



Spring 2025 Newsletter

Worm Egg Count Collection Service: A Key to Healthy Grazing This Season

As the 2025 grazing season begins and the unpredictable weather continues, it is crucial to plan ahead and protect your herd or flock from intestinal parasites. Our Worm Egg Count Collection Service offers **FREE** collection of dung, so you only pay for the egg counting. Samples are analysed in-house with our state-of-the-art worm and fluke testing kit.

This service saves you time and benefits your livestock in several ways:

- **Accurate monitoring:** We provide precise worm egg counts every 6 weeks throughout the grazing season, giving you an accurate picture of your animal's parasite burden.
- **Tailored treatment plans:** With clear data, you can develop targeted, effective parasite control.
- **Cost-effective care:** By knowing when treatments are needed, you can avoid unnecessary costs and resource waste.
- **Prevention of resistance:** Monitoring worm levels reduces the overuse of wormers, helping to prevent resistance and preserve treatment efficacy.
- **Optimised livestock health:** Regular counts ensure your livestock stay healthy, improving growth rates, milk yields, and overall productivity.

For the latest parasite forecasts, visit **NADIS** and **SCOPS** websites.

Our worm egg count collection service will be commencing in April - to sign your farm up for regular collections please get in touch with the office.



Calf Post-Mortem Services: Supporting Your Herd Through Calf Losses

As Spring calving season has begun, we hope everything goes smoothly for you. However, if losses do occur, we are here to help. We now offer a perinatal post-mortem service to investigate calf losses on your farm. Our aim is to work alongside you to understand the causes and find strategies to improve future outcomes. Many cases are often not what they initially appear to be and can be attributed to preventable factors that reduce further losses.

What is Perinatal Mortality?

Perinatal mortality includes all cases where a calf is either born dead (stillborn) or dies within the first 48 hours of life. Herds should target an annual case incidence of <2% (equating to 1 loss in 50 pregnancies).

We would advise anyone who is experiencing losses to reach out to us to discuss how we can support your herd and help prevent further losses in the future.

Prepare for the Fly Season with Bestico Biological Control

As Spring arrives and temperatures rise, it is time to think about fly prevention strategies on your farm. Fly infestations not only cause stress and irritation to livestock but also act as significant vectors of disease, increasing the risk of issues such as New Forest Eye, Summer Mastitis and Bluetongue. This can result in production losses due to decreased milk yields and growth rates, and increased treatment costs.

During the summer a female fly can lay up to 1000 eggs within just 10 days. This rapid life cycle means infestations can escalate quickly, making it crucial to start managing fly populations early in the season.

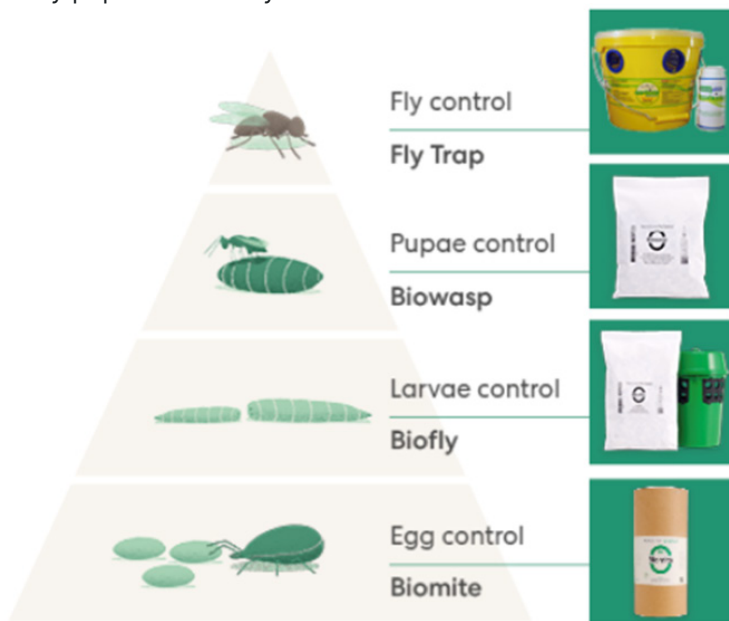


Figure 1: – Bestico products available and the stage of the fly lifecycle targeted. Available at: <https://www.bestico.co.uk/how-it-works>

We now work alongside Bestico, a company specialising in biological fly control, to provide a sustainable approach to managing fly populations. Their products can be integrated into your existing fly control plan to help reduce reliance on insecticides and antibiotics, and target prevention earlier in the fly life cycle, before infestations escalate.

