

## FARM DISCOUNT SCHEME

Excellent discounts on selected drugs / vaccines when accounts are paid before the end of the month.

We are now able to process direct debit payments.

If you would like to pay by Direct Debit, please contact the practice.

## PHONE LINES

Our telephone is now answered at home by a member of staff.

They will take a message and then arrange for the appropriate person to give you a call back.

Please be patient, as responding to your calls does take longer.

**Please DO NOT leave a message if you are given that option, instead CALL BACK in a few minutes.**

Please phone **016973 42174** or **016973 34901**

## NEW WAYS TO CONTACT US

**(016973) 42174** - Emergencies (24 hours)  
And for questions about your animal(s)

**(016973) 34901** - As above (office hours only)

[medicine@wigtonvets.co.uk](mailto:medicine@wigtonvets.co.uk) - All medicine requests  
(Farm & Small Animals)

**(016973) 41805/41806** - To make a payment or alert us  
when you arrive at the practice

[info@wigtonvets.co.uk](mailto:info@wigtonvets.co.uk) - For everything else

Check our website [www.wigtonvets.co.uk](http://www.wigtonvets.co.uk) & Facebook page for updates

# BELLE VUE VETS NEWS

## MAY 2020



## CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

We hope that you are all well and staying safe.

Covid-19 has had a major impact on how the practice runs and we thank you all for your understanding during these difficult times.

The practice is being run by a skeleton staff with most members of staff working from home. This does mean that everything takes longer and we ask that you bear with us.

We took the difficult decision to close the building to members of the public and in order to keep both yourselves and our members of staff safe, we have instituted several other measures to improve social distancing and promote hygiene. These new procedures are designed to allow us to continue to provide veterinary care whilst keeping everyone as safe as possible during the coronavirus pandemic.

**STAY AT HOME**

**PROTECT THE NHS**

save lives

016973 42174 or 016973 34901

[www.wigtonvets.co.uk](http://www.wigtonvets.co.uk)

Syke Park, Wigton. Cumbria. CA7 9NE



## EYE CONDITIONS IN CATTLE

**Infectious eye conditions are usually one of two things: Either Keratoconjunctivitis 'Pink eye' or bovine iritis 'silage eye'.**

### Pink Eye

Caused by a bacteria called Moxarella bovis and is spread by flies. Affected animals will have conjunctivitis, tear staining and is painful in direct sunlight and may cause blindness. Prevention will centre around fly control especially in groups of youngstock.



### Silage Eye

Caused by Listeria monocytogenes Most commonly seen in groups of animals fed big bale silage.

Affected animals will be in pain especially in direct sunlight, may hold their eyes shut and the eyes may have a blueish tinge to them.

### Treatment

Both treatments require prompt treatment with antibiotics.

Treatment can be given directly into the inside of the eyelid, this requires the animal to be well held, a fine needle and a steady hand. If this is not possible a regular dose should be given in the muscle

## NEMATODIRUS FORECAST

**SCOPS have issued a very high risk forecast for Nematodirus** where the peak egg hatch is expected to coincide with susceptible lambs grazing contaminated pasture. There will be farm to farm as well as field to field variation. Those fields grazed by young lambs last year are a higher risk, and south facing fields are likely to hatch earlier. Nematodirus presents as sudden onset profuse watery diarrhoea with significant lamb losses and growth rate checks for those that survive. Please refer to SCOPS guidance on avoidance and treatment strategies or speak to your farm vet.

[www.scops.org.uk/forecasts/nematodirus-forecast](http://www.scops.org.uk/forecasts/nematodirus-forecast)

## MENINGITIS IN CALVES

**Causes:** Commonly caused by bacteria, meningitis refers to penetration of the blood brain barrier allowing infection to dissipate along the spinal column towards the brain. Bacteria on the list include: E.coli, Listeria, Pasteurella, streptococcus to name a few. Associated conditions include bacteraemia, septicaemia, joint/naval ill, and infected wounds. Insufficient colostrum intake is also a contributing factor.

**Symptoms:** Depression, paralysis, hot/cold body temperature, arching of neck, paddling of legs, muscle spasms, seizures, changes in consciousness, congested mucus membranes, +/- blindness. Diagnosis can often be made on the basis of these clinical signs, for conformation samples of cerebrospinal fluid can be cultured to identify the bacteria present.

**Treatment:** Aggressive antibiotic therapy is crucial to the survival of the calf. The chosen drugs will be suited to passing the blood brain barrier so as to increase concentrations of the drug at the site of infection. Anti-inflammatory medication is also vital, in severe cases this may come in the form of a steroid. Other things to consider include hydration of the calf, fluids may be needed. Maintain a suitable temperature by placing the calf under a heat lamp if necessary.

**Prognosis:** Very much dependant on the stage of disease when the animal receives treatment, if cold, dehydrated and the infection already has a foot-hold then the prognosis is guarded to poor. If caught early enough we can win with these cases.

**LOCAL and  
INDEPENDENT  
since 1919**

