



WENSUM VALLEY VETS FARM NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2023

Farm Animal Health Checks – New Rules

From 13th December 2023, farmers will have to be able to demonstrate that a veterinary visit has taken place, on farm, in the last 12 months, if they wish to send animals to market or slaughter.

This is because at least some portion of most carcasses are exported. Up until this date you have been able to self-declare.

If you are a member of Red Tractor, or we are regularly on your farm, we can certify you to this effect. However, if we have not seen you regularly then you should arrange a vet visit so that we can issue you with a “**Veterinary Declaration for Animal Health Visits**”.

We have only just received this information and hopefully more will be forthcoming in the near future.

TB testing

We have decided to start offering our services for routine TB testing once more.

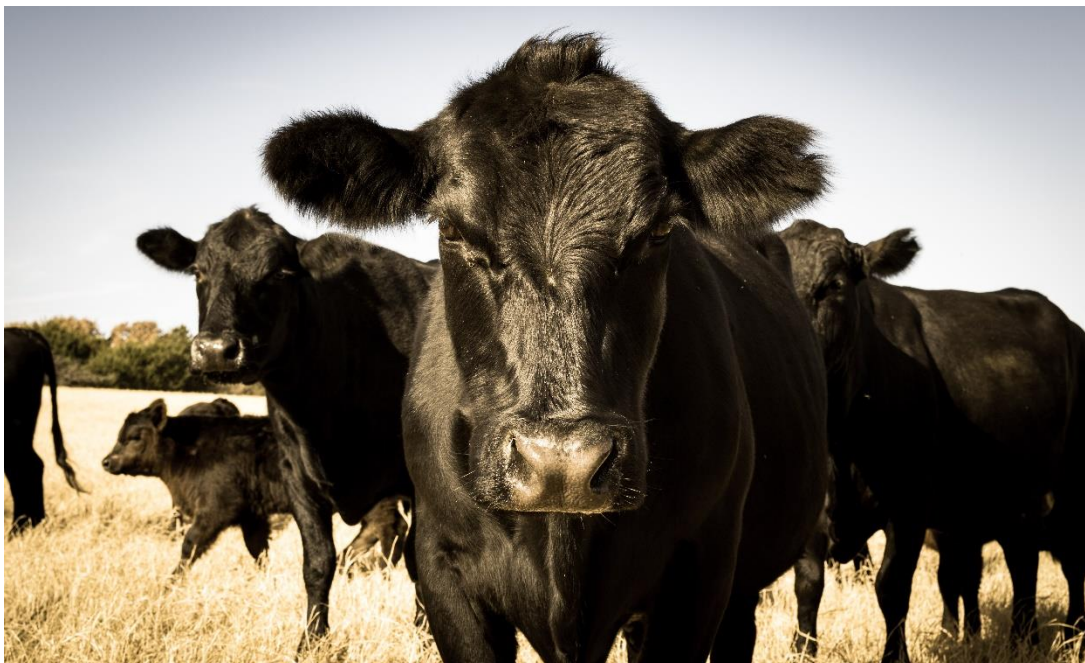
In recent years you may have been contacted by UKFarmcare and your tests will have been completed by testers out of Chapelfield Vets.

We have now signed up to UKFarmcare and are happy to do your government-paid TB tests, (E.g. 4 yearly Routine Herd Test).

In addition, we can also now offer government funded Brucellosis Enquiry tests (for aborted animals) and Anthrax testing (for sudden death cases).

Hopefully this will speed up the long waits some of you have experienced in recent years.

If you would like to switch back to us doing all your ministry work, you can ring UKFarmcare on **0800 6125289** or email **cip@ukfarmcare.com**



Red Water Fever (Babesiosis)

This is a disease that you might want to make yourselves aware of due to two confirmed outbreaks amongst our clients, in North Norfolk in the last month.

Cows appear to be more susceptible than young stock and disease can have a significant impact on both fertility and productivity of animals.

Babesiosis is caused by a parasite that spreads between cattle via ticks, destroying the red blood cells that carry oxygen. The resulting signs include:

- Lethargy
- Diarrhoea followed by constipation usually after around 36hrs
- Fever
- Abortion
- Death – rarely in the UK but is still a possibility
- Often the most noticeable sign is red coloured urine.

It can take 2 weeks for clinical signs to become apparent so taking note of areas known to contain large numbers of ticks and monitoring animals within the areas is a good precautionary step to aid prompt diagnosis and therefore treatment.

Treatment Options:

Mild cases may resolve alone, however more severe cases require treatment. In all cases, preventative measures should be implemented for unaffected cattle and symptomatic treatment provided for those affected. There are drugs that can be utilised too.

Please contact the practice for advice if you suspect you may have this disease.



Medicines Administration Course

We have run a number of these in the past. If you are interested, please contact the office for details and we will arrange another course at the practice.

In order to get Red Tractor approval, you will need at least one member of staff to have this qualification.