

PREPARING YOUR FARM FOR WINTER

Water



Animals will drink more water in winter, many like it slightly warmed



The thinnest topping of ice may prevent animals from drinking



Make plans for when the water freezes



Check water supplies regularly to ensure all animals have access

Feed



Preparation is key



Make sure you have enough feed before you need it



Calves & young animals need more milk as the temperature drops



Speak to us about the feed quantities for your young animals

Bedding



Keep an eye on ventilation to make sure the bedding stays air dry



Mixing wood shavings with straw can help keep animals dryer



Adding an underlayer of sawdust or sand will absorb moisture



Clean your bedding more frequently in winter

Shelter



Most animals will tolerate conditions better in a 3-sided shed



Ensure your shelter is maintained before the weather hits



Make changes to accommodate likely weather scenarios



Create smaller environments in bigger sheds for young animals

Two of the most important factors in livestock health in winter are the effects, both internally and externally, of air and water; both should be fresh and pure, and too much or too little of either will cause problems. For more advice contact Wyvern Farm Vets on 01373 451115.