



nantwich | veterinary group

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Farm Animal Newsletter - December 2009

Merry Christmas! Hopefully most of you will have received your Christmas hats from us by now. If not then let us know and we'll put yours to one side for you to pick up, or give a friendly reminder to your routine vet!

The weather has finally chased us indoors recently, but we can't grumble at a mid-November turn in. It's been a great grazing year, a good crop growing year and a variable harvesting year. Larders are stocked for man and beast and hopefully you are all settling into your winter routines. Crop yields appear good but qualities appear average at best- "rumen friendly" but lacking in milk in many circumstances. Prices remain strong for pigs, sheep and beef. Recent high spot market milk prices hopefully indicate a change in the weather for milk prices in the New Year but no point expecting "jam tomorrow" - those margins are out of our control...

PRODUCT INFORMATION

We have acquired a source of yeast (same as that used in Mycobind) but without the mycotoxin absorber. It is now available at a competitive rate if you, your nutritionist or your vet feel your cows may benefit from addition of yeast into the diet.

Office Opening Hours Over Christmas and New Year

Same as usual for Christmas opening hours, but here's a quick reminder:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Thursday 24th Dec | - | 8am - 4pm |
| Friday 25th Dec | - | Closed |
| Saturday 26th Dec | - | Closed |
| Sunday 27th Dec | - | 9.30am - 12.30 |
| Monday 28th Dec | - | 9.30am - 12.30 |
| Thursday 31st Dec | - | 8am - 4pm |
| Friday 1st Jan | - | Closed |

Vets will be available for emergency calls at all other times throughout the festive season as per usual.

A New Product on The Market: NAXCEL®

Well I say 'new', it's Pfizer's new version of Excenel, currently only licensed for foul in the foot. It's the same effective and trusted antibiotic as before only this version of the product is long acting, formulated to last for 7 days. This means only one injection is required rather than 3-5 daily injections saving time and labour and still retaining its nil milk withdrawal status and 9 day meat withdrawal.

The drawback of Naxcel® is the specific injection site: Naxcel has a marked residue within muscle and thus a subcutaneous injection in the fat pad behind the ear is required (ask one of us to show you if unsure). This site is cut out at abattoir regardless, avoiding any carcass rejections. Caution: if accidentally injected intramuscularly meat withdrawals are substantial- approximately 200 days!

Mastitis

Always a topic of conversation, bulk milk cell counts have the potential to rise during the winter months. Toxic mastitis cases traditionally increase at this time of year with dry cows out poaching fields later than perhaps they should be or stocking densities often pushed beyond that which the buildings were designed for. If you find your new infection rates rising give us a call, often simple changes can make a huge impact.