



With the winter months just around the corner, now is the time to start planning for winter housing. The environment in which animals live plays an important role in optimising good health and performance; particularly when considering problems such as pneumonia.

Bovine respiratory disease is one of the most significant diseases affecting cattle during winter housing. It is predominantly a disease of younger animals, and is a multifactorial condition: with calf susceptibility, bug exposure and the environment all playing a role. It has been estimated to cost the UK cattle industry £50 million a year, whereby losses are associated with poor performance, treatment costs and death in severe cases.

Moisture

The bugs that are involved in pneumonia typically thrive in moist environments. In order to promote a healthy environment, it is vital to prevent the build-up of damp. This highlights the importance of checking for and repairing any leaking roofs or gutters before bringing animals in for the winter; and ensuring good drainage to reduce the build-up of ground water. Also during the housing period, it is important to ensure that the bedding is topped up regularly to provide them with a clean and dry lying area.

Ventilation

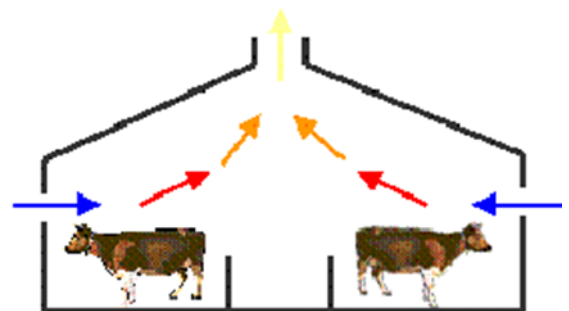
Adequate ventilation is another area of cattle housing that is vital for prevention and control of bovine respiratory disease. Good airflow is required for the removal of warm / moist air along with any circulating bugs and noxious gases; and replacement with fresh air to promote respiratory health.

It is important to ensure that ventilation provides good air flow via an air inlet (usually located on the sidewalls) and an air outlet (located in the ridge of the roof). Most cattle houses rely on natural ventilation, where air is warmed by the body heat of the animals, and rises to leave the building, allowing for fresh air to be drawn into the building via the sides. In cases where the ventilation may not be sufficient, your vet can work with you to investigate air flow with the use of smoke bombs, this can highlight areas for improvement.

However, it is essential that housing is well ventilated, but NOT DRAUGHTY. This will cause the animals to become chilled, which diverts energy to maintain body temperature, which will negatively impact on growth and disease susceptibility.

Vaccination

There are a series of vaccines which are available to be used (in addition to good husbandry) for the prevention of pneumonia in cattle. Blood samples can be taken prior to initiating a vaccination programme, this can be used as a guide for which bugs are present in your herd so that the vaccination protocol is appropriate. If this is something that you would like to consider, please contact us on 01208 76403 to discuss with a vet.



FARWELL AND GOOD LUCK MARIE

This month see's KFE say a very sad farewell to Marie Bray from the receptionist team. Marie joined us in 2015 and took on the organising and managing of the TB desk and has been invaluable to the team and the clients over the years. Marie will be greatly missed within team although, luckily we will still see her from time to time as she is going to work full time on the family farm. The KFE team would like to wish her every success for the future.

Mastering Medicines



The Mastering Medicines course has been Red Tractor Approved. At the moment this is only a recommendation for beef farmers but has become a requirement for Dairy. Amy's course looks at the common drugs that are dispensed and decision making for their effective use. Correct injection technique and needle size selection will be covered along with medicine recording. By correctly giving a medication it is more effective and the likelihood of successful treatment increases. These courses provide a valuable insight into medication use, and with consumer demand and concern of antibiotic resistance is a necessity in the modern farming industry. Please see below for our next course and contact the practice to book your place.



MASTERING MEDICINES COURSE

FOR BEEF FARMERS

Wednesday 13th November 2019

2pm at Kernow Farm & Equine

- Update on medicine use on farm
- Classes of medicine—what they do + how to use them—Antibiotics/Wormers/Vaccines
- Cascade use of drugs

£60 + VAT per farm (upto 2 people)

Light refreshments.

Limited places.

Call Kernow Farm and Equine on 01208 76403 to book your place.

WE WILL BE RUNNING A FURTHER MASTERING MEDICINES COURSE FOR SHEEP FARMERS PLEASE CALL TO ADD YOUR NAME TO THE LIST. DATE TO BE CONFIRMED.



KERNOW FARM & EQUINE

THURSDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2019

7PM-9PM

UNIT 1&2 WOODS BROWNING IND EST, BODMIN, PL31 1DQ

TRANSITION COW MANAGEMENT

Talk led by :
PHIL DAWBER BVSc MRCVS

COME ALONG FOR A COMPREHENSIVE WORKSHOP COVERING:

- PREVENTING/REDUCING KETOSIS RELATED DISEASES
- INCREASE MILK YIELD & MAXIMISE FETILITY
- INCREASE DRY MATTER INTAKE

PASTY SUPPER + REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

FREE

PLEASE RSVP ON 01208 76403 TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE

Please do not hesitate to call us on 01208 76403. Office hours 8.30am-5-30pm Mon-Fri and 8.30am-12pm Saturday. Emergency vets available 24/7.



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@Kernowfarmandequine