



## Winter Newsletter 24/25

### Christmas Fatstock Show report

We were proud to sponsor Frome Fatstock Society's 124th Annual Christmas Show at the end of November. This year we sponsored 'Young Farmers Best Beef Bred Steer or Heifer' - congratulations to Amy Lanfear from Woodside Farm for taking 1st prize. It was a great event organised by the society to showcase some exceptional livestock and handling skills. A true celebration of the hard work and dedication of farmers. Well done to everyone involved in the show.



### Emerging health issues / threats

#### Bluetongue updated Winter 2024

As cases of Bluetongue continue to move closer to Wiltshire, we urge clients to remain vigilant and continue monitoring and taking preventative measures against the virus. We hope that the recent cold weather will help minimise further spread, however if you would like any further information please do not hesitate to get in touch or check out the Bluetongue resource hub <https://ruminanthw.org.uk/>

### Dispensary update:

- **Betamox:** we have a strong supply in stock despite ongoing disruptions.
- **Cepravin DC:** will be changing to Cepritect DC tubes.
- **Engemycin Spray:** will change to Alamycin spray.
- **Ubrostar Red:** is now back in stock!
- **New Arrival:** We are now stocking Farm Fluid MAX, a versatile disinfectant which can be used as part of Coccidiosis control protocols.

## Stress-free disbudding

Are you struggling to keep up with disbudding? Unfortunately, postponing it can make the procedure more challenging and time consuming. Under veterinary supervision, our vet techs can help with this. Stress-free disbudding involves administering a small amount of sedative along with a local anaesthetic and long-acting pain relief allowing large batches to be disbudded quickly and efficiently. Research has demonstrated several benefits of stress-free disbudding including:

### Improved welfare

- Minimises pain and stress, ensuring calves experience minimal discomfort during and after the procedure.
- Promotes a positive handling experience.

### Better growth and productivity

- Reduced stress levels lead to better feed conversion and weight gain.
- Calves recover faster, maintaining normal growth rates without setbacks.

### Lower risk of complications

- Effective pain relief decreases the likelihood of infection or healing complications.
- Stress-free methods ensure calves remain calm, reducing risk of injury during the process.

Please get in touch if you would like to find out more about how this service could benefit your farm.



## A new pen side test for liver fluke

We are now stocking a rapid, pen side test for the diagnosis of liver fluke (*Fasciola hepatica*) in cattle and sheep. This easy-to-use test detects antibodies in the blood of infected animals using a simple blood droplet from the ear or nose, providing results in just 10 minutes. The test enables detection of liver fluke from as early as two weeks offering the opportunity to implement targeted treatment plans and reduce the overuse of flukicides.

When left untreated, liver fluke can have a significant impact on both animal welfare and productivity. If you would like to learn more about the test or purchase a box from the practice for use on farm, please get in touch.



## A new preventative vaccine for calf scour

We are now offering Fencovis®, the first vaccine with a prevention claim against key causes of calf scour, including *E. coli* F5 (K99) and bovine rotavirus, whilst also reducing the severity of scour caused by coronavirus. Administered 12 to 3 weeks before calving, the vaccine boosts antibodies in colostrum, providing calves with vital protection against diarrhoea. This not only reduces the severity and spread of disease but also ensures healthier, more productive calves. The vaccine comes in convenient 1, 5 or 25 doses. Contact us to learn more about incorporating Fencovis® into your calf management program!



## Re-ewe-venate: A new support for twin lamb disease

It is never too early to start thinking about the upcoming lambing season. Twin lamb disease is a serious condition affecting ewes in late pregnancy. It results from an energy deficit when nutritional demands exceed supply, leading to symptoms such as lethargy, tremors, and in severe cases, blindness, recumbency and death. Prevention is key to protecting your flock and ensuring a smooth lambing season. **Re-ewe-venate** is a new product formulated for the prevention and recuperation of twin-lamb disease and offers the following key benefits:

- Provides readily available energy for up to 12 hours to meet late pregnancy demands.
- Is rapidly effective.
- Comes in 1 litre easy to administer bottles.





