

Well the season to be jolly is upon us!

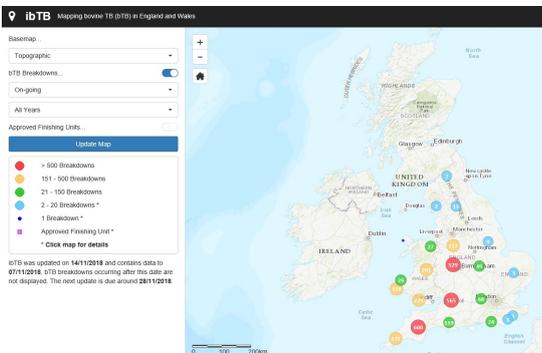
As the daylight hours are at their minimum our Autumn seasonal calvers are busy serving. We have completed artificial insemination refresher courses, seen the non seen bullers and are now starting to get busy with the first PDs. If you are getting to the stage where cows have had 2 or 3 services and haven't held, don't forget to consider embryo transfer to give those repeat breeders a helping hand with a chance of another lactation and increasing the longevity of your herd. Please chat to Claire or Ben for further information.

We have gradually been completing the final part of the Milksure courses, having a nose in your medicine cabinets! A topic that has been coming up repeatedly is to be aware of your milk withdrawals when using lactating tubes. If you are using more lactating tubes than it specifies on the data sheet i.e. you are going 'off licence' (with veterinary permission as per your protocol) then a minimum 7 day milk withdrawal must be applied. If you use on farm testing for antibiotics i.e. Delvotest,

even if the test comes back clear prior to 7 days, it is still important to keep the milk out of the tank for the full 7 days. Sensitivities of these tests differ to the tests used at the dairy, hence why it is not worth the risk. As an example Tetradelta is only licensed for 2 tubes used 24 or 48 hours apart. If you give more than 2 tubes, or tube in consecutive milkings, this is a 7 day milk withdrawal. Ubro yellow is only licensed for 3 tubes 24 hours apart... please check your treatment protocols and give one of us a call to confirm if you are unsure. **Claire**



A bit on TB



As many of you know there has been a lot of discussion about the TB situation in Hampshire, West Sussex and Surrey. Over the last few years the number of herds under restriction has continued to grow and the amount of testing being carried out locally, particularly radial testing, now resulting in a significant burden to many of you farmers. Maarten, Laura and I were invited to sit around the table at the local NFU offices in Pulborough, along with vets from other neighbouring practices to see what might be able to be done. We were very keen to highlight the practice of high volume movements of high-risk cattle into the area. I'm not talking about the purchase of the occasional breeding bull from a single location. Whist not without risk, this can be carefully managed and, using resources such as ibTB and farm disease

history, the risk can be greatly minimised. Instead, I am talking specifically about the highest risk businesses which rely on the sourcing of high numbers of cattle from multiple holdings in high risk areas for them to be grazed, often in multiple locations, in the low-risk area. It needs to be understood that the TB skin test misses 3 out of every 10 infected animals so movement of cattle from high risk areas to low risk areas presents a risk of moving infected animals. This applies to both pre-movement and post-movement testing. In our view, a lot more resource needs to spent on minimising this risk. Watch this space but we are absolutely committed to trying to do our bit to prevent TB getting a strong foothold in our area. If anyone has any bright ideas as to what else can be done then please drop us a line. **Ben**

BVD Stamp It Out

Provisional date booked for the first meeting to discuss BVD on 24th January at a pub near Petworth with myself and Maarten. Hot pasty and a pint provided. The meeting will outline the disease, its costs both nationally and at farm level, and what sort of control strategies farmers can implement. The meeting will also outline what we as vets can deliver for you as farmers; including how much testing budget is available. Please contact Megan to book your place– 20 places available– first come first served. megan@livestockvets.co.uk To gain access to the money available for testing and the visit to discuss risks on your own farm you must attend this meeting. Once you have attended the meeting you will qualify for a one to one farm visit and testing– all paid for. We look forward to seeing you. **Megan**



NOTICE BOARD

TB testing

THE LIVE STOCK PARTNERSHIP
SUCCESS THROUGH HEALTH
the liVEsTock partnership
Ltd
Market Square, Petworth
West Sussex, GU28 0AH
Tel: 01798 343538
info@livestockvets.co.uk



With winter approaching we have entered our busiest time for TB testing. One might be tempted to push through lunch break to get all the animals tested in one day but don't forget this annual event for you is a daily event for us. We all have our favourite farms for testing: those that give you cake or perhaps offer you lunch. But even the offering of a cup of tea is much appreciated during these wet and cold days. **Maarten**
Image from Google

Sheep News Roundup

I resisted the temptation to start my favourite current rant about the latest story in the press relating to how we can all combat global warming; eat less meat. The livestock sector gets another unfair battering in the press again, would be a succinct way to describe my views. However it's OK, I have given up avocados and as many of you know I hate flying and barely ever leave the country so surely I can use my 'carbon footprint' deficit to support beef and sheep farming! I didn't get to the SHAWG conference this year, but I know some people who did. It had the theme 'becoming the best sheep industry for health and welfare' focused on target areas for the sheep industry to ensure it is ready for the challenge post-Brexit. We are doing lots so well already, but there is always room for improvement. I am hoping the calendar for the flock health club in the following year will continue to cover the hottest topics for all of us, and continue to get us all working together better than ever. A really interesting initiative I heard about is 'Sheepnet', an EU (I know dangerous topic to raise as we try to leave) initiative to share knowledge between sheepherding countries and drive a more efficient and sustainable global sheep industry. They have a really good website, so take a look and see what you think. <http://sheepnet.network/>



Welcome

Join SheepNet, an EU Network, to increase sheep productivity and flock profitability by knowledge exchange!

SheepNet
European Knowledge Exchange

Click here to [join](#) or [login](#) if you are already a member.

Tweets by @SheepNetEU

SheepNet @SheepNetEU
Discussion about BCS awareness #SheepNetEU in Sardinia

Embed View on Twitter

Sarah

Downer Cows

In our day to day work the downer cow is not an uncommon finding. Although the cow would have gone down for a primary reason like milkfever, calving paralysis or a back injury it is often for secondary reasons why she stays down. A recent study from Australia shows that euthanasia of downer cows was only in 15% for sole primary reasons while 72% for sole secondary reasons. Secondary reasons for downer cows failing to get up can be muscle damage, sciatic nerve damage or forelimb paralysis. All of these can be prevented by soft deep bedding and regular turning of the animal as it often ends up on the affected side when attempting to get up. Other secondary causes are due to the animal scrambling around. These can be prevented by keeping the animal in a confined space and the use of shackles to prevent animals doing the splits. The above mentioned study showed that 32% of animals nursed in a satisfactory manner managed to recover by day 7 and 42% for the final recovery rate for this group. Only 6% that were nursed in an unsatisfactory manner managed to get up. Please speak to one of us to help you with a Downer Cow Nursing Plan.

Maarten



Image from Google

The Livestock Partnership is a trading name of The Livestock Partnership Ltd (7785579) registered in England and Wales
Registered Office: The Livestock Partnership, Market Square, Petworth, West Sussex GU28 0AH
A list of the Directors of The Livestock Partnership Ltd will be provided on request or can be inspected at this address