

Highland Show

Thank you to our members and customers who came along to the Scottish Machinery Ring Association stand at the Royal Highland Show. It was great to see some friendly faces and talk about the various services and updates regarding Tarff Services, Tarff Valley's Machinery Ring division.

The team already looks forward to attending next year!



Awarding Wigtownshire

Members of staff from our Castle Kennedy branch got their gladrags on for the Awarding Wigtownshire event on Saturday 8th June, which was held at the North West Castle in Stranraer. Tarff Valley was a finalist in the 'Contribution to Agriculture' award, which shines a light on individuals and organisations that have made a significant contribution to the field of agriculture. The team had a great evening but unfortunately didn't come home with the winning prize but were over the moon to be selected as finalists.



Picture taken by HDPhotography

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TARFF

AGRICULTURAL MERCHANTS

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newsletter

NEW DIVISION! Tarff 'Precision Farming'

Introducing... Tarff's newest division, 'Precision Farming'. Under the Precision Farming umbrella, a brand-new service called 'SOIL' has been developed. 'SOIL' incorporates the whole soil sampling service through to analysis, results and consultation. Find out below what you can expect from the 'SOIL' service:

Fully integrated service, from initial soil sampling to processing data and generating detailed reports

Accurate data on soil analysis, processed through a new online portal, 'SOIL'

Personalised log in to 'SOIL' portal and access to farm results

Tailored advice and recommendations based on accurate, up to date data

In order to offer the full service, Tarff has recently purchased a UTV, which will be used out on farm to gather soil samples. This will save our sampler time, be more efficient and less reliant on customers offering transport.



Fertiliser Product Manager, Scott Gallacher says, "The new Precision Farming service division is a great step forward for Tarff Valley. 'SOIL' is an exciting new venture which will assist clients in understanding the nutritional requirements of their land whilst giving staff the tools to recommend personally tailored solutions for achieving optimal returns."

COMING SOON! Tarff Valley is also introducing a spot spraying service to the new division. 'SKAI' is the award-winning retrainable tractor mounted boom spot spraying system from SoilEssentials. The sprayer uses camera technology to identify and target docks only in grassland.

- Sprayer specifically identifies and targets docks

- Clover safe

- Reduce your environmental impact

- No stunting of grass growth in the whole field after spraying

The process is simple:

- Call Scott Gallacher or Colin Prentice to discuss your requirements i.e no of fields and rough acreage needing sprayed

- Whole service provided by Tarff Valley from chemical to spraying operation



Want to find out more about our newest division?

Scott Gallacher, Fertiliser Trader: 07823 341462

Colin Prentice, Arable Products: 07788 594945

Or speak to your local Sales Representative. Alternatively, visit the Tarff stand at the upcoming shows (shows and dates on 2nd page) and ask us about Tarff's Precision Farming division.

Scotsheep 2024

The team headed over to Aikengall Farm near Dunbar on Wednesday 5th June for Scotsheep. Although it was an incredibly breezy day, the team still had a great time and were pleased to have made the trip across to the East Coast to promote Tarff Valley.



The Tarff team will be at the following shows:

Stewartry Show
Sat 27th July

Stranraer Show
Wed 31st July

Dumfries Show
Sat 3rd August

Wigtown Show
Wed 7th August

Islay Show
Thursday 8th August

Galloway Country Fair
Sat 10th & Sun 11th August

SPECIAL OFFER!

Horslyx Mint

50p off mini tubs
£2 off 5kg
£3 off 15kg

Speak to a member of staff in your local Tarff Valley branch for details. Available until Wednesday 31st July.



Feed Quality Milk Protein to Heifer Calves to Unlock Better Lifetime Performance

Heifer calves reared on a concentrated whey protein-based milk replacer diet are younger at first calving and more fertile than those receiving lower quality milk protein in early life, a potential financial benefit worth more than £63 per heifer.