## Team update

### Goodbye Clare!

We are sad to share that our wonderful Farm Team Coordinator, Clare Rogers, will be leaving us on December 17th to embark on an exciting new adventure in the Quantocks. Clare has been a valued member of our farm team since June 2022, and she will truly be missed by us all. We wish Clare, her partner Jon and their Labrador Reef all the best in this next chapter.



## Frome and The Dairy Show recap

We had a fantastic time at both Frome and The Dairy shows! A huge thank you to everyone who stopped by our stand to enjoy sweets and refreshments. It was lovely to see so many familiar faces and to meet new potential clients. We were delighted to be awarded the **Bronze Medal** for **Best Internal Trade Stand** - a real highlight for us! Well done to everyone who entered showing classes, it was great to see your stock out and about.



*We can't wait to see you all again next year.*

## New funding available....

The Future Farming Resilience Funding is a valuable and flexible resource designed to help reduce disease and improve herd health on farms. Only a select number of UK vet practices, including ours, have been approved to deliver this funding. All farms are eligible, provided they have not accessed this funding through another provider.

### What's included?

Each farm can receive up to £1,540 per farm for up to four visits (£385/visit), which can be used for a variety of services designed to help optimise health and productivity. Services could (*but are not limited to*) include:

- **Housing** – ventilation assessment, cow comfort, enrichments
- **Infectious disease health protection** – Johnes, IBR, Lepto, Lungworm, Ringworm, orf, BTV-3
- **Parasite best practice** – internal and external parasites and associated anthelmintic resistance
- **Infertility** – male and female causes
- **Mastitis control plan** – environmental assessment, VaDia dynamic parlour testing

Spaces are filling up fast, but additional funding is expected soon. Get in touch to discuss how this opportunity could benefit your farm!

**As you may have seen on our socials, we are recruiting! We're excited to welcome some new friendly faces to our team in the new year and cannot wait for you to meet them. Stay tuned for updates!**



## Follow us on TikTok!

We are excited to announce that we have joined TikTok. Follow us for educational content and behind the scenes. Our goal is to connect with our community so you can see more of what we get up to and learn something new.

**Find us on TikTok: @wyvernfarmvets**

Don't forget to like, comment, and share our videos to grow our community and promote awareness of farming.

Got ideas for videos you would like to see? Drop us a message or comment – we would love to hear from you!

## Vet training spotlight:

### Congratulations Alex and Vicki!

In September, vets Alex and Vicki both successfully passed their exams and were awarded their DBR (Diploma in Bovine Reproduction). This two-year master's course covered all aspects of dairy and beef fertility, with a focus on improving both animal welfare and farm profitability. We are incredibly proud of their achievement and the expertise they bring to our team. Well done both, your hard work and dedication paid off!



## Riddle time...

I can wake you up in the morning, but I require no electricity or winding. What am I?

A cockrel!

## Useless fact

A group of flamingos is called a "flamboyance."



## Dates for your diary:

**13th December** Women in dairy event – join Vicki for a farm walk and seminar to discuss "Maximising fertility on farm – what does the data tell us?"

**8th January** Beef benchmarking and how to reduce losses at calving – an evening with Alex and other like-minded farmers to discuss beef fertility benchmarking and ensuring success around calving

**14th January** First aid for feet – James and BCVA accredited foot health trainer Tom Vaughan will be delivering a Lantra certified foot trimming course

**31st January & 12th February** Lambing course – an excellent opportunity to prepare for the lambing season with a full day course delivered by Katie

## Festive updates

Join us for mulled wine and mince pies from 12 noon – 2 pm on **Friday 20th December for our annual Christmas medicine collection.** If you are collecting medicines, please ensure your order is placed by midday on Thursday 19th December. We look forward to seeing you!

## Christmas opening hours:

We hope you have a relaxing Christmas period. However, if you do need us, we are always only a phone call away.

### Tuesday 24th December (Christmas eve)

Open as usual

### Wednesday 25th December (Christmas day)

Out of hours only

### Thursday 26th December (Boxing day)

Out of hours only

### Friday 27th December

Open as usual

### Monday 30th December

Open as usual

### Tuesday 31st December (New years eve)

Open as usual

### Wednesday 1st January (New years day)

Out of hours only



From everyone at Wyvern Farm Vets, we would like to wish all our clients a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year!



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