

# December 2019 Newsletter

## Calf Health

SUMMERLEAZE  
FARM & EQUINE VETS



It's that time of year again when we see lots of pneumonia and scours in calves. If you are experiencing problems please get in touch as we can help. We can take samples and look at your set up to make a plan for this winter and for future winters.

### SCOURS

#### **DON'T stop milk feeding**

If calves have no milk they will have no energy nor nutrients going into the gut, so will find it harder to fight off disease and to heal any gut damage

#### **Electrolytes are key**

Best to mix with water then alternate with milk feeding

Many scouring calves will need 3-4 feeds of electrolytes per day as well as milk feeds

#### **Ask us to find out the cause**

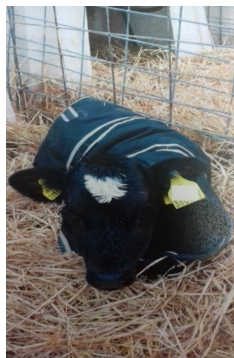
If you have never tested any scour samples then it is really important to do so. Different bugs need different treatments so if your usual treatments or preventions aren't working, then it may mean something else is going on

### **WATER!**

It is essential that calves have fresh clean water from day one.

Scouring calves will voluntarily increase their water intake to try and stay hydrated

Water drinking will drive starter intakes and this will lead to increased lean tissue weight gain



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## NEW IN STOCK

### CALF'S CHOICE TOTAL 100

We are now stocking individual sachets of the colostrum powder

Calf's Choice Total (CCT)  
Unlike many other colostrum replacer products on the market CCT is purely cows colostrum, nothing is added (like vegetable oils) or taken away.

It is rich in fat, antibodies, growth factors and nutrients found in good quality maternal colostrum.

Good quality dams colostrum from your own farm is always the best source. CCT is a good alternative when you haven't got enough or the quality is not as expected you can top it up with this.



## CARING FOR CALVES IN COLD WEATHER

The Thermoneutral Zone (TNZ) of a calf is the range of temperatures in which they can maintain their body temperature regardless of the environment. For calves aged 0-3 weeks this range is 15°C-25°C and for calves over 3 weeks it is 6°C—25°C. Any temperature above or below these ranges will put their bodies under stress which will require more energy to keep warm or keep cool. A calf in a dry jacket in a dry clean pen bedded with deep dry straw will naturally cope much better than one exposed to wind and rain. Feeding extra milk in cold weather is often overlooked.

For every 5°C below 15 if 0-3 weeks old or below 10°C if over 3 weeks

- \* Feed an extra 50g/day of milk replacer
- \* Or an extra 0.33L/day of milk.

When the temperature is 0°C a 10 day old calf will need 150g extra of milk replacer per day than normal just to maintain its body temperature.

## SUMMERLEAZE YOUNGSTOCK PROGRAMME

We run a Summerleaze Youngstock Programme for farmers to join for a monthly fee. It has proved very successful and for some who have joined calf mortality rates have dropped dramatically. Next months' newsletter will contain more information on some of the successes.

## *Christmas & New Year Opening Hours*

Christmas Eve	8am—4pm
Christmas Day	Closed—Emergencies only
Boxing Day	Closed—Emergencies only
Friday 27th	8am—5pm
28th December	10am—1pm
New Year's Eve	8am—4pm
New Year's Day	Closed—Emergencies only

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