

Visit Tarff at Ayr Show!

Tarff will be at Ayr Show on Saturday 11th May. Drop into the tent and say hello to the team!



Early May Bank Holiday

A number of Tarff stores will be closed on Monday 6th May for the Early May Bank Holiday.

Closed:

Whauphill
Ringford
Longtown
Dundonald
Islay

Open:

Castle Kennedy
Castle Douglas
Dumfries
Newtown St Boswells

**SPECIAL OFFER
Horslyx Smartlick**

£1 off 12.5kg tubs

Speak to a member of staff in your local Tarff Valley branch for details. Available until Friday 31st May 2024.



Old Station Yard
Ringford
DG7 2AN

t: 01557 820247

TARFF

AGRICULTURAL MERCHANTS

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newsletter

Strike before you're struck

Blowfly strike affects more than 75% of farms in the UK annually with an estimated 1.5% of ewes and 3% of lambs struck each year*. With changing weather patterns, the historical, more predictable summer fly season is a thing of the past and we now see more variation in the months in which fly strike occurs, beginning as early as March and continuing until as late as December!

Once laid, fly eggs can hatch into larvae (or maggots) within 8 hours if the conditions are right, and produce enzymes which digest the host tissue. This leads to skin damage, causing the painful wounds associated with strike. The maggots feed on dead and dying tissue and produce powerful odours which attracts other egg-laying females, rapidly increasing the severity of the situation.

If left untreated, the wounds will increase in size, become infected and ooze. This will cause the sheep to enter a state of shock and to perish.

Blowfly strike is multi-factorial with the following increasing the likelihood of strike:

- Presence of organic matter in the fleece	- Open wounds
- Thick fleeces	- Environmental conditions

Prevention:

- Annual shearing and regular dagging/crutching of soiled fleeces.	- Remove any carcasses promptly.
- Docking- where appropriate, and when done in conjunction with the law.	- Check animals frequently during high-risk period.
- Reduce scouring (gastrointestinal parasite management, good nutrition).	- Any wounds should be monitored closely until resolved.
- Reduce the incidence of footrot.	

Which Preventative Product is Right for my Flock?

There are a number of factors to consider when choosing a fly prevention product for your flock.

Group	Active ingredient	Duration of protection	Meat withdrawal period
Synthetic pyrethroids	High-cis cypermethrin	6-8 weeks	8 days
	Alpha-cypermethrin	8-10 weeks	49 days
Insect Growth Regulators (IGRs)	Dicyclanil 12.5mg/ml	8 weeks	7 days
	Dicyclanil 50mg/ml	16 weeks	40 days
	Dicyclanil 65mg/ml	19 weeks	40 days
Organophosphate dip	Diazinon	60 days	49 days

The withdrawal period and duration of action are important, particularly when drawing lambs for sale. Discuss treatment options with a Registered Animal Medicines Advisor in your local Tarff Valley branch, taking into account which other parasites can be targeted and the timing of treatment, to help decide which product is most appropriate for you.

*References available on request

Funding for Faecal Egg Counts

Achieving good youngstock growth rates, healthy animals and a profitable enterprise are primary goals for farmers. Heavy worm burdens in lambs and calves result in reduced growth rates, increased labour and longer time spent on farm to reach target weights.

With the concerns over anthelmintic resistance rising, it is essential that we make more use of monitoring tools available instead of traditional methods of routine blanket treatments. Monitoring lambs and calves throughout the grazing season and undertaking regular faecal egg counts (FECs) can be a valuable tool in establishing the parasite challenge on farm, whilst potentially reducing anthelmintic use and labour*.

As part of the Scottish Government's 'Preparing for Sustainable Farming Scheme' (PFSFS), farmers can claim for undertaking up to two animal health interventions per year. Each intervention would receive a standard payment of £250, for which the control of roundworms in cattle and/or sheep qualify. This includes a wormer efficacy test.

Tarff Town & Country, Dumfries has facilities to conduct FECs, with results returned within 48hrs. Tarff Valley can also help with submitting the paperwork required to secure the grant.

Who to call for more information?

Dumfries Store	01387 261661	Information on FEC service and advice on animal health
Aishling Muller (R-SQP)	07759 704402	As above
Hannah Dykes, Senior Sustainability & Advisory Consultant	07586 126369	Discuss eligibility for the Preparing for Sustainable Farming Scheme.

*It is still recommended for lambs at high risk of nematodirus to be treated, so don't forget to keep an eye on the Nematodirus forecast <https://www.scops.org.uk/forecasts/nematodirus-forecast/>.

Meet Tommy Davidson

Tommy Davidson has recently joined the Tarff Team as a Sales Representative in the Ayrshire/Lanarkshire area.

