



@howellsvets



@howellsvets



www.howellsvets.co.uk



01347 823678



York Road,
Easingwold, YO61 3EB



WHAT'S ON

To Book Email
meetings@howellsvets.co.uk

Worm Wise: Counting The Costs

When: Monday 12th October 2026
Time: 6.30pm to 9pm
Where: The Gavel Cafe, Thirsk, YO7 3AB

Pie
and pea
supper
included



Calf Confidence Course

When: Monday 19th October 2026
Time: 6.30pm to 9pm **£** £100 plus VAT
Where: Our Farm Dispensary, Roxby Business Park, Easingwold, YO61 3EF



Intermediate Foot Trimming Course

For those who would like a deeper understanding and the opportunity to practice their new skills crush-side, our three-day 'Intermediate Hoof Trimming Course' is the one for you. This longer course allows for one day of discussion and practical training at our Farm Dispensary Site, followed by two days on farm for supervised trimming practice.

When: 3 day course from Monday 23rd to Wednesday 25th November 2026
Time: 8.30am to 5pm daily **£** £630 plus VAT
Where: Our Farm Dispensary, Roxby Business Park, Easingwold, YO61 3EF and on farm location to be disclosed upon booking.

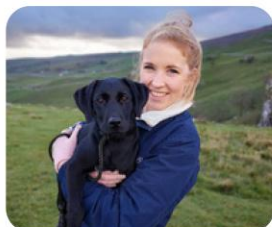


PRACTICE NEWS



Katy Gardiner recently joined our veterinary team and has settled in nicely. You may have already seen her on farm as she was keen to get stuck straight in. Katy brings her experience of previously working as a farm vet but also her years of experience of extensive hands-on agricultural work which has equipped her with excellent animal handling skills, effective communication and a deep understanding of the farming community. She's keen to develop her clinical and surgery skills and looks forward to meeting you all.

VET'S VIEWPOINT



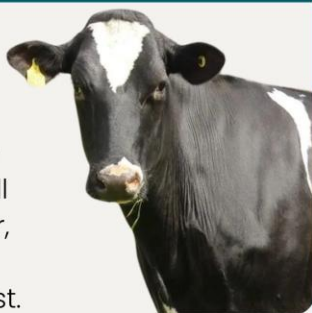
Written by Lizzie Relp
BVSc, MRCVS

There were cheers up and down the country as the rain-clouds rolled in September. Finally, all the prayers and rain-dances have been answered and the long, dry summer has ended. However, with the rain comes a few challenges- conditions have become more favourable for worm burdens on pasture, meaning we've seen a spike in recent faecal egg counts, especially in lambs. Now is the time to be getting samples submitted to the SQP team to monitor worm burdens in your stock, especially if your seeing poor daily live weight gains, condition loss or scour in your lambs. Funding is still open via the Animal Health and Welfare Pathway for a drench check- give us a bell at the surgery if you want to arrange this.



BENEFITS OF BULK MILK SAMPLING

Dairy farmers are lucky enough to be able to test most of their adult herd for disease with only one small pot of bulk milk. Even better, most tests are very cost effective at under £20 a test.



The most familiar testing is bulk milk cell count, which gives an indication of intra-mammary infections. Composition testing shows the fat and protein percentage, which is useful for monitoring rumen health.

Bulk milk serology looks for antibodies in the milk. It is most useful when used two to four times a year for monitoring infectious disease in the herd. Serology tests are available for many diseases including BVD, leptospirosis, IBR, liver fluke, ostertagia (gut worms) and salmonella. Bulk milk can also be tested for infectious agents – BVD virus is the most common example. There is also a bulk milk test available that identifies the Q fever bacterium.

Less commonly, bulk milk sampling can help with investigations of high bactoscan levels or antibiotic contamination.

Bulk milk sampling should not be used for monitoring Johne's disease as it is a poor indicator of disease in the herd, and identifying infected individuals is an essential part of the control strategy. It is generally not useful for mastitis investigations for the same reason.



Ellie Button
MA, Vet MB, Cert
AVP(Cattle), MRCVS
RCVS Advanced
Practitioner in
Cattle Health and
Production



Laura Crosby
SQP ROMS Advisor



ARE YOU PART OF OUR CALF CLUB?



The Royal Veterinary College (RVC) and AHDB trial found that rearing costs varied considerably from an average £1,800/heifer up to £3,000/heifer (AHDB) (2016).



Heifer calves are the future of your herd. Calf club can offer a consistent weekly visit to take bloods to assess passive transfer of colostrum, regular weights at week 1, 2 and 4 to see trends of growth and can be used to calculate DLWG to ensure calves are on target for weaning.



Disbudding and vaccination tailored to your protocols can also be done which are carried out by our vet techs



Calf club is very much tailored to your needs and a full discussion on which services you need or things you would like to have will be hand before starting.



Monthly reports are created and quarterly meetings are held with our vets to discuss the data highlighting the good and possible areas that may need improvement, working out why this may be and formulating a plan to improve them and reassessing at the next meeting.

AHDB Dairy's heifer rearing cost calculator enables farmers to calculate farm specific costs | AHDB

