



Cattle Newsletter

Spring 2009

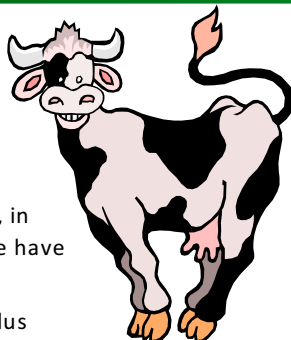
Endell Veterinary Group, 49 Endless Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3UH - 01722 333291

Summer Offers 2009

For many years we have promoted Autoworm boluses as the preferred bolus wormer option for use in replacement breeding stock where the development of immunity to parasites as well as growth performance is important. Where the development of immunity to parasites is less important and growth performance is more important, in animals which will be fattened and sold at a young age for example, we have offered the Panacur bolus as a cheaper alternative.

Following the merger of Schering-Plough and Intervet last year, the bolus market has changed with the new combined company marketing the Panacur bolus and Pfizer marketing Autoworm. Following discussion with both of these companies we are now able to offer the following prices this year:

Autoworm First Grazer:	£9.27 per bolus
Autoworm Finisher:	£8.57 per bolus
Panacur:	£6.81 per bolus



To control flies, midges and other external parasites we have, again for many years, promoted the use of Spot-On but again the merger of Schering-Plough and Intervet has changed the market place. The new combined company now markets Butox Swish and Spot-On is now being marketed by Pfizer.

Both Butox Swish and Spot-On contain the same active ingredient; deltamethrin, and both are applied as a pour-on preparation. Spot-On is licenced to control flies, lice and ticks in both cattle and sheep. Cattle require a 10ml dose of the product and sheep 5ml. Butox Swish is licenced to control flies and lice in cattle. The dose required depends on the size of the animal being treated; 10ml for an animal weighing less than 100kg, 20ml for an animal weighing between 100 and 300kg and 30ml for an animal weighing more than 300kg. Both products have similar withdrawal periods. (Both have a nil milk withdrawal period when used on dairy cows.)

Following discussion with both Pfizer and Schering-Plough/Intervet we are able to offer the following prices this year:

Spot-On	
● 250ml	£39.52
● 500ml	£65.86
● 1L	£105.37
● 2½L	£254.74 (price per adult cow treatment - £1.02)
Butox Swish	
● 250ml	£12.52
● 1L	£42.28
● 2½L	£87.52
● Economy Pack (11L)	£292.28 (price per adult cow treatment - 80p)

We hope to be able to offer a pour-on avermectin cattle wormer this season at a similar price to that achieved last year. Negotiations in this respect are ongoing. In the meantime we still have small quantities of Bimectin, the product we stocked last year, at last year's prices:

Bimectin:	
● 2½L	£48.00
● 5L	£90.00

Hypomagnesaemia - Grass Staggers

This is a disease of lactating cattle and is seen more commonly in beef animals, but can occur in dairy cows. The cows tend to suffer from this when out on lush pasture, but it can also be seen during worming.

Signs to look out for include stiffness, hypersensitivity to stimulus and muscle tremors, progressing to recumbency and convulsion. Sudden death can also occur.

If you suspect your cow has grass staggers, it is vital that you call a vet so that emergency treatment can be given. This is a rapidly progressing condition which requires immediate veterinary treatment if a successful outcome is to be achieved.

Prevention involves magnesium supplementation in the feed, water or as mineral licks. Intra-ruminal magnesium boluses can also be used.

It may be an option to use fertilisers which are higher in magnesium if your pasture is known to be deficient. Any of our vets would be happy to discuss a suitable prevention strategy for your farm.

It is also important to keep out-wintered stock protected from adverse weather conditions and provided with supplementary food.

Animals found dead can be tested for magnesium deficiency by taking a sample from the eye.

This test can be run at our laboratory at the practice. Remember that any animal found dead unexpectedly should be reported to DEFRA incase an anthrax test is required.



(All prices quoted are exclusive of VAT.)

