

MILFEDDYGON

STEFFAN

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April 2011 Newsletter

Beware slugs and snails....!

In recent years there has been a sharp increase in the number of infections in dogs by a lungworm called *Angiostrongylus vasorum* (sometimes called 'French heartworm'). Unfortunately for us, this parasite is particularly common in South Wales, and seems to be moving northwards. We have examined a number of suspect cases recently.

Dogs catch lungworm by eating slugs or snails that are infected with the parasite. Lungworm infection causes serious health problems, and can be fatal. Lungworm infection is not prevented by veterinary worming tablets, but there is a spot-on solution that prevents infection.

For more information about lungworm and it's treatment and prevention, please call into the surgery to have a chat or visit www.lungworm.co.uk



TB Testing

If you are planning to sell cattle during April or May or your herd test is due, please be aware that testing slots are limited at the end of April due to the Royal Wedding and Easter.

Please book your tests as soon as possible to avoid disappointment and to enable us to complete your test on time.

Laminitis Warning

As the weather warms up and the grass starts to grow, remember the risk of laminitis in ponies and horses.

Grass will start to grow quickly and may go unnoticed. Ponies and horses should be regularly checked and observed for any signs of lameness.

If they begin to go lame you should take them off the pasture and contact the Office for advice.

In general ponies and horses with laminitis should be stabled on a deep litter, to cushion the sole and fed a restricted diet low in energy.

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