

Steve Trickey

Chapelfield Vet Partnership
Norfolk



* I recently removed a magnet from a dairy cow during a rumenotomy, to find it covered in tyre wire. This highlights

the need to look at silage clamps, feeding procedures and prevention measures.

Hopefully in a month or so, silage clamps will be full again. If using tyres to cover the clamp, please check and discard any tyres that are damaged to prevent wire getting into the clamp. Educate all staff mixing rations about the importance of moving tyres away from the clamp face to prevent them going through the mixer wagon.

Placing a magnet in every cow will cost the average-sized herd much less than the cost of losing one cow. Placing a magnet at drying-off makes the prospect of doing the job less daunting, but it may be necessary to place extra magnets every couple of years.

Kathryn Stewart

Belmont Vet Centre
Herefordshire



* As many spring calving herds are coming to the end of their block, it is important not to let hygiene lapse. Cows

calving later are already running behind the rest of the herd and any intervention at calving could potentially push her back further when returning to service; risking an extended calving or even a barren cow next year. Always wear gloves when assisting with calvings; disinfect ropes and equipment between uses, and keep calving areas clean and well bedded.

Calves born later will be at higher risk of picking up infections from the environment due to a build-up of bacteria. Ensure all calves receive two to four litres of colostrum within the first six hours of life and navels are dressed.

Chris Aitken

Thrusms Vet Group,
Angus



* We are currently trying to control an outbreak of sheep scab in an area which has been free of scab since 2007.

Infected flocks have to sell finished lambs directly to slaughter; then treat their remaining sheep. Neighbouring premises also need

Vet Viewpoint

A regional round-up of key veterinary issues

to treat, and several have taken advantage of Moredun's new scab Elisa test to check for exposure. Flocks with a positive result give a repeat treatment, while negative flocks can avoid the hassle of retreatment.

All of this could have been avoided by following basic biosecurity and quarantine protocols when bringing home new stock.

Jonathon Stockton

Kingsway Vet Group
North Yorkshire



* We are starting to see more poorly cows, often off their food and sometimes scouring, along with more left and right

displaced abomasums.

These occur more often at this

time of year as silage fibre quality can deteriorate over the winter, the quantity available of the usually better first-cut silage reduces and farmers' feed more of the poorer quality forage.

To attempt to prevent these problems it is important to reanalyse silage and monitor intakes carefully, to reassess silage stocks and to correct any decrease in fibre content of the diet.

VET VIEWPOINT

A regional monthly round-up of key veterinary issues from members of the XL Vets group.
www.xlvets.co.uk

farmacy



Don't let drying off squeeze you dry

	Was	Now
Orbenin DC	£6.33 / cow	£6.01 / cow
Orbenin Xtra DC	£7.19 / cow	£6.83 / cow
Cepravin DC	£7.23 / cow	£6.80 / cow
Ubro Red	£7.40 / cow	£7.03 / cow
Cephaguard	£6.80 / cow	£6.46 / cow
Noroclox DC	£3.72 / cow	£3.53 / cow
Bovaclox DC	£3.95 / cow	£3.75 / cow
Bovaclox DC Xtra	£4.75 / cow	£4.51 / cow
Boviseal	£5.33 / cow	£5.07 / cow
Noroseal	£5.00 / cow	£4.75 / cow
Orbeseal	£6.00 / cow	£5.50 / cow

Contact us for multi-buy discounts

farmacy

Quote code **FWDC15**
www.farmacy.co.uk/FWDC15

Always seek advice on the correct use of these or alternative medicines from the medicine prescriber. A prescription issued by a UK registered vet (MRCVS) is required before these items can be dispatched. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer or discount. Offer ends 30th April 2015. Prices based on herd packs.