Tommy has worked in the Agricultural industry for 10 years for animal feed suppliers and latterly an animal health company.

Tommy is delighted to join Tarff Valley. The future of farming is important to him and he looks forward to understanding the challenges on each farm, listening to his customers and being able to offer his support and to delivering an extensive range of farm solutions and supplies.

Tommy can be contacted on 07543 507329.



On Friday 12th April, members of Team Tarff attended the Dumfries and Galloway Chamber of Commerce Business Awards at the Easterbrook Hall in Dumfries.

Congratulations to Tracey McEwan, Tarff Services Coordinator, who won the 'Individual Champion' award which was sponsored by Developing Young Workforce Dumfries & Galloway.

This is a fantastic achievement for Tracey and we are delighted her hard work has been recognised. Tracey has spearheaded the development of Tarff Services and introduced several pathways for young people to explore opportunities within the agricultural and commercial sectors.

Well done to all the local businesses who won awards on the evening. It was an excellent night and great to be part of the spotlight on committed and thriving local businesses.



Tarff Valley Compound Feed

Despite the relentless amount of rainfall we have experienced, hopefully in May we will see more of the sunshine, resulting in cows finally getting out to grass. With spring turnout at the forefront of everyone's mind, Tarff Valley would like to remind its customers that there is a wide selection of compound feeds to tailor to your cows' every need whilst grazing at grass.

Our compound range includes:

Compound cakes vary from 14-16% protein to help complement high protein grass.

High inclusion rate of Beetpulp and other fibre sources to help boost butterfats at grass.

High ME cakes to help support high yielding cows, boost constituents and help with fertility.

Selection of cakes formulated without Hipro Soya for customers who have contracts that stipulate a reduction in Soya usage.

Megalac is included to help boost butterfats and help provide extra energy for optimizing yields and fertility at grass.

Yeasts and buffers are also included in certain ranges to help maintain the rumen, achieving the best optimal conditions to help get the best yields from grass.

At Tarff Valley we also provide technical support through our team of Nutritionists, who are happy to guide you in choosing the correct compound for your system. Within this technical support, we provide a rationing service, which would require regular forage samples. Both grass samples and silage samples can be taken and analysed in-house using our NIR machine.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with our Dairy Nutritionist, Holly Dyer on 07990 139 449 or call your local Tarff Valley Sales Representative if you are interested in our compound range or technical support.



REMINDER: Regulations for Fertiliser

If you are looking to order fertiliser, please remember we need identification details from you.

What's required?

- Photographic ID (ie Driving Licence)
- CPH Number (For each holding (if more than one))
- VAT Number (if applicable)

The rules changed on 1st October 2023 stating that if you purchase Ammonium Nitrate & Calcium Ammonium Nitrate fertiliser grades with a nitrogen content of 16 units or above, it is now a legal requirement to provide a copy of a photograph of personal identification e.g driving licence or passport. Photographic identification is required from everyone in the business who would place a fertiliser order.

How to send your details:

Send ID image(s) and details via WhatsApp to our fertiliser department on 07958 206183. Use your account code as a reference.

Send an email to fertiliser.enquiries@tarffvalley.co.uk. If there are multiple ID images to send, please attach all images in one email. Use your account code as the reference.

No Compromises for Higher Costs

Since the cost of product and value of silage is so high, minimizing mould growth and losses is critical. Visqueen's high quality range of sheeting products can assist in achieving higher quality clamp silage by protecting clamps from all sources of oxygen ingress.

Visqueen side sheets have been proven to significantly reduce silage spoilage. Their increased resistance to weathering protects the silage crop in the harshest of weather conditions, preserving the forage inside the clamp.



Clingseal is a flexible vacuum sheet that sits directly beneath the traditional, heavier top sheet. It clings to the surface of the silage and forms to the contours of the clamp surface, reducing oxygen pockets. Clingseal also tucks down the sides of the clamp to ensure a better air seal.

Visqueen Agri-S top sheets are strong, tough, and have high impact and puncture resistance. This provides reassurance that the surface can be walked on without damage. Visqueen Agri-S sheets also include UV inhibitors, providing essential protection from sunlight, helping to deliver all-season protection. The sheets are centre folded for easier application and are packaged in a PE sleeve.



Speak to a member of staff in your nearest Tarff Valley branch or call your local Tarff Valley Sales Representative for details.

New In at Tarff Town & Country, Dumfries

Ethos Miscanthus Bedding is a completely natural, sustainable alternative to wood shavings and other forms of horse bedding.

The bedding has been created with the welfare of horses in mind and is:

Clean, Hygienic & Environmentally Friendly

The horse bedding is 100% pure chipped Miscanthus, an eco-friendly, cost effective, superior bedding product and comes in 4 different options:

Original, Eucalyptus, Citronella & Lavender

