



Introducing...

The Wyvern Farm Vets Portal

Gavin has been working hard behind the scenes developing our new Wyvern Farm Vets Portal. Accessible through your web browser or the dedicated app, this secure online platform has been designed to make working with us easier, giving you quick and convenient access to your farm's veterinary information.

Using the portal, you will be able to:

- View upcoming bookings and planned visits
- Access WEC, fluke and other laboratory results
- View calf health and growth data, as well as mobility and body condition scoring results
- Send us farm records and treatment data
- View medicines, prescriptions and veterinary reports
- Keep track of key herd and flock health information

The portal is designed to turn the information we collect into something useful and accessible, helping you make informed decisions about your livestock while improving communication with our team.

If you haven't already, you will soon receive an email with everything you need to register and start using the portal.

We hope you find this new service useful.

Dispensary Update

Our dispensary is well stocked, with good availability across the majority of products.

! ALTERNATIVES

Metacam has changed to Loxicom (withdrawal times will remain the same).

Bluetongue - staying vigilant

Bluetongue cases continue to increase across the UK. As of Monday 24th August, there are **593 confirmed cases in England, including 75 in Somerset and 2 in Wiltshire.**

As a practice, we have not had a confirmed case, however, we are awaiting laboratory results for several suspect cases. With laboratory results taking around two weeks, there are currently approximately **2,428 cases** under investigation.

Our advice remains to vaccinate your stock. It is not too late to vaccinate, as midge activity is expected to continue over the next few months. We also urge clients to remain vigilant for clinical signs, including fever, lethargy, swelling of the head or face, drooling, nasal discharge, mouth lesions and lameness.

Sourcing bluetongue vaccines has been challenging over the past few weeks. However, we have been able to fulfil orders, albeit with a slight delay. If you are considering vaccinating your stock or would like to discuss the most appropriate vaccine option for your farm, please get in touch with dispensary, who will be happy to advise you.



Annual summer party

We can't quite believe it is that time of year again - another Wyvern Summer Party is done and dusted! It was brilliant to see so many of you for an evening of catching up and cheering England on together... even if it didn't come home.

A huge thank you to the Higgins family for opening the farm gates and giving everyone the chance to look around their impressive new milking parlour. And of course, a Wyvern Summer Party wouldn't be complete without a hog roast and gelato - a big thank you to Padfield Porkies and Palette & Pasture for keeping everyone well fed.

Thank you again to everyone who came along and made it a great evening. We can't wait to do it all again next summer!

Rounders Champions... Again!

After last year's victory against Tyndale, we dusted off our trainers and took on the team from Friars Moor Vets for a friendly rounders match.

Despite a few questionable batting techniques from Jacob, some safe hands from Chris, and fast sprinting from George, Team Wyvern came out on top once again with a respectable 13½-8½ win. More importantly, it was a fantastic opportunity to catch up with the Friars Moor team and strengthen relationships between the two practices.

A huge thank you to Helen and everyone at Friars Moor for hosting us and putting on a brilliant BBQ and to Lacock Dairy for supplying the delicious ice cream to round off the evening.

The only question now is: who will we take on next summer?



Mid-Season Worming Reminder

Now that we are well into the grazing season, we are starting to see worm burdens increasing in both cattle and sheep. We have also seen a few cases of Haemonchus.

Therefore, now is a great time to review your parasite control plan to help ensure your stock continue to thrive throughout the rest of the season. We stock a wide range of competitively priced wormers and can help you choose the most appropriate product for your system.

Whether you are planning routine treatments or would like advice based on faecal egg counts, our team is here to help. Get in touch with the practice to discuss your worming options, arrange faecal egg count testing, or place an order.

Lewis' Half Marathon

At the start of the month, Lewis took part in the Frome Half Marathon, raising money for Tusk, a charity supporting conservation projects across Africa. Lewis completed the race in a very respectable **1 hour 57 minutes, raising over £600 for the cause.**

Well done, Lewis!



Animal Health & Welfare Pathway Reviews - Funded Farm Vet Support Available NOW

Did you know your farm could be eligible for funded veterinary support through the Animal Health & Welfare Pathway?

What's included?

