lice, mange mites. Ideal for all young stock and beef cows at housing.

We are able to offer **two special offers** which include injection guns;

Pack 1: contains 2 x 500ml which is enough for 83 x 300kg cattle or approx 40 adults: **£181.50 + vat.**

Pack 2: contains 4 x 500ml which is enough for 166 x 300kg cattle or approx 80 adults: **£352.00 + vat.**

For smaller numbers of cattle there are 100ml, 250ml and 500ml sizes and the gun is extra.

Trodax Injection – fluke treatment – Offer pack.

Treats liver fluke only – ideal at drying off for dairy cows.

The pack contains 2x500ml which contains enough for 66 x 500kg cattle (or 111 x 300 Kg) - **£123.50 + vat.**

Ivermectin Pour-On – NOW CHEAPER!

For lungworm and gut worms.

Enovex 2.5 litres is now £44.74 + vat – a saving of £10.26 +vat over previous price!