

Black Sheep Farm Health

September 2023 Newsletter



The Field Report

Swedes, Skiing, and the South Island: A Year in New Zealand

Thursday 5th October
Longframlington Memorial Hall, NE65 8AH

Arrive from 6.30pm for food and drink, ahead of a 7.30pm start.

Kaz has now returned from New Zealand and is starting back at Black Sheep in the next few days.

We look forward to welcoming him back with a client meeting to hear more about farming in NZ and what he's learnt on his travels over a drink and some food!

This meeting is free and open to anyone who wishes to attend.

Please RSVP to the practice, one of the vets or by emailing claire.neillans@bsfh.co.uk

Kindly Sponsored by Elanco



Small Holder Meeting: Lameness in Sheep & Goats Thursday 14th September

Evening meeting covering foot health and disease for sheep and goats, with an overview of different causes of lameness.

Thursday 14th September, refreshments from 7:30pm for an 8pm start!

All welcome!

Longframlington Memorial Hall, NE65 8AH.

Refreshments kindly sponsored by MSD.

Please RSVP by calling the practice or emailing info@bsfh.co.uk



Animal Health & Welfare Pathway

Make sure you apply for your AHWP funding!

The funding covers a veterinary visit for health planning and some routine testing; either wormer drench efficacy testing for sheep or BVD check testing for cattle. Currently you can only apply for sheep or cattle.

With worm counts increasing with the recent warm and wet weather, this is an ideal time to apply for the sheep funding. Samples for AHWP must be submitted in specific testing kits which we can supply for you.

Please be aware that testing as part of the AHWP must be completed within 6 months of applications being approved, so if applying for cattle, please wait until later in the winter.

For help with AHWP, please call Claire.

For further information about available payments there is an **AHWP Webinar on 6th September:**

The Farming & Countryside Programme team is holding a webinar for farmers to find out about the payments available in England.

Policy leads working on the Sustainable Farming Incentive, the Farming Equipment and Technology Fund and the Animal Health and Welfare Pathway will explain the offer and answer your questions. This webinar will also be recorded if unable to attend.

The webinar will take place on the 6th September @ 11:30 – 12:30. To join the webinar please register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/defra-funding-for-farmers-webinar-tickets-703251854227?aff=oddtcreator>



Sheep Quarantine Treatments

With tup sale season upon us, it is important to consider what unwanted guests incoming tups may be carrying and ensure steps are taken to prevent introducing these into your flock. For more information see the SCOPS website or speak to a vet, but as a summary:

Quarantine: Incoming animals should be quarantined for 3-4 weeks, during which time they should be monitored for any signs of disease. This should be in a field with 2 metre boundary to other animals or in a shed with separate airspace

Avoid introducing **resistant worms:**

- Gold standard is treating incoming tups with both orange and purple drenches, but Zolvix (an orange wormer) given alongside a clear injectable or drench is a suitable alternative.
- Sheep should be placed on hard standing for 48 hours after treatment then turned out onto "dirty" pasture.

Sheep Scab: Sheep should either be:

- Treated with an injectable moxidectin or organophosphate dip on arrival
- Or blood samples 2 weeks after arrival to test for exposure to scab

Liver Fluke:

- Treat with closantel or triclabendazole on arrival followed by a repeated dose of closantel 6 weeks later
- Graze on well drained dry pasture until both treatments are completed

Lameness:

Examine feet on arrival for any lesions and treat as required

Foot bath all animals twice in quarantine period with Zinc Sulphate solution

Consider vaccination with Footvax

Other treatments: Any vaccinations should be given to ensure bought in animals are up to date with the routine flock treatments. It is also worth considering booster with Heptavac P or Pasteurella vaccination to reduce the risk of Pasteurella at this stressful time.

Are your dogs vaccinated?

It is important to make sure your dogs are up to date with their vaccinations. Leptospirosis- a life threatening disease in unvaccinated dogs- is a particular concern for farm dogs. After their puppy course of vaccines, adult dogs should be vaccinated against leptospirosis annually to ensure protection.

It is also important that farm dogs are up to date with a worming treatment effective against tapeworm. Dog tapeworm causes cysts in sheep which can lead to partial condemnation of the carcass at slaughter, particularly the liver. Dogs should be treated every 3 months with a product effective against tapeworm.

Silage Analysis

With the pits filling up, now is the time to start thinking about what is in them! Silage analysis is a valuable tool to allow ration calculations to take place and facilitate appropriate provision of feeding to meet nutritional requirements through housing.

To arrange for us to take samples or for further information on what we require and where to send them please contact the practice.