



News

Summer 2024

Welcome

After a spring of almost non-stop rain it's been nice to see the sun in recent weeks, though I get the feeling everyone is wondering if we'll see a summer of the opposite extreme of blistering heat like last year. While we wait to find out, planning for the inevitable like flies, worms and heat will be beneficial regardless.

We kicked off summer with a lovely day at the North Somerset Show and a couple of successful client events, including one looking at sustainability in farming and beetle life. A project of mine for future client evenings is to ensure they are 'hybrid' (in-person AND webinar) or at least that we can always make a video available to clients who cannot attend after the event, so if you can't make an event in the future but would like to receive a recording please ask and we will try to make that happen for you!

- Andrea

Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 8.30am - 5pm

Telephone: 01934 852 650

24 hour emergency cover

Email us: farmpractice@langfordvets.co.uk

Web: langfordvets.co.uk/farm

Farm Animal Practice, Langford Vets,
Langford House, Langford, BS40 5DU

@langfordvetsfarm



@langfordfarmvets



Insta:



Upcoming

- New website launch - 10/6/24
- Mid-somerset Show - 18/8/24
- Changing poultry registration laws - 1/10/24
- Dairy Show - 3/10/24

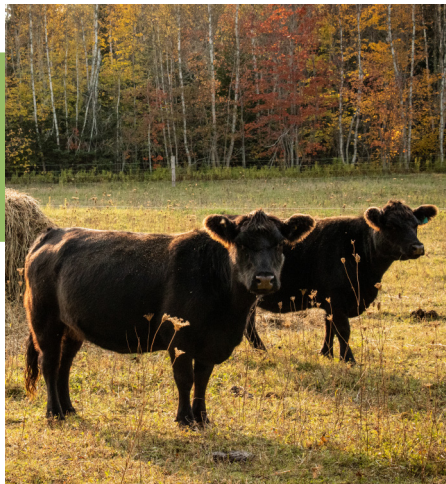
Updates

- We have a new lockbox situated next to our front door which can be used for out-of-hours medicines collection or even sample drop-offs. Please get in contact to let us know if you plan to drop samples so we can give you the code and know to check for them!
- I'm sure many of you will have met some of the various locums we have had working in the practice recently who have been holiday cover for various vets. They have all been great to work with and some will be returning I'm sure. As of September a new vet (Jemma) will be joining

the team bringing us back up to a full complement of vets. Jemma will be graduating from Bristol Vet School this summer and as a local girl will, I'm sure, settle in quickly and get to know many of you before the end of the year.

- We had a great day at North Somerset Show this year, thanks to all the familiar faces that came along to say hello and try our fluid pump competition. The pump didn't quite survive the day but is back in action after a service!
- From 1/10/24, every poultry flock will need to be registered with APHA, even for a few backyard hens! Visit our new website for more details.





Animal Health and Welfare Pathway Grants

The 'Animal health and Welfare pathway' grants are still open, in fact some people have claimed for it twice already! Registering for the scheme has become easier since it was first launched. You no longer need to 'register interest' and then wait for an invitation - sign up directly! The scheme is also no longer limited to only those who are BPS-eligible.

The requirements are:

- Minimum number of animals (21+ sheep, 11+ cattle, 51+ pigs)
- English CPH number (may be permanent or temporary)
- Single Business Identifier

You can apply for 1 review every 10 months, dated from when you sign up and receive an 'Agreement Number'. The 10 month period can only be waived if no funding is claimed meaning you can still only apply for funding for one species type every 10 months, but funding for multiple species is planned for the future (no launch date yet).

The AHWP was originally intended to last for 3 years. In 2026, DEFRA will review whether or not the scheme will be extended. See the 'useful resources' section of our website to find the application link.

Flystrike Update

Blowfly strike season is upon us again, checkout the 'Animal Insights' section of our shiny new website to find out about recognising, preventing and treating the disease.

www.langfordvets.co.uk/farm

Blowfly strike is a common problem in sheep flocks during the spring and summer months, and can also less commonly affect cattle, goats and alpacas.

You can check the NADIS blowfly forecast at:

www.alerts.nadis.org.uk

As of writing, all of the south west is deemed a 'high risk' area!

Check out our new website!

We are excited to have launched our new website which makes it easier to find the information you are looking for. We have a new 'Animal Insights' section which contains a selection of articles giving advice about all species, farm animal or otherwise. We also have a selection of new online forms to streamline processes such as Faecal Egg Count Submission, Medication Requests, and Large Animal Referrals.

Cobalt deficiency in growing lambs

Trace element deficiencies like cobalt can be difficult to detect, due to causing vague clinical signs like poor growth, appetite, wool quality and fertility. It is rare in adults - weaned lambs are often the ones affected. This is why the disease is also known as "pine", as it was originally thought that the poor appetites were because the lambs were "pining" for their dam.

Cobalt plays an important role in the production of Vitamin B12 in the gut, which in turn is involved in the immune system. This means that cobalt-deficient animals will also have poor immunity and will be prone to pneumonia, parasites and clostridial diseases. In a case of severe cobalt deficiency, sheep will begin to show neurological signs, like stumbling in circles and pressing their heads against fences. At this point, the lack of cobalt and Vitamin B12 has caused damage to the liver, known as 'ovine white liver syndrome'.

Read the full article, including the link with worms, and supplementing cobalt and b12 in growing lambs:

www.langfordvets.co.uk/farm

