

January 2025

Cryptosporidium - a game changing vaccine



Cryptosporidiosis is the most common cause of infectious calf scour in the UK. The disease is widespread on UK dairy and suckler units and is prevalent throughout the year. The condition is mostly seen in calves 7-14 days of age.

Cryptosporidium is characterised by scouring and malaise. The scour affects the animal's ability to absorb important nutrients, so it is common to see a loss of condition. Infection is spread through faecal matter and it can persist in the environment for several months. A lot of infections are self-limiting but can be rapid and in severe cases, mortality can occur. There is a simple calf-side test that can be done to identify the presence of crypto, but other pathogens also cause scouring, and a mixed infection is not uncommon. Young animals that are housed in group pens are often the most at risk of catching crypto. There is also a risk that the disease can be passed onto people who come into contact with an animal that is infected.

Treatment of calves with crypto is based on fluid therapy (electrolyte oral feeds or intravenous fluid therapy) and NSAIDs e.g. Metacam. If crypto is diagnosed, specific treatments are often required.

Good management practices to prevent and control crypto outbreaks are important to ensure a healthy start to life. Ensuring calves get good quality colostrum at birth, have a clean, dry, well ventilated environment and using crypto specific disinfectants between groups of calves all reduces the risk. Using the same fields for calving and lambing increases risk as crypto can affect both lambs and calves. Good hygiene is vital for preventing the spread of crypto so keeping calving pens clean and ensuring that transmission of faecal material from boots or machinery is kept to a minimum is very important.

Significant advancements have been made in the control of calf cryptosporidiosis. MSD Animal Health have launched **Bovilis Cryptium**, an effective vaccine that can be given to heifers and cows late in pregnancy. This provides protection for calves from birth alongside an extended period of colostrum feeding. By providing protection at this stage, it can help calves stay healthy during the period where they are most likely to be affected by crypto. The primary vaccination course is two doses, 4-5 weeks apart and needs to be completed 3 weeks before calving. In subsequent years, cows that have already been vaccinated will only need a single booster dose. **Bovilis Cryptium** can be administered alongside Bovilis Rotavec Corona so it can easily fit in with existing vaccination programmes which provides an increase in protection for calves. Please speak to a vet for more information on the vaccine.

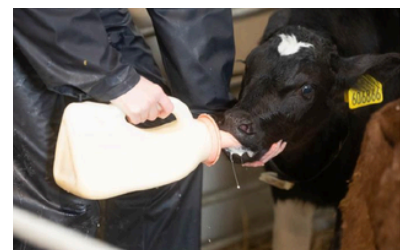
WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Come along to an evening meeting
on Tuesday 14th January 2025
at Doveridge Village Club at 7.30pm

Everyone welcome ... please bring your calf-rearing team along
Please RSVP to the Farm Office on 01889 567200
Food kindly sponsored by MSD Animal Health

Sources:

NADIS
(<https://nadis.org.uk/disease-a-z/cattle/calf-management/cryptosporidiosis/>)
Coccidiosis and cryptosporidiosis: control and management options, Sara Pedersen, Vet Times
Bovilis 'Game-Changing control of calf cryptosporidiosis' Newsletter





NO PAIN MORE GAIN

Is pain hurting your pocket?

We are holding a pain management meeting on
Thursday 30th January at 7:30pm
at Bradley House, Uttoxeter
with a Pie Supper

Come and join us to discover more about:

- the effects of pain in livestock
- the financial benefits of pain management
- different options for managing pain
- the results of our farmer survey

Please call the Farm Office on 01889 567200 to reserve your pie!

kindly sponsored by



When to use pain relief...

Words can be found in any direction (including diagonals) and can overlap each other. Use the word bank below.

S F R P N E U M O N I A G O T
I T U W B G U G Z Q I A N F V
T P U T H C A S T R A T I O N
I G N I D D U B S I D V V Y T
T D V M U O V L P Y W T L S O
A F T N X X A S Y O J I A S R
M S D N Z M C P U H F Q C E T
R Z J I B O U N O D X J U N O
E H N I U J D K U U E N K E O
D S N R P Y R E X I A R I M F
Y G V Y O N P S W Y H J U A K
F M L X N D P Z F D T K E L K
A F Y M D V M E T R I T I S I
C O X O I S I T I T S A M N M
Z C C P O P E P U Y Z T F F Q

Word Bank

- | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|------------|
| 1. lambing | 2. mastitis | 3. pyrexia | 4. calving |
| 5. lameness | 6. dermatitis | 7. codd | 8. footrot |
| 9. disbudding | 10. wound | 11. metritis | 12. scour |
| 13. pneumonia | 14. castration | | |

DIRECT DEBIT

★ Discounts Available ★

★ 10% BVD, Lepto, IBR Vaccines

★ 5% Respiratory Vaccines

★ 10% Orbeseal

★ 10% NSAIDs



FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE SPEAK TO ONE OF THE TEAM.
TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY



FCN invites
Farmers and their Families to Bradley House,
Uttoxeter, for a **Pie and Pea Supper**
(with cake and a raffle!)



Bringing farmers together for socialising,
good food, and inspiration for the future



TIM PARTON

**We are what we eat,
and sometimes
what we eat affects
what we think**

We are delighted that Tim, world-renowned regenerative farmer and Farmers Weekly contributor, will be joining us as our guest speaker for the evening

Friday 24th
January 2025

Arrive 7pm,
pie served at 7.30pm

Bradley House, Bradley
Street, Uttoxeter, ST14 7QA

Tickets £5

Uttoxeter NFU Office: 01889 562465
Julia Taylor: 07841 422706 / taylorjulia@sky.com

NFU This event is kindly sponsored by Uttoxeter NFU

Registered Charity No.1095919