There is a range of products available, including:

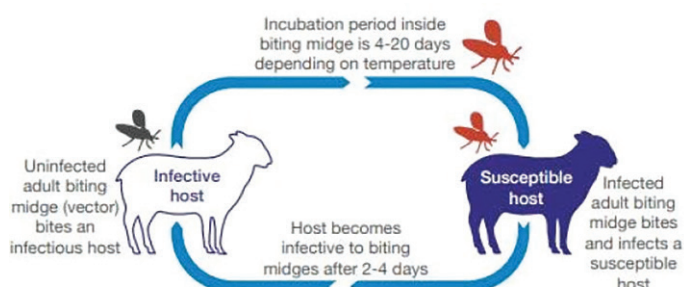
- **Biological Wasps, Flies, and Mites:** These small insects feed on the pupae, larvae, and egg stages of flies, preventing them from hatching. They are naturally occurring in the environment, and regular releases to boost populations from late April to October can maintain effective control.
- **Fly Buckets:** Containing a yeast bait that attracts and traps adult flies, these buckets can be strategically placed in problem areas such as tracks to the milking parlour, around farm buildings, and on the perimeter of high-risk fields.
- **Fly Lines:** Sticky lines can be hung indoors, such as in livestock housing or milking parlours, to trap adult flies that land on them.

For the best results, it is essential to start fly control early in the season before populations become overwhelming.

If you are interested in exploring these products, **Alex and Amber** can visit your farm to provide tailored advice and help develop a bespoke plan that suits your setup and needs. For more information, please do not hesitate to contact the office or visit the Bestico website.

Bluetongue update

James recently hosted a well-attended Bluetongue meeting, covering the current situation, available vaccine options, and the potential impact of the disease on your farm. There are currently three BTV-3 vaccines available. If you would like to discuss whether vaccination is suitable for your farm, please do not hesitate to contact the practice – we are happy to help with any questions. We continue to urge clients to remain vigilant for signs of Bluetongue.



Dispensary update

- **Clamox RTU:** Due to Synulox RTU being unavailable for the foreseeable future, we will be continuing to use this as a replacement.
- **Intramox LC:** These will now be a replacement for Synulox LC which are also currently out of stock.
- **Vetrimoxin LA:** Vetrimoxin LA will replace Trymox LA. This new product has a shorter withdrawal period:
 - Meat withdrawal period: 18 days
 - Milk withdrawal period: 3 days
- Topical fly control products are now available in dispensary – please give us a call to discuss with one of our vets or Harriet how we can support you with your fly control this season.

Wyvern Smallholders Club Lambing course

As lambing season is now in full swing, Vet Katie, alongside our new vet technician Jacob, have been busy hosting a series of three lambing courses to ensure you are fully prepared for the busy period.

The full-day course kicked off with a morning session focused on theory, covering essential topics such as preparation, assisting with deliveries and identifying common illnesses associated with lambing time.

In the afternoon, participants had the opportunity to gain hands-on experience, practising their skills in delivery techniques, administering injections, stomach feeding lambs and applying rubber bands.

If you have any questions or concerns about lambing, please do not hesitate to reach out - one of our vets will be more than happy to assist you. Additionally, our practice shop is fully stocked with all the essentials you'll need for this lambing season.



Preventing Watery Mouth in Newborn Lambs: a Non-Antibiotic Solution

As lambing season is upon us, it is essential to consider the health of your newborn lambs. One of the most concerning conditions in young lambs is watery mouth, a fatal disease that primarily affects lambs aged 24-72 hours. As you may already know, there is currently no specific treatment for watery mouth and unfortunately, most cases are fatal. As we move away from blanket antibiotic treatments to more sustainable and preventative solutions, we are now stocking ArkGuard, a non-antibiotic oral solution designed to help prevent watery mouth in lambs.



ArkGuard is an oral solution containing a high concentration of antibody IgY, which provides critical protection to the lamb's gut against the bacteria responsible for watery mouth. The key to its effectiveness is early administration: for best results, ArkGuard must be given to lambs as soon as possible after birth, particularly to those at higher risk - such as those from difficult lambings or those born into dirty environments.

By incorporating ArkGuard into your lambing management routine, alongside proper colostrum feeding and hygiene practices, you can significantly reduce the chances of watery mouth and improve the overall health of your lambs.

Multimin™: a new product to help boost livestock health and productivity



Introducing Multimin a new product designed to correct and prevent deficiencies in key trace minerals such as copper, selenium, manganese, and zinc oxide deficiencies. The product is specifically formulated for use during periods of increased stress such as transport, calving and breeding. Multimin therefore supports livestock throughout critical stages of their production and breeding lifecycle.

The unique injectable formula bypasses the digestive system allowing these essential nutrients to be rapidly absorbed directly into the bloodstream. This ensures immediate, effective, and long-lasting benefits for your livestock.

Benefits of using Multimin include:

- Enhanced immunity
- Improved reproductive performance
- Optimal growth and weight gain
- Better performance during times of stress

To learn more about how Multimin can support your livestock please do not hesitate to get in touch.

New Team Members

You may have already seen some new friendly faces around the office / out on farm. In January we welcomed Jacob, Georgina, and Charlotte to the team.



