

TRYMOX LA – Important Withdrawal Changes

There have been changes to the withdrawal periods applied to Trymox LA, bringing it in line with the updated withdrawals on the equivalent Betamox LA that we mentioned in the newsletter in December 2020. The changes apply immediately, over-riding the dates on bottles you already have. Please take extra care to ensure you adhere to the new withdrawal period as if residues are detected in any animal products (meat or dairy) the repercussions can be severe.

Species	Current Withhold	New Withhold
Cattle	28 days	39 days
Sheep	19 days	29 days
Pigs	19 days	42 days
Cattle - Milk	84 hours	108 hours (4.5 days)

The maximum injection site volumes have also changed to the below.

Species	Previous Maximum Volume	New Maximum Volume
Cattle	20ml	15ml
Sheep	20ml	4ml
Pigs	20ml	4ml

Huskvac

We are still getting orders for Huskvac, though time is moving on quickly with turnout already happening on some farms. If you use Huskvac to prevent lungworm, remember you need 2 doses, 4 weeks apart for full protection. It takes 2 weeks after the second dose for the full immunity to develop and it's important not to turn out until this time has passed. If you still need your doses, get in touch with the office as soon as you can to place your order.



Lamb Colostrum

Remember we continue to stock our high-quality lamb colostrum with strong levels of antibodies in it. Though all colostrum powders are poor in comparison to natural ewes' colostrum, for those situations where it is needed

it is important to use the best you can. It is available in 500g and 1kg bags, with a scoop for measuring. Proper colostrum intake is vital in lamb survival and ensuring they thrive in the months to come. Proper colostrum intake of good quality colostrum removes the need for oral antibiotics like Spectam if other factors like hygiene are kept under control too. If you would like more information, give any of the vets a ring for a chat, or ring the office to order.

Lamb Colostrum

Once born, a lamb should receive **50ml/kg** of good colostrum **as soon as possible**, ideally within 2 hours. For a 5kg lamb this means getting 250ml in 2 hours. They should then have taken 200ml/kg by 24 hours, which equates to 1 litre. In an ideal situation this colostrum will be supplied by the ewe, with no need for you to intervene. However, when a ewe is short of colostrum it's important to know what is best to supplement with.

By far the best option is ewe's colostrum from another in your flock. This will supply antibodies specific to the diseases and bugs on your farm and is far higher in antibodies than any powder. Fresh colostrum should be used within an hour of harvesting however it can be stored in small clean containers in the fridge for up to 7 days (at 3-4 degrees), or frozen for up to 6 months. To defrost, place the container in warm water to slowly thaw, using the same approach to heat it up to 38 degrees before giving to the lamb. Using a microwave or very hot water may be tempting to speed things up, but the extreme heat can destroy the proteins in the colostrum which will significantly reduce its benefit. Cows' colostrum can be a good option too; however, it has a lower concentration than ewe's colostrum - so we usually advise giving a higher volume. It is also advisable to pool colostrum from multiple cows due to the rare potential for cow's colostrum to cause anaemia in lambs - more details available from the vets if you're interested and want to know more!

As a back-up, we continue to stock a high-quality lamb colostrum powder with high levels of antibodies in it when compared with others; though all colostrum powders are poor in comparison to ewes' colostrum. It is available in 500g and 1kg bags. Proper colostrum intake is vital in lamb survival and ensuring they thrive in the months to come, and intake of good quality colostrum removes the need for oral antibiotics like Spectam, if other factors like hygiene are kept under control too. If you would like more information, give any of the vets a ring for a chat, or ring the office to order.



Lamb post-mortem offer

Remember this year we are offering reduced price post-mortems on lambs which die in the first 2 weeks of life. Up to 3 lambs will be examined for £30 (ex VAT), to investigate the causes of losses and allow management changes to be made and preventing further losses. A post-mortem is often the best method of diagnosing conditions in young lambs, as they often succumb to disease very quickly and don't respond to treatment. Prevention is much more successful, so identifying the problem early allows us to target efforts at preventing the particular condition. Give any of the vets a ring for a chat about this offer or if you are experiencing lamb losses.

