

THREE RIVERS VETERINARY GROUP.

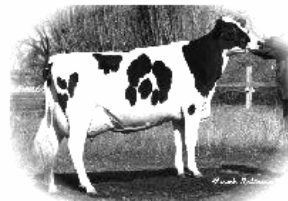
FARM ANIMAL PRACTICE.

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CATTLE PRACTICE

OCTOBER 2009 NEWSLETTER.



This time last year we were talking about high fuel, feed and fertiliser prices. These prices have come down which has helped margins; but farm gate prices are still not reflecting the cost of production.

New Antibiotic for Pneumonia.

A new broad spectrum antibiotic called Zactran has been launched this month. The active principle is gamithromycin and this is a new drug for the veterinary armoury against pneumonia.

A single injection provides treatment for 14 days and it is active against *Mannheimia haemolytica*, *Pasteurella multocida* and *Histophilus somni*. These are the bacterial pathogens most commonly associated with bovine respiratory disease.

The dose rate is a single subcutaneous injection of 6 mg gamithromycin/kg bodyweight (equivalent to 1 ml/25 kg bodyweight) ideally in the neck region or behind the shoulder.

For treatment of cattle over 250 kg bodyweight, divide the dose so that no more than 10 ml are injected at one site.

It is important to ensure that the bodyweight has been correctly estimated to avoid under dosing.

The withholding period for meat and offal is 64 days.

This product is not permitted for use in lactating animals producing milk for human consumption. It should not be used in pregnant cows or heifers, which are intended to produce milk for human consumption, within 2 months of expected parturition.

Zactran will be especially useful in controlling outbreaks of pneumonia by

virtue of its long duration of action. During an outbreak of pneumonia all the contact animals should be treated. This will allow the animals at risk and the animals in the early stages of disease 14 days to develop their immunity, whilst being protected by the antibiotic.

New treatment regime for Milk fever.

Traditionally milk fever cases have been treated by calcium injection alone.

However there are some new ideas on milk fever treatment. If cows are drenched with Agger's Fresh Cow in addition to the calcium injections there are fewer relapses and the downer cow rate is reduced.

Agger's Fresh Cow is a mixture of calcium propionate, magnesium sulphate and yeast cell extract to provide calcium for cows at risk of milk fever and to reduce the risk of ketosis. Agger's Fresh Cow provides 100 grammes of calcium and is given dissolved in 18-20 litres of warm water.

Besides giving a calcium and energy boost to the cow it also provides her with an essential fluid intake. Getting water into recumbent cows is always difficult because they usually only take small amounts at a time and then the bucket is often knocked over by other cows or by herself in her attempts to get up. Cows that are recumbent often refuse water even when their body requires it, how many

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times have we seen a milk fever cow get up and head straight for the water tank. Fresh Cow is also used by many farms as a routine drench post calving to provide a calcium and energy boost at the start of lactation.

In order to administer Agger's Fresh Cow a special pump is required to deliver the solution into the stomach. This is easy to use and can be administered by a stockman on his/her own. Many farms are already using the Agger pump and have had some excellent results with it.



Besides 'Fresh Cow' there are other solutions:

- **Glycerol plus** - for acetonemia./ abomasal displacement.
- **Restore** - for sick cows (e.g E.coli mastitis).
- **Antacid** – for cows with acidosis

Further products are being developed all the time.

There is currently a special price on Agger pumps, please contact me for details

New Biotin Bolus.

More and more research is showing that Biotin has a large influence on the susceptibility of dairy cattle to lameness and many nutritionists are adding more Biotin to dairy cow rations.

Agrimin has launched All-Trace Biotin Gold, the seventh bolus in the company's All-Trace range. The new bolus is the result of extensive in-house research and development which aimed to formulate a cost-effective, micro-nutrition bolus suitable for dry cows and heifers at risk

from lameness, which affects up to 30 per cent of the UK national herd. According to Agrimin, the relationship between Biotin and its benefits on ruminant hoof health is receiving increasing attention. The company says it is the first micro-nutrition specialist to directly address this issue in livestock.

East of England Health Knowledge Transfer.

We have had a large uptake for this scheme; if you want to take advantage of free veterinary advice please contact Karen Flynn for more details. To recap we can cover almost any subject and the format is shown below:

1. **One to one training – for 1-3 people.**
2. **Workshops for 12 people.**
3. **Seminars for 30 people.**

NEW - Closamectin Pour-On.

Parasite treatments can now all be done in a single Pour-on!!!

- Lungworm.
- Gastro-intestinal worms.
- Liver Fluke.
- Mites/Lice.

There has been a big rush for this product and the manufacturers are having difficulty providing stock.

Our advice is to order early as there may be a wait.

Dose rate - 1ml per 10 Kg body weight.

1 litre: £119.84 + Vat (no gun needed).

2.5 Litre: £210.94 + Vat.

5 Litre: £418.95 + Vat.

Gun: £16.05 +Vat.

Ivermectin Pour-On Wormer .

For lungworm and gut worms:

2.5 litres Enovex at £46.09 + VAT!!!

If you don't have a gun we can provide one for £20.32 +VAT.

Trodax Injection – Offer Pack.

Treats liver fluke only – can be used with pour- on wormer.

The pack contains 2x500ml which contains enough for 66 x 500kg cattle (or 111 x 300 Kg) - **£142.28 + vat.**

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