

**CHESHIRE
FARM VETS**

January 2025 Edition



HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!

As we welcome in 2025, we felt that now would be a good time to recap what Cheshire Farm Vets have been up to in 2024 and what we are looking to do in 2025. The practice continues to grow and offer more services across both the clinical vet team and vet tech services. We have developed the practice at Dingle Bank Farm to offer a large welcoming dispensary which the team work hard to keep stocked to the rafters for you!

OUR CLIENT CLUBS:

As our client base continues to grow we feel that there is huge value in client clubs and health scheme clubs. These are a great way for like minded farmers to meet and discuss what is going on in their flock or herd. In November 2024 we launched the **Smallholders Club**, this is a new client club to Cheshire Farm Vets. Led by our Vet Lizzie and supported by Vet Tech Maia this club focusses on a variety of species and looks to impart knowledge and learning to animal keepers as well as offering clinical services such as the worm egg counts and first access to vaccines and products.

Angelica our Senior Vet revamped the **Commercial Flock Club** with the support of vet Erica back in May 2024. With the **new bolt on concept** this has allowed commercial flock keepers to create a bespoke offering that is relevant to them. There has been a great uptake in the use of the Worm and Fluke Egg counts and monitoring as well as the **APHA Pathway Visits** which we are now in the second stage of funding for.

To make the most from the clubs, we only offer them as an annual sign up. Therefore keep your eyes peeled in April for the 2025 Flock Club and in October for the Smallholders Club. We do where possible make the meetings inclusive for all clients, there may just be a small charge to non-club members.

TBAS SERVICES:

The TB Advisory Service is a **DEFRA funded project** that offers **FREE, bespoke, practical and cost-effective advice** to all eligible farmers in England to help reduce the risks associated with TB. Our vet Dragos is a qualified TBAS advisor and is able to come to your farm to support you with various tools to help you reduce the risks to your herd. Whilst this does not eliminate Bovine TB having the support their and being able to work through all the risks can be a huge help. If you would like to find out more about this free support service please call the practice, 01270 310 010. If you would like to arrange a visit, you need to call TBAS in the first instance on 01306 779410.

For 2025 both Sarah- Jane and Maia will continue to TB test for Cheshire Farm Vets, this is both DEFRA tests and post and pre movement testing. Remember to call Susie in the office in ample time to book your test in!

VET TECH SERVICES:

We have always offered **Vet Tech services** at Cheshire Farm vets, but as the landscape of British Farming continues to change we have found that this is service that truly offers great value for money for you. Both Maia and Sarah Jane are able to offer a number of **Vet Tech services** to farm, and being able to have a helping hand is sometimes all it takes. Services include, but are not limited to:

- Mobility Scoring (ROMS)
- Body Condition Scoring
- Blood Sampling
- WEC/ muck sampling
- Animal Handling
- Vaccinations
- Disbudding

If you would like to find out more give us a bell. Or, it may be that you need a service that we have not listed. Again let us know. We are keen to create a service that is useful and supports you all. We hope that the use of the Vet Tech will continue to grow as there are more and more services that they are able to offer at a fraction of the price of a vet!

DISPENSARY & LAB SERVICES:

Our practice at Cheshire Farm Vets, Dingle Bank underwent a make over in Spring 2024. We have created a bright welcoming practice with a hatch to our dispensary. We now make sure that the dispensary is manned every week day so collecting and ordering your drugs and preventatives has never been easier.

Alongside this newsletter you will see the flyer for the QR Code for the online Lambing Form. We are hoping to extend this service in 2025 across our whole dispensary so ordering gets easier and easier!

At our practice we have a small in house lab, in 2024 we invested in technologies for Worm Egg Counts, Fluke Egg Counts and also a Mastatest which is diagnostic tool for bovine mastitis. If you would like to find out more about these services please speak to our vets. There are also a number of vouchers and offers that we run for these tests, again ask your vet for more information.

Remember we offer a delivery service as well!!

