

Earlier this summer, Becky took time off work to travel in Peru. After spending a fascinating, if slightly uncomfortable ten days deep in the amazon rainforest, she explored the country's beautiful and diverse mountainous scenery. Highlights include hunting for wild boar in the rainforest and seeing sloths and caiman close up, climbing peaks over 6000m high, getting to know some of the most friendly people in the world and eating delicious food (although she didn't try guinea pig!). Lowlights were few, but include getting bitten by two bullet ants (the most painful sting of any insect), and failing to summit a 6400m peak Alpmayo as there was too much fresh snow to make the ascent safe. She had a wonderful sabbatical and is looking forward to telling you all about it! *Rebecca Howard*



We were very happy to see you all on the bank holiday for our farmers hog roast social. There was plenty of food, notably Jackie's sticky toffee pudding that went down well. Everyone had a great time on the rodeo bull; the gladiator podiums; and sumo suits. It was lovely to see you all after such a long time unable to host the event due to Covid. Alongside the fun we were able to raise £262 for Northwest Air Ambulance thanks to your generous donations. We are already looking forward to next year!

On the clinical front we have seen lots of cows, calves and sheep with eye issues. The two most common causes are silage and new forest eye. The two can look very similar with silage eye coming from scratches from dry silages or grass and new forest eye being spread by flies. Treatment for both is the same, if you would like to discuss the different options then please get in touch.

The Westmorland show is just around the corner, and we're excited to see you all there. We will be at stand G265 behind the countryside arena. Be sure to stop along as we have local ice cream from the Milking Parlour to share with you all and it would be lovely to see your faces.
Ben Harvey

Halal

Dispelling the Myths, Exploring the Market

Wednesday 2nd November 10:00 – 15:30

Thrimby Grange, Thrimby, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 3DZ

Look forward to seeing you there

Scan the QR code below,

Email - KE.events@ahdb.org.uk Or call 01904 771218

to book your FREE place

For more information about the farm, visit:

<https://bit.ly/3zCQ5sg>



Kendal Surgery

Monday to Friday 8.30am—7.00pm
Saturday 8.30am-12noon
Tel:01539 722692

Kirkby Lonsdale Surgery

Monday & Thursday 8.30am-7.00pm
Tuesday 8.30am-6.00pm
Wednesday & Friday 8.30am-5.00pm
Saturday 8.30am-12 noon
Tel:015242 71221

Lungworm

As we head into late summer/early autumn the number of lungworm outbreaks start to reach their peak. Lungworm, caused by the parasitic worm *Dictyocaulus viviparus*, results in a typical husky sounding cough, varying degrees of difficulty breathing and nasal discharge. Affected cattle can often be poor doers (either poor growth rates or loss of condition) and show loss of appetite and reduced milk yields as they struggle to cope with the worm burden present within the lungs. Cattle pick up lungworm from grazing infected pasture and as it is now well established on grazing land across the country most herds are at risk of experiencing losses due to lungworm. The average cost of a lungworm outbreak is estimated cost around £140 per adult cow for dairy herds and between £50 and £100 per beef cow.

Cattle can produce an immune response to lungworm larvae and adult worms whether infected naturally or by using a vaccine such as Huskvac. Vaccination is by far the most predictable method of building herd immunity to help reduce the impact of lungworm on farm. Cattle are given two doses of the oral vaccine four weeks apart. However, like many other pathogens this immunity can wane unless cattle are exposed to low levels to booster their immunity. This means that cattle need to be turned out onto pasture with low levels of lungworm two weeks after completing the vaccination course as this allows them to boost their immunity naturally. Don't forget that regular worming for gut worms is not only a risky practice in terms of promoting anthelmintic resistance but will also remove lungworm and can prevent natural immunity from building up meaning that cattle are at risk still at risk of lungworm infection when the activity of the wormer wears off and they are re-exposed.

If you'd like to discuss lungworm control on your farm contact us at Kendal or Kirkby and one of the farm team will be happy to help!

Bethany Collins



My tup didn't measure up on its fertility test, what do I do now?

It's so frustrating when your ram isn't producing the goods, but the most important thing is that you've had it tested and you can do something about it now!

There are several things that'll be on your mind before tupping and adding another task to do on top such as purchasing new stock can be the last thing you need, but here's what to remember.

Ratios

Depending on how many tups didn't make the grade, you'll have to think about your flock and how many rams you need. You may have enough if you'd upped your numbers due to poor performance in previous years. For mature rams, a safe bet is between 1:35 and 1:50. A ram lamb may catch your eye at market but remember he can serve fewer ewes.

Buying in new stock

Part of our fertility testing involves looking at the anatomy of the ram and you can do this when purchasing. Remember to look for good strong legs, animals that have limb abnormalities may be more prone to lameness and struggle to serve ewes.

It's easy to get dazzled at the mart but always check their teeth. When you do buy a new tup, either look for one that has been fertility tested or leave sufficient time for us to come and check him over. 6 weeks before tupping is ideal.



Quarantine

When you buy any new animal it's always important to remember infectious disease control. Yarding animals ram away from the ewes and treat with a purple or orange wormer, we don't know what they're bringing in with them so better to be safe than sorry. Turn your ram out on to contaminated pasture so he can be introduced to the worm population that the sheep have. Ideally even once we have turned these animals out they need to be separate from your flock for 3-4 weeks, it gives time such that any issue that will run

We will be at J36 on Thursday 2nd September for the Lads Night Out if you would like to discuss quarantine treatments. We will also have quarantine drench with us if you would your new rams treating before you leave.

through the flock such as CODD or scab can be identified. It sounds like a hassle but better than regretting it later.

Ben Harvey