

DN NEWSLETTER *issue 38*

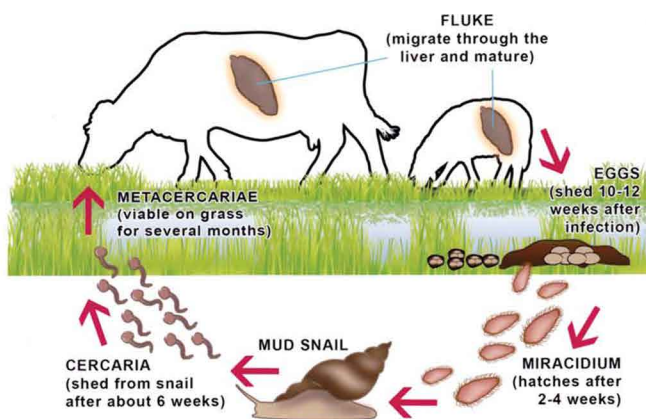
Dairy cattle can be a challenge for internal parasite control. We need to control them strategically and sustainably. Aiming to prevent and reduce pasture contamination. In this newsletter we will give the top tips for controlling liver fluke, roundworms, and lungworm, following the 'COWS' advice.

LIVER FLUKE

Identify Risk:

1. Infected sheep grazing the same pastures as cattle will lead to the presence of metacercariae which are also infectious to cattle.
2. Bought-in animals may introduce fluke to previously clean pastures and can pose a risk for the introduction of flukicide-resistant parasites.
3. The longer the grazing season, the higher the risk of infection, especially during the autumn when metacercariae numbers peak.

Liver Fluke Life Cycle; COWS Technical Manual



Treat Appropriately:

Consider the 5 'R's for the effective use of flukicides:

1. Use the RIGHT flukicide. Target the product to the specific stage of parasite, consult with your vet or SQP.
2. Treat the RIGHT animal. Treat exposed animals and animals at risk. Include all animals in control plan as immunity doesn't develop.
3. Treat cattle at the RIGHT time. Depends on various factors including pasture-risk, animal type and time of year.

4. Dose cattle at the RIGHT rate. Need to calibrate equipment and know the weight of stock.
5. Administer the treatment in the RIGHT way. Always read the label to make sure the method of administration is correct.
6. Resistance to triclabendazole is being seen in sheep and so ensuring the liver fluke control plan reduces the risk of resistance spreading is important. Use your vet/SQP to do a faecal egg count reduction test if you suspect resistance on your farm.
7. Quarantine all incoming stock.
8. Be prepared. Do not wait until losses occur. Instigate a control plan ASAP.

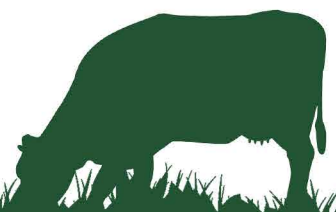
LUNGWORM (PARASITIC BRONCHITIS)

Identify Risk:

1. Lungworm outbreaks are unpredictable, more prevalent in wetter, western areas of Britain. In endemic areas, younger cattle are at risk until they acquire immunity through exposure.
2. Suspect lungworm if there is coughing or respiratory distress in grazing cattle, especially first season grazing calves.
3. Animals exposed to lungworm usually develop resistance to re-infection. Immunity can wane with lack of exposure and so signs can be seen in older cattle.
4. Bought-in cattle may introduce lungworm onto a farm.

Treat Appropriately:

1. Consider routine vaccination for calves in herds with an identified problem.
2. Vaccination not necessary in low prevalence regions or herds with no history but monitor the situation.
3. Use strategic anthelmintics in first year grazing cattle to prevent build up of larvae on the pasture over the grazing season. If limit exposure too much may need vaccination before second grazing season.



Plan Ahead:

1. Work out a control strategy. Consider vaccination in overall worm control strategy as part of herd health planning. Can see losses even at low pasture infection level.

RUMEN FLUKE

Cases are increasing in the UK, it was previously found in tropical and sub-tropical areas.

The parasite uses the same snail as liver fluke. Diagnosis is made by identifying the eggs in faeces. It is mainly seen in younger animals.



Only oxclozanide has reported activity against both adult and immature rumen fluke, but there are no commercial flukicides containing oxclozanide that have a specific claim for rumen fluke. Veterinary advice is required for treatment.

For all potential parasite issues on farm, it is important that we consider all stock and the whole farm. The risks should be assessed, and a robust control and treatment plan created.

The treatment plan should be developed with sustainability in mind to minimise resistance and to ensure we plan ahead.

Progressive Healthy (red lid)

DN Progressive Healthy buckets are a high specification energy and protein lick for supporting sheep and suckler health and performance. Progressive Healthy buckets contain high energy and all-natural protein to support animal health, growth and development.

Summer Garlic (white lid)

DN Summer Garlic buckets are a mineral, vitamin and trace element lick, containing added garlic, ideal for all classes of cattle and sheep on forage-based systems during warmer months when insect populations are most active. These buckets also contain Availa selenium to help support good overall health and good levels of protected zinc ideal for where there is a risk of lameness and mastitis.

General Purpose (orange lid)

DN GP Buckets are a mineral bucket containing no added Copper, therefore suitable for both sheep and suckler cows. Features and benefits include Vitamin B1 included to help reduce the risk of CCN, Vitamin B12 for liver function & energy metabolism and Availa Zinc to help support foot health & performance.



For further information about the full range of buckets available from Dugdale Nutrition, please contact your local DN Sales Specialist or call The DN Store on 01200 420234.

