

## Happy New Year!

Happy New year from all at Wright & Morten. We hope you have all had a nice Christmas and at least managed to get a few hours off for a Christmas lunch! We are looking forward to another year working with you all!

## New Face



Liz Cresswell will be joining us for January as a locum, to help as our workload builds up to the spring madness. She enjoys all aspects of farm work and looks forward to getting stuck in wherever she is needed. Some of you may find her face a little familiar, as Liz came to the practice as a final year vet student and is excited to get back to Cheshire.

Liz graduated from Nottingham in 2014 (in the year above Matt) before completing an internship at Scarsdale Farm Vets in Derby (the same internship Jennie Lomas completed the following year). Since then she has worked in farm practice in both the UK and Australia.

## Events

A reminder that our lambing courses are back open for booking, with the first being held on the 5th Feb 2020. As always, the day will be an information and action-packed day, with lunch included! The courses run from 10.30am to 2.30pm, with 2 theory sessions and a practical session using our simulators.

Be prepared to learn everything from how to ensure ewes get and stay pregnant and how to lamb abnormal presentations, to how to assess and care for hypothermic lambs.

The course costs £65+VAT, including lunch (and plenty of tea/coffee). Each course has 6 spaces, and if you can't make the 5th, we have 2 other dates already planned for later in the month.



Give Vicky a call if you would like more information or to book your place.

## Antibiotic Update



There have been some interesting changes with the antibiotics available for use in lactating cows. Please speak to any of the vets regarding products available and when best to use them.

## TB Advisory Service - FREE

Cattle farmers across the High Risk (Staffs) and Edge (all of Cheshire and Derbyshire) areas of England are eligible to receive FREE, bespoke advice on practical, cost-effective measures to reduce the risks associated with TB.

The TB Advisory Service offers one-to-one **on-farm advice visits**, where experienced advisors can provide bespoke recommendations to prevent TB incursions in herds that are currently clear, whilst discussing trading options and measures to prevent repeated reinfection for farms that are currently under TB restrictions. A **telephone advice service** and '**drop-in clinics**' are also available for farmers with specific questions about bovine TB and biosecurity.

There has been some good feedback from farmers who have had these visits- both those who already have TB breakdowns and farms that are clear of TB. At least having a visit is something constructive you can do whilst waiting for the next test to happen. Contact details are below- if you go to the website [www.tbas.org.uk](http://www.tbas.org.uk) you can find out more.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| E | <a href="mailto:info@tbas.org.uk">info@tbas.org.uk</a> |
| W | <a href="http://tbas.org.uk">tbas.org.uk</a>           |
| T | 01306 779410   |
| 📧 | @TB_Advisory   |
| 📍 | @TBAdvisoryService                                     |

## Vaccinate Against Lungworm Pre-turnout – OR Cough up Later



If you heard your cattle coughing at grass last autumn, this means they could have been harbouring lungworm burdens that compromise growth rates and lifetime milking performance. Most lungworm cases are reported at the back end of the grazing season.

Unfortunately lungworm larvae can overwinter on pasture and in carrier cattle, allowing infection to pass from year to year, which means cattle can pick up infection as soon as they are turned out in the spring. And if they do, it could be very costly.

Vaccination against lungworm is a no brainer. In the dairy herd, lungworm infection could easily cost you £140 per cow

with lost milk production averaging 4kg per cow per day – and that's a conservative estimate – because you can also lose cattle to lungworm.

It isn't just dairy cattle that get affected either. In severe lungworm outbreaks, growing cattle losses can average £50-£100 per head. For beef suckler herds, calves are generally exposed to a continuous low-level challenge from adult cattle, who will be immunologically competent. However, if the herd immunity declines, there is an increased risk of disease.

Huskvac is a live vaccine, made from irradiated lungworm larvae, which are incapable of causing disease. Vaccination should be completed at least two weeks before the herd is turned out to grass. Wormers should not be given until two weeks after the final dose of vaccine. As heifers are often wormed with long acting products through their first and sometimes second grazing seasons, they lack the immunity that comes from exposure to the lungworm. This makes them very susceptible to infection.

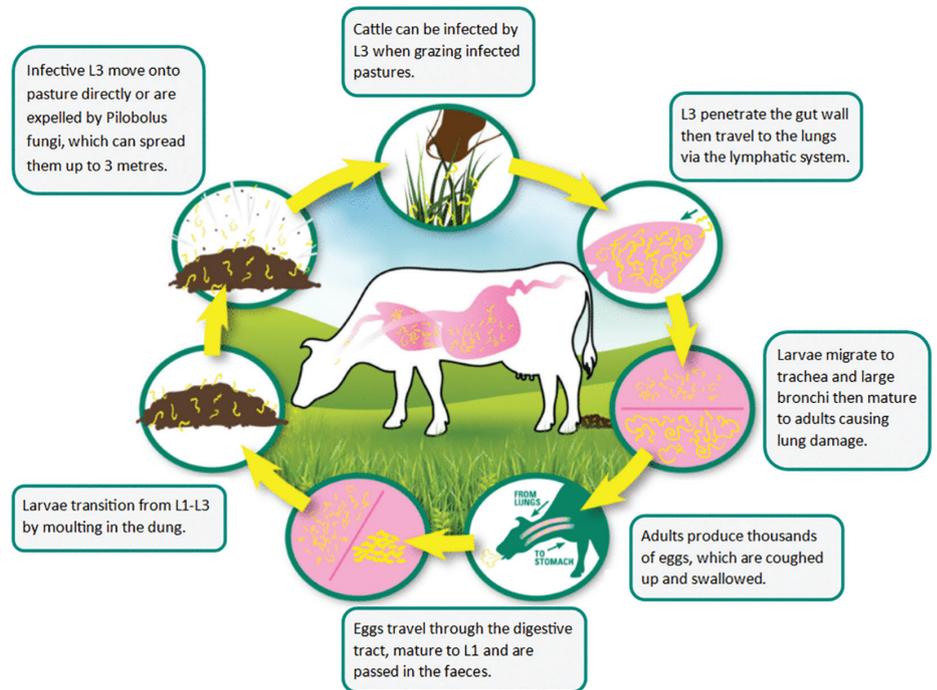
The vaccine allows a small number of lungworm from natural infection to complete their lifecycle, meaning there is a continued development of natural immunity throughout the grazing season. Over-reliance on wormers does not allow this natural boosting to occur.

Vaccination with a pre-turnout course of Bovilis® Huskvac is the most reliable and cost-effective way of ensuring the development of immunity to lungworm.

Please contact the practice to plan your lungworm control strategies for this season and to order Bovilis® Huskvac.

## Lungworm Lifecycle

*D. viviparus*, the cattle lungworm, has a direct lifecycle meaning no other species are required for the complete cycle, which is shown in this diagram. This differs to parasites such as liver fluke that require a snail to complete their lifecycle.



### FARM OFFICES

#### Lower Withington

The Barn, Holly Tree Farm, Holmes Chapel Road, Lower Withington, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK11 9DT

Tel: 01477 571000 Email: [hollytree@wmvets.co.uk](mailto:hollytree@wmvets.co.uk)

#### Whaley Bridge Farm Branch

Block B, Ringstones Industrial Estate, Whaley Bridge, High Peak, Derbyshire, SK23 7PD

Tel: 01663 732564

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