

COVID-19

We are aware of the new tier system coming into place but will continue with our current protocols until further notice. Please visit the Tarff website to read our COVID protocols.

Tarff Town and Country's opening hours are returning to normal from Sunday 1st November.

Mon – Sat, 8am – 5.30pm
Sun, 10am – 4pm

As England will have gone into full lockdown from Thursday 5th November, our Longtown branch will only be operating a Call and Collect system until further notice.

Richard Jackson started with Tarff in 2017 as a HGV Delivery Driver, based at our Glenluce branch. A position for a Sales Assistant recently arose at our Ringford depot, which has allowed Richard to re-locate within the company. Throughout Richard's time at Tarff, he has completed his AMTRA training, meaning he is a RAMA (Registered Animal Medicines Advisor) and can prescribe animal medicines. Richard was also part of Team 'Tarfftastic!' in RSABI's Great Glen Challenge in 2019 and came 5th out of 26 in the kayaking. Richard knows our customer base well and the products and systems we operate. We are delighted to have Richard in the Ringford store and wish him every success in his new role!



TARFF newsletter

November 2020, Issue 47

Are you getting the most from your housing/winter fluke treatment?

The decision made at housing for fluke treatment depends on multiple factors, but with fluke having a significant impact on growth rate and time to finishing we need to ensure what we do is effective. This means using the right product, at the right time, using the correct dose and administering it in the right way. Unfortunately, no one treatment in isolation will kill all stages of fluke present without consideration of timing of dose.

There are two main aims for treating animals for fluke around housing:

- To remove the burden picked up from the pasture during the months before housing, when the pasture levels of infectious stages of fluke are likely to be increasing. Removing this burden when housed will help the cattle to perform well over winter and achieve their potential growth and productivity.
- To prepare for the following grazing season. Correctly removing immature fluke ensures they will not develop into egg laying adults and contaminate pasture next year.

For best results you need to consider the number and age of fluke likely to be present. The NADIS fluke forecast and farm history will help guide this. Generally in late summer/autumn, there will be increasing levels of fluke on pasture thus many newly acquired (immature) fluke within the cattle liver.

- If infection pressure is high, it may be more beneficial to treat at the time of housing.
- If infection pressure is low, and animals have been grazed on low risk pasture, it may be better to delay treatment, or carry out testing to see if treatment is necessary. The treatment options depend on the decision made on when to treat:

WHEN TO TREAT	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES	TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS
AT TIME OF HOUSING	<p>Convenience of handling at time of housing, which minimises handling stress.</p> <p>Recommendation of triclabendazole drench removes most of the fluke as early as possible.</p>	Any fluke under the age of kill at the time of treatment may survive and go on to affect animal. Will need a second treatment (ideally with a different active) to remove any remaining fluke.	Triclabendazole drench
AFTER START OF HOUSING: DEPENDING ON WHICH ACTIVE IS USED TO TREAT	All stages of fluke present in cattle being treated by the appropriate flukicide.	Growth rates may suffer initially until treatment is carried out.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Triclabendazole drench 2 weeks after housing. • Triclabendazole pour on 6-8 weeks after housing. • Closantel 7 weeks after housing. • Nitroxylnil 8 weeks after housing.

Speak to a RAMA (Registered Animal Medicine Advisor) in your local Tarff store for advice on animal health products.

Annual General Meeting Overview

The Annual General Meeting was held over Zoom on Thursday 22nd October. We had more than the usual numbers attending, which was great to see! As some of our readers may already be aware, Richard McMinn has retired from the Board after 12 years. Until earlier this year, Richard had also been a part of the SAOS (Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society) Council for 10 years, and has now passed on this duty to fellow Director Andrew Marchant. We would like to thank Richard for his support and guidance over his time on the Board and we wish him all the best.

David Kirkpatrick's term had ended and was up for re-election and we also received two nominations for others to join the Board. With only two places available on the Board, a vote by

AGM attendees was held. David Kirkpatrick was re-elected and continues in his Director's role. Also voted on was Johnnie Sloan and we would like to welcome him to the Board as the newest member! Johnnie farms in partnership with his parents at Panlands Farm, Johnstonebridge, and lives there with his wife, Kirsty, and their three children. Johnnie is an active member and customer of Tarff and feels he is strongly positioned to express the demands of a growing farm business on behalf of all members. Johnnie is looking forward to working with the current board and helping Tarff continue to grow as a business to best serve its members.

Black Friday Deals

From Monday 23rd November until Friday 27th (Dumfries until Sunday 29th), all stores will have a dedicated section in store in the run up to Black Friday. Why not pop in and see what bargains you can pick up?!

Tarff Services Turns 1!

