



ARMAC VET GROUP

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2012

Lambing

Lambing has started for some and is fast approaching for others.

- ❑ Ensure your ewes have been vaccinated with clostridial boosters at 6 weeks prior to lambing. Gimmers will require two doses for an initial course if not on the vaccination programme as lambs.
- ❑ It is advised to investigate any abortions in the run up to lambing by taking the aborted lamb(s) and placenta to SAC Edinburgh Lab. Notify us before taking samples in. We can carry out blood sampling of 6-8 barren or aborted ewes to test for Enzootic abortion and Toxoplasma. Lab fees are paid for by MSD Animal Health.
- ❑ Scabivax (Orf Vaccine) is back in stock this year after limited supplies last year. We carry some in stock, for large numbers of doses please give one working day notice.

We wish you a successful lambing and hope the weather holds up!

Micotil Meeting Follow-up

In October we held a meeting about treatment of whole flocks with the antibiotic Micotil (Tilmicosin-Vet injection only), to eradicate footrot. If you were considering this option now would be a good time to do so as there are least numbers of feet on the farm!

Another option is to select sheep with bad feet and inject them; this aids in cure but will not eradicate footrot.

For further information please speak to one of the vets.

Fluke

Routine fluke sampling and Post Mortems reveals that fluke is still a problem at this time of year due to the wet weather and lack of hard frost this winter. It is advised to speak to one of the vets about your fluke treatments or bring in 6 dung samples from different areas of the farm and have a fluke egg count done to check for the presence of adult fluke in your sheep or cattle.

Sheep Scab

Sheep scab is now a 'Reportable' Condition. If you have itchy sheep please let us check them to differentiate between scab and mites. It is important to co operate with your neighbours to time treatments to avoid reinfection. Scab mites can live off the sheep for 16 days, so a product that disrupts the life cycle must be used. Dipping is effective. Cydectin LA 2% is long acting (60 days) and is useful for a lambing worm dose.

BVD- Bovine Viral Diarrhoea

You will have received details on the Scottish BVD eradication programme in the last week. Every Breeding herd has to undertake yearly testing of a sample of young stock for BVD antibody. If you have not already done this or are unsure of the testing you have done is adequate please contact us and we can discuss specific requirements for your farm.

Ovine Johne's Disease

Thank you to everyone that has completed the questionnaire that was in last months bill. If it is still lying on the kitchen table, please could you complete it and hand it in.

Welcome to Eleanor

We would like to welcome Eleanor Legg along to the ARMAC team. Eleanor Studied in Edinburgh and graduated in 2005. She has worked in Scotland, England and has just returned from New Zealand, we welcome her experience to the farm animal side of the practice.