Jacob Mattick has joined our team as a veterinary technician and has started his training towards becoming an approved TB tester. Jacob grew up locally on his family farm and went on to study an extended diploma in agriculture at Hartpury College. He then spent several years working on farms across the UK and abroad before returning to his family farm, where he worked as a calf rearer. Outside of work, Jacob enjoys playing rugby for the mighty MNRFC and taking his loyal pup, Archie on walks.



Georgina Moore has joined the team as an assistant dispensary coordinator. Georgina is local to the area and comes from a farming background. She has spent many years working within the veterinary industry, with experience in both small animal and equine practices. In her free time, Georgina enjoys walking her Labrador or honing her skills in clay pigeon shooting.



Charlotte Butler has joined us as a farm team coordinator. Since leaving education Charlotte has spent many years working in the Equine industry, however she has always had a strong interest in Farm animals. When not at work, Charlotte can be found lending a hand on the farm managed by her partner or out riding her horse.

We have achieved RCVS accreditation!

We are thrilled to announce that in January Wyvern successfully passed the RCVS Practice Standards Scheme.



This prestigious accreditation reflects our commitment to providing the highest standard of veterinary care to both our farm clients and their animals - something we continuously strive to achieve.

Wyvern Proactive Farmers Skittles League

Our Proactive Farmers Skittles League has got off to a brilliant start! The first round of games brought plenty of friendly competition, and we are looking forward to round two where legends are born. The league follows a knockout format, with a Dairy winner and a Beef winner going head-to-head for the title of Ultimate Champion – to be crowned at our Farmers Summer Party. Keep an eye on our socials for updates and to see who comes out on top!



Support our vet Vicki running the Paris Marathon

Vicki is swapping her wellies for trainers to run the Paris Marathon this April, all while raising funds for Versus Arthritis. As a self-confessed non-runner, she's tackling the 26.2 miles to support those affected by arthritis, which can make even simple tasks feel difficult.

Any donations are greatly appreciated and can be made via the QR below. Good luck Vicki!



Vet Training spotlight:

Vet Katie recently completed a comprehensive two-day alpaca care course, focusing on all aspects of veterinary care for these fascinating creatures.

The course included practical skills including microchipping, castration, and blood plasma collection, as well as essential husbandry topics such as nutrition, vaccination protocols, and vitamin D management. Additionally, it covered vital aspects of mite and worm control.

Whether you are considering alpaca ownership, already have alpacas and want to expand your knowledge, or are interested in breeding, feel free to reach out for expert advice.



Riddle time...



What can't go down a drainpipe when up but can go up a drainpipe when down?

An umbrella!

Useless fact

Did you know that a cow can produce enough saliva in a day to fill an entire bathtub!

Dates for your diary:

28th April Dairy benchmarking meeting

An evening with James and other like-minded farmers to learn how you can maximise dairy farm efficiency by benchmarking performance and vet spend.

16th July Farmers Summer Party

Join us for an evening of fun, food, and drinks at our annual summer party. A perfect opportunity to come together and enjoy the sun.

Easter opening hours:

Friday 18th April (Good Friday) and Monday 21st April (Easter Monday)

The office will be closed, however vets will be working for pre-booked visits and emergencies only.

New Vet Tech Services to Enhance Herd Management

We are excited to announce the addition of some new services delivered by our highly skilled and experienced vet techs:

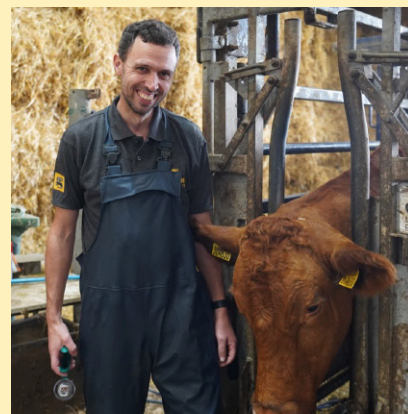
- **Artificial Insemination:** Available during working hours, including synchronisation protocols.
- **Clipping Services:** Routine clipping of tails, backs, and freeze brands to improve animal management and hygiene.
- **Freeze Branding - Coming Soon:** Permanent, clear identification for effective herd management.

These services will be offered alongside our existing services, which include:

- Vaccine management
- Calf health management
- Mobility and body condition scoring
- Surveillance sampling
- Parasite control

All services are charged on an hourly or per-animal basis, designed to ease your workload and improve herd health.

Please get in touch to learn how we can offer tailored solutions to meet your farm's needs.



Did you know ...?

There are multiple ways to get in touch with us, aside from a phone call?

WhatsApp for reception – Need assistance for a non-emergency you can message our reception team on 07903 782838

WhatsApp for the dispensary – for any medicine's orders you can also message us directly on 07923 432502

Social Media – We are active on social media! Feel free to send us a message through our platforms.



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