

NEWSLETTER MAY 2010



Dear Client,

Blue Tongue

The first million doses of the new vaccine Bovilis BTV8 have been made available to farms in the Protection Zone. Intervet are confident that enough vaccine will be produced to supply the whole of England and Wales by September 2008.

We recommend that **all** cattle and **all** sheep above 4 weeks of age are vaccinated.

- Sheep – 1 dose
- Cattle – 2 doses, 3 weeks apart

Our order book has already 50,000 doses and the vaccine will be supplied on a strict date ordered system. We urge you to give us your orders now as although it is probably 4 months before vaccination can take place, if Blue tongue is found in Cumbria it could be just weeks.

We support the use of pour on insecticides to decrease the midge population but it is not safe to rely on this in place of vaccination.

Fluke

Last summer has been the worst year in the last 25 years for the disease. We are finding a number of farms with the problem.

A bulk milk samples is very useful in dairy herds to give us a diagnosis. Please discuss with a vet.

Fuel Prices

You are all very aware of how the price of crude oil is affecting the price of fuel. We have been hit by this increase and will have to increase the visit charge by 3% : other fees remain the same.

Vets

Dan is taking a few months off this summer to travel but will return in late October. In his place we will have David Steel from Lessonhall.