Dairy heifers at AFBI Hillsborough in Northern Ireland fed different milk protein-based diets as pre-weaned calves have now been monitored up until their third calving. According to Dr Jessica Cooke from Volac Milk Replacers, the experimental study involved 80 Holstein Friesian calves fed four different milk replacers from birth until 56 days of age. The trial highlighted that well formulated, high quality milk replacers with either skim milk powder (at above a 40% inclusion level) or concentrated whey protein as the major source of dairy protein both deliver comparable animal performance.

"This work clearly showed that the presence of skim - and therefore the clotting effect of casein - is not the fundamental element within a calf milk formula influencing optimum calf growth. If the important milk components are processed correctly, both skim and whey proteins will be highly digestible by the high milk-fed pre-weaned calf and will deliver good performance. The trial clearly demonstrated that there was no significant difference in calf growth or health between the different milk replacer formulations."

Importantly though, Dr Cooke stressed that good nutrition and calf performance is linked to more than just the type of dairy protein included in the finished milk formula. "Important differences in amino acid and fatty acid profiles, amount of lactose, vitamins, minerals and trace elements, processing conditions and overall digestibility all contribute to calf performance," she said.

What's more, the data has confirmed that high quality pre-weaned calf nutrition favourably influences better lifetime productivity. "What calves are fed pre-weaning certainly makes a difference as these heifers join the milking herd," Dr Cooke said. "Although high quality, skim-based milk replacer-fed calves and those fed a high quality, concentrated whey protein-based (CWP) pre-weaning diet will perform similarly in later life, some performance differences start to emerge when you compare calves fed concentrated whey protein such as Volac Milk Replacer Immunopro with those fed a lower quality, simple whey powder-based (WP) milk replacer.

"Not only were the CWP-fed calves five days younger than their counterparts at first breeding, but there were also some fertility differences. For example, the CWP-fed group only required 1.4 services per heifer, while the WP-fed group required 2 services per heifer. First service conception rate was better too in the CWP-fed group (60%) versus 50% in the WP-fed group." However, Dr Cooke added that a particularly important performance difference starts to emerge when you compare the Antral follicle count (AFC) data. "On average, the CWP-fed calves calved first at 729 days of age, whereas the WP-fed animals calved down at 751 days - 22 days later. What's more, 80% of the CWP-fed heifers had calved down by 24 months or age, as opposed to only 33% of the WP-fed heifers.

"With AHDB figures suggesting each day delay beyond 24 months AFC costs you £2.87, this performance difference alone is worth £63.14 per heifer. Or, to put it another way, a £3,157 cost to the dairy farm business every year for a 200-cow herd with a 25% annual replacement rate."

Speak to your local Tarff Valley Sales Rep about Volac Calf Milks.

NEW! Micron Faecal Egg Count Kit

Tarff Valley is pleased to have recently purchased a Micron Kit, a faecal egg count testing tool. It uses cutting edge technology to give you rapid, automated results straight to your phone.

The Micron Faecal Egg Count kit can be used for a number of different animals including cattle, sheep, horses and goats and looks at the number of Strongyle worms in samples.

So, how does it work?

Using the Micron app, a video of a sample is taken through the Micron Kit Reader. This is uploaded to an analysis server for processing via artificial intelligence to generate rapid, consistent and accurate results, which are delivered directly to your device. The whole process from preparing the sample to analysis takes less than 20 minutes!

The Micron kit is portable, which means samples can be tested on farm. If this is something you would be interested in, please speak to Aishling Muller, Aishling.muller@tarffvalley.co.uk or call 07759 704402.



standard payment of £250, for which the control of roundworms in cattle and/or sheep qualify. This includes a wormer efficacy test.

Who to speak to 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.

Watch the testing process!

We recently ran a faecal egg count sample out on farm, which showcases the testing process. Watch our 2-minute video of Aishling showing how the kit works.

Click here:

https://youtu.be/CYE1THbwQ-E?si=GtyfMwr_KjXX8HkH



Did you know? 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