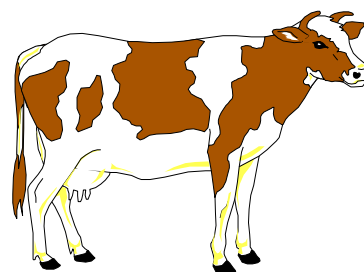


WOOD VETERINARY GROUP

October Newsletter



October 2009

CALF PNEUMONIA

Vaccine	Past	IBR	RSV	PI ₃	Earliest age for vaccine	No. doses	Vaccination Route
Rispoval Intranasal	-	-	+	+	3wks	1	i/n (nasal)
Rispoval P	+	-	-	-	3mths	1	i/m (muscle)
Bovipast RSP	+	-	+	+	2wks	2	s/c (skin)
Bovilis IBR	-	+	-	-	4wks (>3mth)	2 (1)	i/n or i/m

Autumn has arrived and with it comes those dull foggy days that are a major trigger for calf pneumonia. This is one year where you can't afford to lose many!

Vaccines – Unfortunately there is no single cause of calf pneumonia, and hence one vaccine will not be 100% effective. It is hoped that by vaccinating against the major viral conditions such as RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus), PI₃ (Parainfluenza type 3) and IBR (Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis) the calf will then be able to cope with many of the other infectious agents. Pasteurella is the most common secondary bacterial infection, and this is where antibiotics are effective, so vaccination against Pasteurella may also be of value. The vaccines that seem to be the most popular are shown in the following table

The supply of Bovipast RSP is difficult this year, so if you think you will need any you MUST ask well in advance. There may be only one delivery. One client has told us that intra nasal vaccines can be given using a nasal nozzle on the end of a multidose vaccination gun. A hard squeeze on the trigger provides an excellent nasal spray!

Treatments – As with vaccines, there is a range of treatments. Interestingly almost any drug (even Norocillin) is effective against Pasteurella and the differences in products is partly based on how well they penetrate the

lungs, their persistence, and whether or not they are effective against Mycoplasma, another cause of pneumonia. Micotil remains effective, but after the two deaths in North America, it remains a 'vet only' administration. The following table gives treatment options (for a 200 kg calf).

Drug	Dose	Course
Micotil	1ml/30 kg s/c	Single Injection
Nuflor	1ml/15 kg i/m	2 Injections @ 48 hours
Nuflor	2ml/15 kg s/c	Single Injection
Resflor	2ml/15 kg s/c	Single Injection
Draxxin	1ml/40 kg s/c	Single Injection
Oxytetrin LA	1ml/10 kg i/m	Single Injection

Using a Non Steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) alongside antibiotics can improve the cure rate enormously so if the animal is quite ill always use a combination treatment. We have decided to try a change NSAID from Metacam to Rimadyl Cattle for anti-inflammatory use. Rimadyl is the equivalent of our Neurofen or Aspirin, i.e. it reduces pain and decreases inflammation. A single subcutaneous injection provides three days of anti inflammatory cover, for cows it has the advantage of **a nil milk withhold** (Metacam 5 days), and it is slightly cheaper. We will

welcome your comments. It has a meat withhold of 21 days, i.e. slightly longer than the 15 days of Metacam. Finadyne remains an equally effective option, but it has to be given daily and there are now some concerns over its muscle irritation leading to subsequent reduced meat quality for human consumption. Remember the single dose of Resflor gives antiobiotic *plus* Finadyne, so it is an economic option. The best approach for treating whole groups is to use Oxytetrin LA for the majority and choosing one of the other drugs for the clinically sick animals.

<i>Drug</i>	<i>Dose</i>	<i>Course</i>	
Rimadyl Cattle	1ml/35 kg	Single	
Finadyne	2ml/45kg	2 Days	

CLUSTER ATTACHMENT

New ideas are always welcome! At a discussion session on parlour routines a few weeks ago someone mentioned that they pre-dipped, foremilked then: -

- wiped teats from front to back, thus avoiding contamination
- applied the cluster back teats first then front teats, again to avoid contamination of cleaned teat ends.

It's not something that I have come across before, but I can see the logic. If it reduces mastitis it must be worth a try (Thanks Gary).

CLOSAMECTIN POUR ON

For those of you who missed last month's Newsletter, just a reminder that we at last have a pour on preparation that will treat fluke and worms..

RECEPTAL

It's easy to forget about standard products. Remember that Receptal can be used to increase conception rates. A single intramuscular 2.5ml dose at 12 to 13 days post service increases the life of the corpus luteum and may permit the developing foetus to produce a sufficiently large signal to allow its presence to be recognised by the cow. Rejection of small foetuses at 15 to 18 days post service is a common cause of poor conception rates, especially for high yielding cows or cows that are under some other form of stress, e.g. lame or mastitis.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT FARM PLANNING, (RDFP).

You will have read about this in the farming press. The practice is currently becoming registered and we hope to be able to offer subsidised farm health planning, leading to grant aided farm projects and training in the near future.

STAFFING

Wendy was away for much of September, having a hip operation. We wish her a speedy recovery. Thanks to Catherine who did most of her cover.

Helen, who takes the phones at nights and weekends, gave birth to Scarlett Eleanor on 12th September, so will be otherwise occupied for a while. Mother and baby are doing well (and one of us now has 16 grandchildren!)

DIY AI COURSE

The next DIY AI course is starting Monday 30th November 2009.