



SEPTEMBER

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DAMORY LODGE EDWARD STREET BLANDFORD FORUM DORSET DT11 7QT
TEL : 01258 452 626 FAX : 01258 453 548 www.damoryvets.co.uk

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Damory Suckler Herd Discussion Group

“Herd Management Software Programs”

7pm Wednesday 18th October - The Brewery Visitor Centre, Blandford
Hot buffet provided free of charge

A number of you expressed an interest in looking at herd management computer systems at the last meeting. Having looked at what is currently available two programs stand out:

“Total Beef” by SUM-IT

&

“Beef Manager” by ORCHID FARM WIZARD

- Both programs link to BCMS so cattle details can be downloaded & births, deaths & movements registered onto BCMS.
- Easy recording of medicines & feedstuffs for farm assurance.
- Record & analyse breeding and fertility data.
- Calculate full costings on a per head, group or whole herd basis.
- Record & analyse weights, growth rates & carcass information.
- Link to mobile devices so you can record data from a smartphone or tablet.

I have arranged a representative from both companies to come and demonstrate their programs and answer any questions. They have kindly offered to sponsor the meeting so I am hoping for a good turnout to make it worth their while. It should be an informative evening even if you have no immediate plans to purchase such a system. Many thanks, Matt.

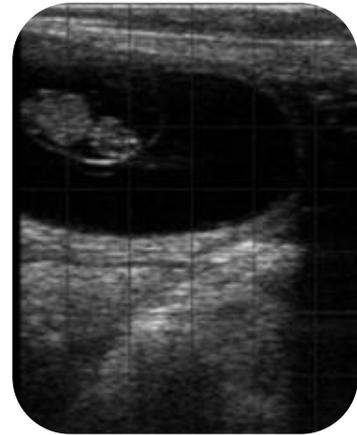
Please RSVP by Friday 13th October so the Brewery can plan the catering.

PDs FOR BEEF HERDS

We are now entering the optimum time to Pregnancy Diagnose (“PD”) Spring calving suckler herds.

Scanning cows **6 weeks** after the bulls were taken out gives us the best opportunity to give you accurate calving dates, enables barren cows to be identified early and managed accordingly, and means that any fertility issues can be quickly rectified.

Call us now to book in your PDs at a time and date to suit.



Damory Post-Mortem Service

Although we aim to prevent deaths and disease sometimes they happen out of the blue. If the cause of death is not obvious a post-mortem is often good value as it may identify a disease or problem that can be rectified in a herd or flock before other deaths occur. Remember any cattle sudden deaths must be reported to AHPA for anthrax testing.

Portman & South Dorset Kennels are extremely competitive on their fallen stock fees and will collect locally most days. They are more than happy for us to perform post-mortems at their premises which is ideal as there is no need to put the animal back together again ready for collection; this enables us to perform a more thorough post-mortem and saves us time, meaning we can offer competitive post-mortem fees when done at the kennels. This way you can achieve disposal and a post-mortem result for a cost similar to a knacker yard’s disposal fee.

Note that cattle over 4 years old cannot be taken by the kennels; they must go to a knacker yard approved for BSE testing, such as Frome Vale.

Animal	Portman Kennel Fee	Damory Post Mortem Fee	Total Fee
Adult Cow	£80	£70	£150
Stirk	£30	£70	£100
Calf	£12	£50	£62
Sheep	£36	£50	£86
Goat	£35	£50	£85
Alpaca	£50	£50	£100
Pig	£50	£50	£100



Baby Burge is born!

We are pleased to announce that Pippa Louise Burge was born on the 1st September weighing 9 pounds 1 ounce, making Matt a Dad and Andrew a Grandad!!!





Liver Fluke & Lungworm

We are starting to see cases of liver fluke and lungworm in livestock as is typical this time of year.



If you suspect either of these diseases or want more information on control & prevention please call and speak to one of our vets as both diseases can be very damaging if not identified and treated early.



New Pre-Foam Technology

Pre-milking teat disinfection is an important element of controlling mastitis and cell count infections caused by environmental pathogens like strep uberis & E.coli. For it to be effective:

1. A rapid-kill licensed pre-dip product must be used as bacteria need to be killed in a short-space of time (compared with a post-dip which needs to kill persistently between milkings). There is no such thing as a dual purpose pre & post dip!
2. The product must be allowed at least 30 seconds contact time.
3. The teats must then be dry wiped using a clean paper towel per cow and clean part of the paper towel per teat.
4. Clusters should be applied 60-90 seconds after the beginning of teat preparation. This time lag stimulates optimum milk let down resulting in faster more complete milking out and better milk flow; leading to increased milk in the tank and reduced teat end damage.



Pre-dips are best applied with a teat cup as this guarantees better teat coverage compared with a spray and wastes less product, especially if a foaming product is used. Despite this many people prefer using medicated wipes or a spray as they are less cumbersome than having to keep re-filling and squeezing teat cups. This is why we thought we would draw your attention to this new product from CID Lines / Pearce Seeds as it combines the ease of a spray gun handle with a teat cup for applying a pre-dip foam. The system is relatively cheap and easy to install and there is a working example on one of our dairies if you would like to see it in action. Please speak to Matt for more information.