

TARFF newsletter

October 2021, Issue 58

Rodenticide Training

Tarff, in conjunction with BASF, is hosting two rodenticide training courses later this month.

As more Farm Assurance schemes are requiring proof of training, BASF is committed to educating the rural sector on the importance of effective pest management, encouraging farmers to actively prevent infestations before the need for rodenticide bait arises in order to minimise the risks associated with rodents on farms.

This one day course will cover everything from preventing infestations by identifying problem areas around a farm, to best practice baiting and how to take control of rodents quickly, safely and cost effectively.

The cost of the course is £55 which will be charged to your Tarff account. However, the cost to those who pass the assessment will be subsidised with an equal value of rodenticide.

Training dates:
Tuesday 26th October,
Newton Stewart

Wednesday 27th October,
Dumfries

Course timings: 9am – 4pm.

Please contact marketing@tarffvalley.co.uk to find out more information or to book on to the course.

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#teamtarff
@tarffvalley



Winter Rations – how can Tarff help?

It's that time of year again! The weather is beginning to change and the nights are starting to draw in. As farmers start to plan for the winter ahead it is important to remember that this is an ideal time to look at your feeding plan.

At Tarff, there is a team of nutritionists who are able to create tailored rations to help ensure you are getting the best out of your stock and maximising their potential.

The first step to any feed plan is to look at the forage available on farm. Recently, Tarff has added a NIR machine to its nutrition services. A NIR machine is a hand-held, near infrared forage scanning device, providing full reading for dry matter, ME and crude protein content, as well as other factors. Using the information from the NIR machine, we analyse the forage in-house and then start to consider a suitable concentrate feed to complement it. We can provide tailored blends and suggest specific feed rates to help stock reach maximum growth and DLWGs.

An area of increasing interest is the sourcing of sustainable soya bean meal for delivery straight to farm or in blends. For all enquiries regarding sustainable soya, please contact our Senior Nutritionist & Straights Trader, Ian Houston, on 07921474077.

If you would like advice on rations as we head into the winter, please speak to your Tarff Sales Representative in the first instance. Your Sales Representative will then liaise with our in-house nutritionists to advise on the most suitable products for your livestock.

Country UF Mineral Drench

Make sure your ewes are in top form and ready for tupping. United Farmers have a range of drenches which have been created to provide the highest standard of chelated minerals at the highest possible specification for the animal.

Sheep Vit & Min Drench (no copper)

- Highly concentrated blend of multivitamins and chelated trace elements.
- Ready to use, free flowing liquid formulation.
- Ensures maximum bioavailability for fertility in ewes and thrive in lambs.
- Ewes (use at pre-tupping, mid-pregnancy and at lambing).

Sheep Vit & Min Drench is also available with copper.



Cobalt, Selenium & Vitamin B12 Drench

- Highly concentrated blend of multivitamins and chelated trace elements.
- Ready to use, free flowing liquid formulation.
- Ensures maximum bioavailability for improved fertility, growth performance and thriftiness in sheep.
- A concentrated oral drench containing cobalt, selenium & vitamin B12 together with high levels of Vitamins A, D and E.

Speak to a member of staff in store for more details!



Boliflash Phospho Boluses

Phosphorous is essential for liver function and is required for optimal growth rates, feed efficiency, milk production and reproductive efficiency during calving.

Boliflash Phospho boluses provide fresh cows with an immediate boost of essential phosphorus, which acts in 30 minutes and continues to work over a 24-hour period.

Phosphorus is critical for optimal milk yields. In trials, 50%* of fresh cows were shown to be phosphorus deficient. Without undertaking blood tests, you do not know which of your fresh cows are phosphorus deficient.

By delivering a single rapid phosphorous boost you can maintain the health of your herd, which can help protect

farm productivity. Boliflash Phospho is also suitable for use by organic dairy farmers.

Tarff currently has a special offer on Boliflash Phospho boluses. Buy 2 boxes (1 box treats 6 cows (2 bolus per cow) and get a free applicator. Speak to your local Tarff Sales Representative about this special offer**.



*SOURCE: *MACRAE et al 2012.
**Whilst stocks last

We were delighted to sponsor the Annual Show and Sale of Blueface Leicesters at Wallets Marts, Castle Douglas on Wednesday 22nd September. Overall Champion was awarded to the first prize shearling ram from Robert McTurk, Barlaes. Reserve Overall Champion awarded to the first prize ram lamb from S & T Fallows, Burnton. Henry McTeir & Kelly Telfer went along to Wallets to represent Tarff. The judge was Mr Jack Kay, Hartside Lammermuir.



Tarff also sponsored the Great Annual Show & Sale of Store Cattle & Yearlings at Wallets Marts on Saturday 25th September. Overall Champion and Reserve Champion were awarded to Messrs McCulloch of Glentoo for their Black and White Heifer and Black Bullock (respectively). Both of these animals were fed on Tarff's Superblend Beef 50% blend.



