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Issue 15



Tarff Valley Ltd

Trading Together, Growing Together, Since 1903

Newsletter

We are pleased to be sponsoring the Easter Show and Sale at Newtown St Boswells Mart on Monday 19th March.

On Tuesday 27th February, an open day was held at our Whauphill Branch. With 20 suppliers setting up small displays throughout the feedstore, it was a successful day, giving customers the chance to speak to them about a variety of products and services. Brigston&Co catered the event and their artisan hot dogs and burgers were delicious! Thank you to those who came along. We hope you had an enjoyable day!



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Provita Protect for Calf Scour: A licensed replacement for antibiotics and vaccines

A recent ADAS study evidenced diarrhoea/scour as the most common disease in young unweaned calves, accounting for 50% of all calf deaths. With anti-microbial resistance a global issue, non-antibiotic alternatives for preventing and treating calf scour are of key interest.

Provita Protect is the only probiotic which is a veterinary licensed alternative to antibiotics. Rigorous testing confirms that the use of Protect will reduce calf scours by 83% and increase average calf growth rates by 31%. Provita Protect contains three specially selected lactic acid forming bacterial strains. These bacteria can survive and multiply within the intestine, providing protection for the animal against less desirable bacteria. By supplying high intakes of these beneficial bacteria, the intestinal well-being of the animal is established and maintained, thereby minimising the incidence of scours in growing calves. The three strains of lactic acid forming bacteria used in Provita Protect were shown, in vitro, to be inhibitory to 8 pathogens common to farm animals. Provita Protect can be used at birth, for bought-in calves and at times of stress.

It has also been shown to provide substantial protection against nutritional scours under a variety of management systems, regardless of whether calves were bucket or teat fed. Both home-bred dairy replacements and bought-in calves benefited following treatment with Provita Protect. Body condition at five weeks of age showed significant improvement in calves treated with Provita Protect. Treated calves showed a 7.5 % improvement in body condition.

What does Provita Protect do?

- Reduces Calf Scour by 83%
- Improves Growth Rates by 31%
- Broad spectrum protection against 8 common farm pathogens.

For more information, please visit your local Tarff store.



References available on request

Season Long Parasite Control in Cattle

Given the variability and unpredictability of winter weather, it is hard to predict the parasite challenge for the next year. It is vital to ensure that parasitic gastroenteritis (PGE) caused by gut worms does not affect growth rate. PGE can reduce growth rate by up to 30%¹ resulting in a 30kg difference at finishing for animals². Young cattle should be regularly weighed and benchmarked against target growth rates, typically 0.75 to 1kg/day for young stock from grass.

For uninterrupted growth through the grazing season, there are two options that offer immunity development and minimal handling. These are a pulse-release rumen bolus or long-acting 10% moxidectin treatment.

What about Resistance Management?

Accurate dosing of stock is crucial to resistance management (as per COWS guidance³).

For farmers concerned not to over-use the ML wormer group, which, for use in cattle, includes ivermectin, doramectin, eprinomectin and the highly potent moxidectin, alternating use of Autoworm™ one year and CYDECTIN® 10% the next is a valid strategy for season long control. Whatever options you have in mind, advanced planning is the way to maintain good animal health and maximise productivity from grassland.

What are my options?

CYDECTIN 10% Long Acting Injection for Cattle – providing the opportunity for immunity development during treatment. No concern about missed doses in the summer when the farming calendar intervenes, coupled with a season long satisfaction guarantee.



Autoworm – gives the opportunity to change the class of wormer on the farm as part of a resistance management protocol. No need to set stock and the opportunity to develop immunity due to the pulsatile release of the bolus, combined with a season long satisfaction guarantee.



CYDECTIN 0.5% Pour-On for Cattle – a potent and persistent pour-on, with the longest dosing interval of any pour-on product. Benefits from a short meat withdrawal and suitable for all stock on the farm including dairy cows in the dry period (with a 6 day milk withdrawal).



For information on animal health products, speak to a SQP (Suitably Qualified Person) in your local store.

References available on request

We are delighted to have renewed our subscription as a Business Sponsor of RSABI.

Why not consider joining the 'Individual Supporter Scheme'. You never know when the need for help or guidance may arise.



Spring is in the air! Please remember that Tarff offers a great range of top quality grass seeds at competitive prices.

With seed mixes such as Stewartry, Dundonald Castle and Tweed we can offer an exceptional range designed to excel throughout our trading area. Please give us a call to discuss your requirements.

On Wednesday 14th February, we had a Valentine's Day Facebook giveaway competition to win 'his' and 'her' hats and a bottle of wine. Congratulations to Donna Postlethwaite for winning the 'like and share' competition! Keep your eyes peeled for more competitions in the future!



