



Nantwich Veterinary Group

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Newsletter August 2009

It was great to see so many faces at Nantwich show, despite the weather letting us down, hopefully you made the most of our hospitality!

We are pleased to announce a new service we are able to provide - **FarmWatch**

Developed by NVG, FarmWatch is a program which allows us to monitor how your cows are responding to their diet, based on analysis of individual cows milk record data in relation to days in milk.

It allows the health, energy and fertility status of your cows to be accurately categorised, providing an excellent monitoring and prediction tool, and should act as an early warning system for nutritional problems in your herd so that they can be fixed before the real damage occurs. Based on the results and advice from us and your nutrition adviser we aim to improve your productivity and overall health status of your herd. As an introduction to this service we will be offering an initial 2 months free during August and September. Give us a call if you are interested.

A routine visit provides an ideal opportunity to view the report and discuss the results with your routine vet. You will receive a monthly report (assuming you record monthly), containing coloured charts allowing good visual interpretation of results.

We strongly believe this service will benefit all involved. Please make the most of the initial offer and discuss long term options with your vet.

Unfortunately we will not be able to provide this service if regular milk recording through CIS or NMR is not carried out. Apologies that we can't use data from NMR essential sampling either. We rely on data from these companies to put into our program.

In the near future look out for CellWatch, which will enable better monitoring of your cell count status, dry period treatment and will indicate which cows are likely to respond well to treatment.

Lungworm – August often sees a significant level of lungworm disease. Clinical disease has been seen, the recent weather contributing heavily to this. Regular worming of susceptible stock at pasture with a suitable anthelmintic is recommended. This will also control potential parasitic gastroenteritis. For animals that received a bolus wormer at turn out, beware the activity of the boluses may be finishing soon.

'Blood sweating' (Bleeding calf syndrome) – Since early 2008 calves with an unexplained haemorrhagic syndrome have been seen in Germany, Belgium and Holland. Calves are typically aged 10 – 28 days. Symptoms include appearance of bleeding through intact skin, haemorrhage from the nose, rectum and injection/tagging sites. Calves are often pyrexic and mortality is high. Cases have been seen in Scotland and suspect cases in England. As of yet the cause is unknown. The VLA is keen to investigate suspect cases.

Date for your diaries – September 2nd - "Milk next year". Due to popular demand after his recent Reaseheath workshop discussion, dairy farmer Howell Richards will be talking about his business and his business philosophy under the title of "Reality or Sanity". Howell is Wales's biggest single unit milk producer, milking 1,200 cows producing 10,500 litres of milk sold /cow/year with an impressive 383 day calving interval. In conjunction with Howell we have his Nutritionist Bryn Davis of Advanced Nutrition discussing "feeding for fertility". This will be a meeting not to be missed. The venue is to be confirmed and will run from 10.30 am - 1.30 pm, lunch will be provided. Please book your places through the office.

Equine Hospital – We look forward to opening the new purpose built Equine Hospital at Hurleston. From early September we will have a full range of drugs available for collection from the hospital.

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