



# **Nantwich Veterinary Group**

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**Newsletter February 2010**

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Hopefully you and your parlours/water troughs have all thawed out by now. We are still seeing problems left behind by the recent weather on many farms. A lot of farms have been unable to footbath which has led to huge outbreaks of digital dermatitis on some farms. If footbathing is done regularly (once a day for 5 days a week) what you use is not so important. You may need antibiotic bathing first to get on top of a problem.

Problems with youngstock have also been on the increase with pneumonia being a huge problem this month. As ever good ventilation, dry bedding and not mixing ages will minimize it, where this is not possible vaccination will help. Coccidiosis is also at a high at the moment, there is now an opportunity for those of you who used to use Deccox to get it back. This involves getting a license for the manufacture of medicated feedstuffs from the Animal Medicines Inspectorate which will cost £150 per year. For more information speak to us or ring 024 7684 9260.

TB testing is an ongoing issue, don't forget many of you will have changed your testing frequency so will now need to pre-movement TB test. Also don't forget linked holdings do not mean you don't have to do it, only sole occupancy licences. If you would like to apply for a SOL please let us know.

Huskvac is now available to order for this years first season grazers in order to protect against lungworm. We saw a lot of lungworm last season in all ages of cattle causing some serious problems. Dairy replacements should be vaccinated, remember its two doses four weeks apart completed two weeks before turnout. It also has a short shelf life so do not order it too soon before you want to use it. A comprehensive worming program for beef animals that are to be slaughtered should be adequate.

As some of you may be aware there is currently some building work going on at the practice in Nantwich. There may be a shortage of car parking and the front reception will be closed for a while. We would appreciate it if you could ring any orders in first to speed things up a little or make use of the equine centre or Market Drayton to pick up drugs.

**A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY:** There is a daytime meeting on Johne's disease at Reaseheath on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Johne's disease is one of the big up and coming diseases and you should come along even if you think you do not have a problem. It is an easy disease to bring onto the farm but very hard to eradicate it once you have it!

Don't forget about embryos for repeat breeders. Serve at bulling and put embryo in at day 7. Give us plenty of notice! We have plenty in stock!

John Yarwood