



Dear Client,

Livestock North West – Animal Health & Welfare Program

This scheme funded by the NWDA provides capital grants towards investments on your farm which will improve certain aspects of animal health and productivity. For example if lameness is a concern cubicles and mattresses or footbathing facilities may be funded or if fertility is the priority issue a heat detection system could be installed. All items under the scheme are 40% grant funded and there is £12,000 of grant available to every farm.

To access the grants you first need to complete a herd health plan provided by the Scottish Agricultural College in conjunction with your vet. Within the health plan there is a budget of £250 to spend on laboratory testing to investigate any health issues.

If you are interested in this scheme please speak to Alistair or David for more details.

DIY AI Training Course

We will be holding the next cattle AI training course the week commencing Monday 20th June 2011 for anyone wanting to be able to inseminate their own cows.

We can also provide “refresher” training courses for those who have already been trained. Reviewing your AI skills regularly is important and has been shown to improve conception rates.

Please contact the practice for more information.

Bleeding Calf Syndrome

Investigations are still on-going as to the cause of this disease. If you have a suspected case of bleeding calf syndrome and your herd has been vaccinated with the Pregsure vaccine made by Pfizer please contact us to arrange for a post mortem examination (at no charge).

Repeat Breeder Cows

It always seems like there are one or two cows in every herd which despite various treatments just don't get in-calf and come back bulling every 3 weeks. This can be particularly frustrating especially when no reason can be found for the cow not getting pregnant. Many of these cows do actually get in-calf and have a live embryo however for various reasons the cow does not recognise the pregnancy and loses the embryo. One treatment which we now do involves serving the cow as normal (AI or bull) then implanting an embryo at day 7 after service.

This works by “doubling up” the signal to the cow from the embryos making her more likely to recognise the pregnancy and stay in-calf.

Timings for this treatment are fairly critical. If you have a cow which may need this treatment please contact us so that we can advise further.