During your AHWP review, we will:

Help you register and complete the funding claim

Discuss your herd or flock's key health and welfare priorities

Collect the required samples

Produce the veterinary report needed to support your claim

Initial visit requirements:

Sheep: Farm visit, sample collection and 10 worm egg counts

Beef: Farm visit and 5 blood samples

Dairy: BVD antibody/antigen testing support

Once the required work has been completed, any remaining funding can be used towards additional veterinary services and advice, tailored to the priorities you identify with your vet.

How it works:

At your AHWP visit, we will carry out the funded review and required sampling. You receive the equivalent value in time and services chosen to benefit your farm. We then invoice for the pathway visit and you then claim the funding back once the visit and report have been completed.

Why book?

- Practical, farm-specific advice from your vet
- Support with biosecurity, medicine use and disease risk/prevention
- Funded testing and tailored veterinary services
- A clear written plan for next steps

Please allow at least three hours for the appointment. Follow-up support may also be available for eligible farms.

Interested? Get in touch with the team to learn how the AHWP could benefit your enterprise.

Funding available

Enterprise	Funding
Sheep	£574
Beef	£647
Dairy	£447



Summer Challenges – Is Your Herd Feeling the Heat?

The recent combination of hot weather and difficult grazing has created a range of challenges for cattle and producers. As a result, we have had an increased number of conversations around high Bactoscan results, poor grazing quality and fertility concerns – all of which can be linked directly or indirectly to the weather conditions we have had this summer.

Rising Bactoscan Counts

Warm weather provides ideal conditions for bacteria to multiply. If milk isn't cooled quickly enough or milking hygiene slips, Bactoscan counts can rise rapidly. During hot weather, longer milking times and poorly managed cooling systems, such as sprinklers that create dirty collecting areas, can also increase the risk of bacterial contamination.

Making the Most of Poor Grazing

Many farms are now grazing poorer-quality pasture after a challenging growing season. Lower energy and protein intakes can quickly lead to cows losing condition, reduced milk yields and slower growth rates in youngstock. Assess grass quality regularly and consider whether supplementary forage or concentrates are needed to maintain performance. Monitoring body condition can help identify problems early.

Fertility

Heat stress and reduced nutrition can both have a significant impact on fertility. Cows may show weaker signs of heat, conception rates can fall and early embryo loss is more common during periods of stress. If you are experiencing these issues, rest assured you are not alone – many of our herds are seeing similar challenges this summer. Focusing on maintaining body condition, ensuring adequate nutrition, and minimising heat stress wherever possible can help support fertility and improve breeding performance.

If you're experiencing any of these issues, speak to one of the farm vets – we are always happy to help review your herd health and put together a practical plan for your farm.

TB Update

It is no surprise following the latest season of Clarkson's Farm that bTB has recently been brought back into the spotlight (only to be overshadowed by Bluetongue in recent weeks).



Here is a brief update on the current bTB state of play in England:

- Phase 3 of the cattle vaccination and new skin test trial have now concluded, with the results due to be published by the end of 2026. Assuming results are positive, the vaccination will undergo GB market authorisation and require approval from the World Organisation of Animal Health (WOAH) before it can be implemented; vaccine deployment in the UK is currently targeted by 2030!
- Vaccine roll-out is part of the government's revised bovine TB control strategy, outlining how we can work towards bTB free status in England by 2038.
- In the meantime, the TB Advisory Service (TBAS) has been extended for another 6 months. TBAS comprises of 2 fully funded visits with one of our Wyvern TBAS advisors. The process involves identifying bTB risk factors specific to your holding and making beneficial and achievable recommendations. We are also able to offer badger sett surveys through the TBAS scheme!

For more information, please call or email the practice.

Riddle Time...

What has banks but never holds money?

A river

Useless Fact...

Did you know, 1 million seconds is approximately 11.5 days, while 1 billion seconds is about 31.7 years



Dates for your diary

Frome show

Saturday 12th September

Join us for a drink and a catch up in our normal spot next to the showing ring.

Dairy show

Wednesday 7th October

Find us in the Quantock Pavilion, drop by for a chat and enjoy a refreshment.

Goat care and husbandry

Tuesday 27th October

Join vet Katie for a full-day course covering nutrition, parasite control, reproduction, kid care and preventative medicine, alongside practical sessions on handling, body condition scoring and foot trimming.

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