

# **Farm** vetPartners Newsletter

October 2025

# Farm Autumn Conference- 'Beyond the Bottle'

We had a very successful conference on 1st October with a good range of topics covered and a lovely meal from the Glenavon served! In case you missed it this is a rundown of the topics covered.

## **Ferapppease**

Mr Ian Cure MRCVS from the large Veterinary practice LLM in England spoke on the uses and benefits of the calming hormone BSAS called Ferappease. See picture for all the uses suggested. We have

had very good feedback from Beef finishers giving it on arrival at the yard to calm animals down. This helps them drink, and eat more much sooner and therefore they settle in faster and are much healthier with less pneumonia and improved growth rates. It has even been suggested that the vaccines work better due to the animals immune system being less stressed and better able to react to the vaccines. Some of our farmers are giving tit to heifers especially after calving and even cows to ease them into the milking process again, this is especially being used on robot farms to train heifers to the robot. Other important times would be the weaning or disbudding calves and housing stock in the autumn.



Mr Ryan Duffy MRCVS of the company Precision Microbes came with Interchem and spoke about the wide ranging benefits of a healthy gut. He reminded us that 70% of the immune cells of our bodies are located in the gut, therefore keeping these healthy has a huge effect on the rest of the body and the calfs survival and growth. The recommended dose of the liquid is "30 for 30", ie 30ml daily for the first 30 days.

#### **Mastatest**

Alise Callaghan MRCVS from MSD animal health spoke about the new mastitis test they have which not only tells us the bacteria causing the mastitis giving us valuable information on where to target preventative measures but also a sensitivity profile allowing us to pick the best treatment option.





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#### Multimin

Mr Marcello Guadagnini, the International Technical Manager for Axiota hosted by Virbac and spoke about the benefits of the multi mineral injection. Stressful events use up minerals in the body and the company has shown there are better results from giving multimin before any of these events, eg, Weaning calves, drying off cows, beginning of lactation, Al or ET work or any time the animals diet is deficient.

# **Boeringer Ingleheim**

Mr Peter Horard MRCVS a vet spoke about the vaccine range and versatile options from Boeringer for cattle pneumonia. He reminded us that pneumonia is the biggest cause of calf mortality in calves from 1 month to 6 months old, and of the contributing factors of pneumonia - Stress, Environment, Nutrition and concurrent disease eg parasites and scours and the importance of the whole picture as well as vaccination in controlling disease. Peter stated the loss in milk production for a heifer with a moderate case of pneumonia when young could be 4% in the first lactation and 8% in the second lactation!

# Sensehub Young Stock

Mr John Duffy of MSD spoke about the interesting health monitoring tag for young cattle. Many will be familiar with the collars etc for cows and this is a similar system but in tag format which is better accepted by the calves. The results are clearly visible through an app on your mobile and John says it can often tell a calf is not well 24 to 36 hours before it becomes apparent to the naked eye.

#### Norbrook

Mr Kevin Corry spoke about their new test for liver fluke for cattle and sheep. He reminded us if its wet enough for grass to be green then its usually wet enough for the mud snail which carries fluke to livestock! The test works like a covid test but it required a small drop of blood, and the is a small device like a Diabetes test to prick the animals. It works best in first season grazers and you should discuss when and where it can be used with you vet.

#### Parklands vet Sam Hardy MRCVS

Spoke about calf health and pneumonia, and gave some tips on the best start for calves.

- 4 litres of colostrum in the first 6 hours of life and the benefits of the SCCL product.
- Pneumonia vaccine programs should start in the first week of life
- Don't forget about the risk of cocci usually around 6 to 8 weeks of life.

If you have any questions on the conference don't hesitate to speak to a Parklands vet.