Pre-Apprenticeship Programme

Applications for the January 2022 intake opened on October 1st and there are 6 places available for students.

We are looking for mentors to take on a Pre-Apprentice to introduce them to a career in Agriculture, help them learn and develop their skills.

Contact Tracey McEwan on 07785 657861.

Autumn Parasite Control in Cattle at Housing

Treating cattle for fluke at housing rather than delaying or offering no treatment at all can help improve growth rates and reduce the stress on cattle. A cow's liver is large so they can tolerate a greater fluke burden, meaning sudden deaths won't be seen in cattle. However, subclinical disease due to fluke can be occurring which is costly due to the impact it can have on reduced weight gain.

Why treat for fluke at housing?

Treating cattle for fluke at housing will control fluke picked up during the grazing season, enabling a better housing transition. No fluke treatment has persistency meaning cattle can become infected with fluke immediately after treatment. Treating at housing will also enable cattle to be better prepared for the stress and challenges of housing. A further treatment with an adulticide later in housing means in the spring you will be turning out clean cattle, which will reduce the burden on the pasture and help protect any sheep on the farm. It is vital to ensure a seamless transition from grazing to housing and winter diet to prevent a check in growth.

Should we test for fluke before treating at housing?

It is always best to test and know what is happening on your farm. However, some underlying fluke may not always be picked up with a copro-antigen test. This is because the volume of faeces in cattle has a diluting effect meaning the test is not as sensitive in cattle as it is in sheep. If you are in a fluke risk area and have wet areas on your farm, then there's a high chance your cattle could be at risk of fluke.

What about worm control at housing?

Some worm species arrest in the gut wall during the autumn and winter and can cause serious damage when the larvae emerge in spring. It is therefore important to treat at housing with a product that will kill off the arrested stages of the worms. There have been reports of high levels of lungworm in

parts of the country this summer. Treating at housing will clear out any sub-clinical lungworm that may be present. If animals are showing clinical signs of lungworm it is important to treat with a suitable wormer before housing, so that the lungs have a chance to recover. If the lungs are damaged by lungworm there is a higher risk of the animals developing pneumonia at housing.

What should I look for when selecting a product to use?

It is important to consider the age of the fluke you are treating. Many fluke treatments focus on killing egg-laying adults, meaning most immature fluke will still be present and these will continue to cause damage as they migrate through the liver. These will go on to develop into adult fluke. Another factor to consider is whether worm control is also needed at housing and if a combination product would be appropriate. This will depend on the current worm burden in the cattle and what previous treatments have been used on farm over the summer.

CYDECTIN TriclaMox Cattle Pour-On is a combination fluke & worm pour-on which manages mixed burdens in one treatment. It contains moxidectin, a potent formulation providing the most effective ML efficacy against resistant worms, and triclabendazole, which offers effective control of late immature and adult fluke in a pour-on combination.

The product also comes with a lice-free guarantee (licensed for biting and sucking lice) and has a rainfast formulation which means that rainfall before or after treatment will not affect the efficacy of the product.



For more information, please speak to a Registered Animal Medicine Advisor in your local Tarff branch.

References available on request.

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Tarff Own Brand Compound Feed

In recent years Tarff has been working on developing its own compound feed range, and in 2020 Tarff's own brand range was launched. This new venture has been well received by customers, resulting in the creation of a specific brand, Tarff Compound Feed.

Whether it's for beef, sheep or dairy we have a number of compound feed options to choose from. Tarff's compound range has been specifically designed to incorporate only the best raw materials, which in turn helps enhance performance within your livestock.

Hear from our customers...

James Fingland, Tarbreoch Farm, Castle Douglas

"Currently through the parlour we are feeding Screele 18% to yield year-round, which gives good consistency to the cows. I am delighted with the results I am receiving from using this cake, as I am reaching targets for yield and constituents from the cows. The TMR ration is monitored by Holly to keep on top of cow performance, and importantly lets me focus on feed cost per litre."

Jock Fisher, Flathill Farm, Kirkcudbright

"I'm absolutely delighted with how the cows are performing and couldn't have hoped for any better on our new set up with the Lely robots. The Merrick cake has helped to improve yield, and also provides a good energy supply to help maintain yield. Holly visits regularly to help balance the TMR, along with the Merrick cake in the robots. Everything is going well!"

Bobby Derby, Blackpark Farm, Castle Douglas

"Using Tarff allows us access to an excellent sales and dietary service, which gives us flexibility in changing our ration at any time to maintain milk quality, whether the cows are out at grass in the summer or housed in the winter."

To find out more about Tarff's own brand range of compound feeds, please speak to your local Tarff Sales Representative.

New logo for our compound feed range!

