



Tern Vets Ltd

PUTTING CARE INTO PRACTICE

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Your dedicated farm team available 24/7



Diakur Plus

Regardless of the cause, the profuse often watery diarrhoea that we all recognise as calf scour results in the calf losing water along with vital salts and other nutrients. The calf quickly becomes dehydrated and sick because of the build up of acid in the body and, if these abnormalities are not corrected, they may result in the death of the calf.

Oral rehydration solutions have been available for many years and have proved to be life-saving in both human and animal medicine. By containing salts such as sodium, as well as energy in the form of glucose, they allow water to be absorbed more rapidly. Rehydration solutions may also contain neutralising buffers like bicarbonate to correct the build up of acid. Traditional oral rehydration solutions in calves cannot be fed at the same time as milk because the bicarbonate which they contain interferes with milk clotting in the calf's stomach, resulting in milk passing too quickly into the gut, potentially making the scour worse. Milk provides the very high levels of energy and proteins which are needed to help recovery, so milk feeding should not be stopped and a rehydration solution which can be mixed with milk is preferable.

Diakur Plus is a unique oral rehydration solution which contains a combination of three different neutralising buffers which rapidly correct the high acid levels but do not interfere with the formation of the milk clot in the calf's stomach. As a result Diakur Plus can be mixed with water, milk or milk replacer providing a flexible solution and the calf can be rehydrated while still receiving the nutrition from milk to maintain growth rates. Another added benefit of Diakur Plus is that it contains patented citrus fibres that have been shown to bind and remove pathogens such as E.coli from the intestine.



If you have any questions about managing calf scour on your unit and how to minimise losses please speak to your vet.

HuskVac Reminder

Vaccinating your youngstock before their first grazing season is still the most effective way to prevent lungworm infection. Doses must be ordered soon - the first dose needs to go in at least 6 weeks before turnout. 2 doses are required 4 weeks apart, with the second dose at least 2 weeks before turnout.

Please give Michelle or Tina a call at the practice on 01630 656300 to order your doses.

Multiject IMM

Multiject IMM is back on the shelf after a few months of issues with manufacturing. It is licensed for one tube to be given once daily for 3 days after milking. Treatment can be extended off license to 6-8 days on farms that suffer with *Strep. uberis* or for recurrent mastitis cases but milk withdrawal is 7days.

Allewinix - an update

Allewinix is Non-Steroidal Anti Inflammatory Drug or NSAID; these are the group of drugs used to reduce the signs of inflammation such as high temperature, swelling, pain and to combat toxin release by bacteria such as *E. coli*. The active ingredient is Flunixin which has been around for some time in a number of products.

Allewinix has a few characteristics which make it appealing for both beef and dairy farmers, these include:

- Licenced for intra-muscular and intravenous routes
- Reaches peak levels in the blood **within 30 minutes** of being injected
- 24 hour withdrawal period for milk
- 10 day withdrawal for meat and offal
- Available in 100ml plastic bottles
- Convenient dose rate 2ml per 50kg



Which route for anti-inflammatory?

It is very important in animals that are very sick, that the anti-inflammatory gets into their system as soon as possible. Early detection of disease and prompt treatment are obviously big factors here; but anti-inflammatory **CHOICE** and **ROUTE** of injection are also important. Getting the drug into the vein provides fastest uptake of the drug and is vital in an animal that is very sick e.g. a toxic mastitis or a severe pneumonia case. Anti-inflammatories that can go in the vein (IV) are Allewinix, Metacam & Ketofen. The next fastest route is injecting into the muscle (IM); Allewinix and Ketofen are licensed for IM use. Injecting drugs under the skin (SC) gives the slowest uptake, and in sick animals the blood supply to the skin will be reduced as the body prioritises blood supply to vital organs and so absorption times can be several hours.

We are always happy to teach your farm staff techniques to help with IV injections using the neck vein - please speak to your vet if this is something we can help you with.

