



Highgate Veterinary Clinic

Farmers Newsletter - November 2006

You Too Could Have A Six Pack To Please The Ladies!



Well - please the four legged lame ones.

Applying foot blocks to the healthy claws of lame cows has been shown to be the most effective way of relieving pain and hastening recovery.

We are now selling a pack of six wooden blocks and glue in a handy plastic resealable box. These blocks are ones that have been tried and trusted for years. The new feature is the price. Six blocks for just £25.25.



What's in a milk sample?

Evidence is mounting that many adult cattle carry gut worms and that, in dairy cows, this worm burden could significantly affect milk yields and fertility. An increase of up to 2kg of milk per day after treatment has been reported.

A new bulk milk test is being trialed by Bristol University and

promoted by Merial. This test gives you an indication of the worm burden among your milking herd.

Please contact the surgery if you are interested in the number of worms in your herd.

A treatment for backache in shepherds?



Does your back ache because you're always turning sheep over to treat lameness? It doesn't have to be so.

Footrot is the most common cause of lameness in sheep and there isn't a flock without lame sheep.

Footvax is not a new vaccine. It has been used in many flocks to great effect to both treat and prevent footrot. It's not as expensive as you may think.

Depending on the amount of vaccine you need, it can cost as little as 75 pence per ewe. Offset this cost against the time you spend treating lameness, and it's money well spent!

Just a word of caution; not all lame sheep have foot rot. CODD is thought to be the same as digital dermatitis in cattle. It is a disease of the skin of the foot above the hoof which then starts to under run the horn. Treatment for this condition often requires antibiotic foot bathing.

New bulk milk test

NMR, the owners of NML/SML have launched a new service where they test your herd's bulk milk for BVD, Leptospirosis, IBR and Johnes disease.

No extra samples have to be taken if your milk buyer uses their lab. If requested, your milk can be automatically tested every quarter giving you a good indication of what these diseases are doing in your herd. Please contact the surgery if you want us to arrange this.

This Month



Give the second dose of pneumonia vaccine to your calves.



Clip dairy cows' tails and udders to keep them clean and reduce environmental mastitis



Condition score suckler cows so that winter feeding can be planned.



If not already done, treat all sheep for fluke with a flukacide which kills immature and adult fluke.