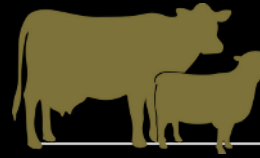
CALL: 01270 310 010 to find out more

Cheshire Farm Vets Vets

The Granary, Dingle Bank Farm. Holmes Chapel, SK11 9DP

T:01270 310 010





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LAMBING AND CALVING HYGIENE

With the 2025 lambing season about to start for some, and fast approaching for others it is worth considering the factors contributing to a successful season. Good hygiene standards are vitally important during this busy time to help maximise productivity and profitability. Proper hygiene practices can significantly reduce the incidence of diseases, enhance survival rates, and ensure the overall well-being of the flock. Vet Erica explains the importance of good hygiene as well as explaining about a new product that we are stocking in 2025

WHY HYGIENE MATTERS

Something as simple as poor hygiene can lead to outbreaks of the common infectious diseases such as:

- 1. Neonatal infections:** Joint/navel ill is often caused by bacteria entering through the umbilical cord of new-born lambs
- 2. Mastitis:** Unsanitary conditions can increase the risk of udder infections, which may compromise milk production and lamb/ calf nutrition.
- 3. Infectious abortions:** Pathogens such as Chlamydia abortus (Enzootic abortion) and Toxoplasma gondii can spread through contaminated bedding or improper handling/disposal of aborted materials, posing risks to both livestock AND humans.

JOINT ILL IN LAMBS:

Joint ill is when there is infection and pus in the joints which makes young lambs very lame, affecting their ability to suckle and thrive. Studies show that between 2-20% of lambs are affected in an average flock and of the lambs that are affected, approximately 1/5 of them will go on to die. This is because it is difficult to get antibiotics to penetrate into joints so in advanced cases antibiotics may not be effective.

NEW PRODUCT LAUNCH:

NoBACZ is a cost effective and proven replacement for strong iodine and can be used for dipping/spraying navels and tags. It's antibiotic free and consists of feed grade materials; a combination of a natural polymer combined with metal ions in a surgical spirit base. It is a brilliant alternative to help prevent navel and joint ill in new-born lambs and calves.

In 2024 due to supply issues iodine was very difficult to obtain for an affordable price, opening up the market to a new and affordable alternative like NoBACZ. Alongside being readily available NoBACZ has run a number of tests with some very impressive results. NoBACZ promises a 21% percent reduction in mortality and an improved weight gain at eight weeks compared to strong iodine dipping.

NoBACZ comes as a distinctive blue solution which can be used as a dip or spray in lambs and calves. It dries rapidly and forms a protective barrier meaning even if the dam licks the navel, there will be lasting protection. It has been rigorously tested on farms with fantastic results, with an average of 230g extra bodyweight per lamb at two months old.



NoBACZ
500ml
£25.00
+ VAT

TB CORNER

As we continue to explore more about Bovine TB we want to share a little about TB Advantage. This is a genetic index published by AHDB Dairy to help dairy farmers make informed decisions to breed cows which have an improved resistance to bovine TB.

The index follows extensive research into the genetics of bovine TB, undertaken jointly by the University of Edinburgh, Roslin Institute and Scotland's Rural College (SRUC), and supported by Defra and the Welsh Government. The work showed genetic variation between animals and formed the basis of TB Advantage, the first genetic index of its kind in the world.

Using data on over 650,000 Holstein cows who have bovine TB data recorded by the Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA), breeding patterns have been established and more resistant bloodlines identified. TB Advantage is available for Holstein and other dairy breeds, and work is under way to establish if the index can be extended to beef breeds in the longer term. It's important to note that breeding cattle with a reduced susceptibility to bovine TB is a long-term approach to disease control and should comprise part of a much broader eradication strategy.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

RED TRACTOR MEDICINE COURSE

Safe and Correct use of Medicine on Farm

DATE: Wednesday 5th February

TIME: 10am- 12pm

LOCATION: Cheshire Farm Vets, The Granary,
Dingle Bank Farm, SK11 9DP

COST: £30 + vat per person

Open for all clients, not just Red Tractor.

Please call to reserve your place today as we will have limited spaces.

NORBROOK MEETING- WORMS & FLUKE

DATE: Tuesday 4th February

TIME: 7pm onwards

Please keep your eyes peeled for more information in the coming weeks.

Open to all



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