Surplus lambs chewing feeder teats?

Surplus lambs are a fact of life. These lambs will either need to be adopted onto another ewe or be artificially reared. Lambs can be successfully reared artificially without the problems of fostering onto an unwilling ewe. Several methods are available. One method is ad-lib milk feeders. If you're struggling with surplus lambs chewing on the teats of your milk feeders, try a few of these tips to help prevent the issue.

Lamlac's Top Three Tips...

- 1. Select the right teats** Lambs typically learn how to suck quickly. Make sure that as soon as lambs are sucking strongly you are using the tougher teats (red) as they are more robust to deal with more forceful sucking and any chewing.
- 2. Use the correct number of teats.** Too few teats, can lead to the lambs being prevented from suckling often enough, and then sucking too fast and vigorously when given access. Ensure a maximum of 10 lambs/teat for ad-lib systems - 6-8 is ideal.
- 3. Maintain the milk supply** It is essential that milk is always available when feeding surplus lambs ad-lib. The lambs are far more likely to chew the teats if they are not receiving the appropriate amount of milk or if the milk has run out when they attempt to feed.

Lambing essentials can be purchased from all Tarff stores. If you have any queries about lambing products, speak to your local sales representative.



Secure Cover Clamps

When handling the tyres on the clamp it may be an opportune time to segregate those that have degraded and present a threat to your livestock through wire fragments getting into the feed. However, why not consider eliminating this risk by using **Secure gravel bags** in conjunction with a **Secure Cover**.

Secure gravel bags are more effective than tyres insofar as they flex to the contours of the surface without "bridging," and form a better seal along the sides. Spoilage is much reduced as the sheet is kept in contact with the crop surface with the tension of the Secure Cover, giving extra protection against bird and wind damage.

Gravel bags hold about 18kg of pea gravel and are easily filled with a traffic cone as a funnel. They have central handles for convenience and can be stacked on a pallet as they are filled, ready to lift the pallet on to the clamp. If covered by a **Secure Cover**, this will not damage the sheet. The bags can then be pulled into position, saving time and effort. As the silage is used simply re-stack the bags onto the pallet to lift clear for next time. Handling tyres is a dirty, time consuming job that can be eliminated with the use of gravel bags as a safer, cleaner, labour-saving alternative.



Meet our newest recruit, Fraser Morrison

Fraser recently joined the Tarff team as Transport & Production Co-Ordinator. This role has been created to ensure all feed orders and sites of production are centrally controlled. Having studied Agriculture at the Barony for two years and at Oatridge for a further year, Fraser was awarded a Diploma in Agriculture. Following this, he worked for a contracting service before starting his career in the HGV industry. Fraser has Class 1 and Class 2 HGV licences and enjoys driving on the open road. However, he has now seized the opportunity to combine his skills to create a system which delivers a more efficient service to our customers. To contact Fraser, phone 01557 820414 or fraser.morrison@tarffvalley.co.uk.



NEW! Large Breed Calf Colostrum

New Country UF product! A replacement feed containing high-levels of natural colostrum and probiotics, fortified with egg powder and vitamins to provide calves with a complete colostrum feed. It is specially formulated for use in large breeds to replace natural colostrum from the cow.

What are the benefits?

Colostrum - Supplies natural colostrum which can be absorbed into the blood stream provided it is administered, ideally, within the first 6 hours of birth.

Egg Powder Proteins - Supplement the natural colostrum

Probiotics - Physically exclude harmful pathogens from attaching to the gut wall and improve digestion.

Vitamins A, D3 & E - To counter common deficiencies in new born calves.

High-level easily-absorbable energy - The lactose and oil provide both instant and slow release energy to the newborn calf therefore helping it to get up and suck more quickly.

Easy mix - Formulated to mix easily in luke-warm water making it easy and fast to use.



Foil sachet - Sealed in a foil sachet for freshness and preservation of nutrients.

For more information, speak to your local store or allocated sales representative.

Next Generation Meeting

On Thursday 22nd February, we held another of our 'Next Generation Group' meetings at the Woodlands House Hotel, Dumfries. The evening was conducted by Clydesdale Bank Senior Director, Gillian Clark, who explained business proposals and the steps a bank takes to reach a lending decision. Following this, Next Generation participants were split into groups to discuss different aspects of a real Agricultural case study. After the group session, the case study was discussed by Gillian, outlining in finer detail how the bank reached its decision whether to lend or not, before finalising the presentation.

It was a great evening on a useful topic and many group members will have gone away with a lot to think about! If you're a member of Tarff, under 40 and interested in joining the Next Generation Group, please email katie.sproat@tarffvalley.co.uk or phone the office on 01557 820247 to find out more.