

September Newsletter

Bluetongue Vaccination

All of Wales and England are now within the Protection Zone. This means that movements within Wales and England are now much simpler and also that you are now able to protect your stock through vaccination.

The vaccines (Intervets's Bovilis BTV8 and Merial's BTVPUR AIsap 8) are safe to use, no major adverse effects have been experienced. Anecdotally there seem to be no problems with lactating or pregnant animals.

We have had some vaccine delivered to date however we are unsure about the supply of further vaccine.

Is it too late to vaccinate for 2008?

This is very difficult to answer and vaccination is not compulsory.

- No major side-effects
- 80-90% take up of vaccine in July and August
- Last years cases in the UK occurred in September and October
- There have been over 5000 cases in France this year
- There have been positive animals imported into the UK in Hertfordshire, Sussex, Devon and Llandysul
- Bluetongue movement restrictions have been lifted which makes the movement of animals and virus much easier
- Vaccinated breeding stock and stores may sell better

If you wish to place an order contact the Office as soon as possible. Further information about the vaccine is available from the Office or on our website www.steffanvets.com

Enzovax and Toxovax

If you have not already vaccinated your sheep for Enzootic Abortion or Toxoplasmosis and wish to; it must be done at least 4 weeks before the rams go in with the ewes.

If you are going to vaccinate for Bluetongue as well; we recommend doing Enzovax and Toxovax now and then wait 14 days before administering the Bluetongue vaccine.

If you would like to purchase the vaccine or discuss vaccination please contact the Office as soon as possible.

TB Testing

We are very busy with TB tests as the TB situation continues to worsen. Please try to book TB tests with as much notice as possible, we are already booking testing well into October.

Premovement TB Tests are valid for 60 days from the date of injection (first visit).

Firework Anxiety

Now is the time to start thinking ahead if your pet gets scared by fireworks. There are several ways of reducing the stress of Bonfire Night, however some of these need to be started in advance.

Call in to speak to one of the Vets or Nurses about the best way for everyone to cope!

Pet Smile Month

As part of Pet Smile Month we are able to offer complimentary Pet Smile Check Ups (teeth and gums only) during September. If you wish to book an appointment please call in or telephone the Office on 01570 422322.