It has now been a year since Tarff Services went 'live' and started offering on farm training courses, fuel services and the Case IH Rebate Scheme. We are pleased to say that Tarff Services has gone from strength to strength over the last year, having gained LANTRA and SQA approval. There have been several training courses completed (e.g telehandler, ATV, chainsaw courses) and we have received excellent feedback from customers.

The Pre-Apprenticeship Programme falls under the Tarff Services umbrella. Although the start of the programme was slightly different to usual due to COVID-19, we are pleased to say that our students on the programme are doing well and all enjoying themselves! We have an excellent group of keen youngsters and mentors this year, which is great! If you are interested in becoming a mentor for a young person next year, please download a registration form off the Tarff Valley website and send this to our Service Coordinator, Tracey McEwan at tracey.mcewan@tarffvalley.co.uk.

With current protein prices rising significantly have you considered a liquid protein option?

Highly effective protein supplementation can be an expensive cost on farm. However, utilising the ruminant's natural ability to produce microbial protein can allow for cost effective production. Microbial protein is the most economic source of protein for ruminants, with a high digestibility value and optimal amino acid profile. Microbial protein is used in the synthesis of milk protein, muscle structure and various other enzymes and hormones.

To optimise animal production, whether it is milk yield or live weight gain it is important to correctly supply protein, both in terms of rumen degradable and undegradable protein. 70% of the protein consumed by ruminants is broken down into ammonia, which is then used to produce the microbial protein. However, in order to produce microbial protein, the rumen also requires a source of fermentable energy.

ED&F Man's range of Regulated Release blends such as Regumaize and Regupro supply a cost-effective source of the ideal combination of readily available energy and both natural and regulated release protein. It is a unique patented process, developed by ED&F Man Liquid Products, and is designed to give rumen bacteria exactly what they need to thrive – a balanced and synchronised supply of energy and protein, leading to increased microbial protein production and better animal performance.

Research carried out at the University of Reading investigated the effect of replacing 1.6kg of rape soya blend with 2kg of Regumaize 44 within a TMR. The results found a significant increase in milk protein (+0.09g/kg), an increase in milk fat (+1.5g/kg), whilst feed intake was maintained. ED&F Man produce a range of Regulated Release products, see table below.

Product	Dry Matter (%)	Protein (%)	Sugar (%)	ME (MJ/kg)
Regupro 38	60	38	30	12.5
Regupro 50	60	50	42	12.6
Regumaize 44	69	44	55	11.8
Regumaize 65	67	65	50	11.4
Regumix	67	27	53	13.1

When to feed

Regumaize 44 and 65: Where maize or whole crop cereal silage are being fed at over 50% of the total forage ration.

Regumix: Balancing buffer feeds for grazing animals (dairy, beef and sheep).

Regupro 38 and 50: Where lower protein ingredients are being fed alongside grass silage.

Call Tarff today to find out more about liquid feed options!



Tarff Quality Minerals

Minerals are the basic components of all matter, being a component part of enzymes, hormones, all cells, bone, blood and body fluids. They function in all aspects of life, from hormone and energy production, digestion, muscle contraction, regulation of body fluid and pH levels, to digestion and reproduction.

Minerals are also critical in providing all of the production parameters such as milk, fleece and muscle tissue, as well as normal growth, reproduction, and feed conversion efficiencies required in our production animals.

Minerals and trace elements have three broad types of functions;

1. Structural components of body organs and tissues
2. Constituents of body fluids and tissues as electrolytes concerned with body fluid balance, acid-base balance, membrane permeability and tissue irritability (including nerve transmission and muscle contraction)
3. Catalysts in enzyme and hormone systems

Balancing diets for minerals, trace elements and vitamins is therefore as important as ensuring major nutrients, such as protein and energy, are meeting animal requirements. Although there are more than 100 mineral elements on earth, only 15 of these are essential for cattle and sheep health and productivity.

These minerals are split into either macro or major minerals and micro or trace elements.

The macro minerals include calcium, magnesium, phosphorus, and sodium, and are required in relatively large amounts, because they are so heavily involved with structure of the body, and are therefore often measured in grams or percent. The micro minerals or trace elements are required in almost minute levels (milligrams), but are still essential for maintenance and production. They include cobalt, copper, selenium, iodine, zinc, and manganese.

Mineral levels of feeds and forages can vary considerably depending on the type of feed and growing location, harvesting technique and storage practices. Home grown forages and feeds will make up the majority of diets on farm and, given the massive variation that may occur, farmers are encouraged to get them analysed for mineral levels. A full audit of all dietary inputs, alongside a mineral forage analysis will enable diets to be properly balanced and mineral supplementation to be tailored to the animal's requirements, taking into consideration previous health issues. This will help to not only prevent issues with mineral deficiency but also prevent excess mineral feeding which adds unnecessary cost to a diet and increased environmental impact with excretion.

If you would like to find out more, please speak to our in-house Nutritionists about this service and discuss our range of in-feed and free access minerals.