TB Test Letters from APHA

We've had a few phone calls from clients who have received letters from APHA advising them to book tests as they are approaching the end of their testing window. These letters are generated automatically by APHA and you don't need to worry if you have already booked your test. If you don't have your test booked in, give us a ring to get it organised as soon as you can. We have a lot of testing on in April and have started to fill a lot of slots in May too so it pays to get organised early for whole herd tests.

Fly Control



As summer approaches it is time to start planning your fly control strategy for this year. At best flies are a nuisance causing irritation and reduced productivity, at their worst they can quickly lead to blowfly strike and death.

The risk factors associated with flies differ from farm to farm, however the key point to remember is that fly larvae thrive in damp decaying organic matter- that is muck, slurry and manure. Reducing the amount of muck that is in close proximity to your stock

will reduce the fly population- this may include thinking about where your muck heap is situated, how often pens are mucked out (in particular calf hutches), how well your slurry system is working and whether there are any areas in housing that muck scrapers can't reach.

Did you know? Lambs with loose muck are 8.5 times more likely to suffer from fly strike than lambs with solid muck. Loose muck is commonly associated with sudden dietary changes and poor parasite control so it is well worth considering how you introduce changes in diet and developing an effective parasite control program based around regular monitoring through faecal worm egg counts. Dagging lambs to reduce soiling around the back end is also highly recommended.

Cattle farmers will also need to consider extra precautions to reduce the risk of summer mastitis in in-calf heifers and dry cows. This could include considering which fields are used to graze these animals- dry windy fields will have far lower fly populations than sheltered wet ones. Application of Stockholm tar to the udder and flanks can be very effective but is time consuming and needs to be repeated every 4-7 days.

For the dairy farmers amongst you particular consideration should be given to the parlour and how you can reduce the irritation that flies cause around milking time. This could include increasing the use of fans or installing water sprays across the entrance to the parlour.

Fly control will inevitably include the use of chemical products and whichever you decide to use it is essential to get going early in the season before the fly population has time to multiply and become well established. Options for the chemical control of flies vary between sheep and cattle but the main products available are:

DELTAMETHRIN SPOT-ONS (such as Spotinor)

- Licensed for cattle and sheep.
- Have a 17 day meat withdrawal in cattle but a 35 day meat withdrawal in sheep.
- Have a zero hour milk withdrawal in milking cattle.
- Licensed for both treatment and control of flies.
- Will also treat both biting and sucking lice.
- Provide 4-6 weeks of protection meaning that repeated applications are required throughout the summer.
- Provide little protection to the udder area.
- Toxic to aquatic ecosystems and dung fauna so repeated use in animals grazing the same pasture in the same year is not recommended.

CYPERMETHRIN POUR-ONS (such as Ectofly)

- Licensed for sheep only.
- Have an 8 day meat withdrawal.
- Licensed for both treatment and control of flies.
- Will also treat biting lice.
- Provide 6-8 weeks of protection meaning that repeated applications are required throughout the summer.
- Applied using a spray gun and will prevent blowfly strike only on areas covered by the spray.
- Toxic to aquatic ecosystems and dung fauna so repeated use in animals grazing the same pasture in the same year is not recommended.

DICYCLANIL POUR ONS (CLIK AND CLIKZiN)

- Licensed for sheep only
- CLIK has a 40 day meat withdrawal whilst the meat withdrawal for CLIKZiN is only 7 days making it very useful in finishing lambs.
- These products are only licensed for prevention of blowfly strike NOT for treatment.
- CLIK provides 16 weeks of protection whilst CLIKZiN provides 8 weeks of protection.
- Sheep who have had CLIK applied must not be shorn in the 3 months after treatment.
- Toxic to aquatic life meaning that treated sheep must be kept away from watercourses for at least one hour following treatment.



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