

Welsh Lamb & Beef Producers Vet Newsletter

May 2024



NEW Annual Health & Welfare Review

As you will be aware, since November 2023 the New Annual Health & Welfare Review has been live on the WLBP Vet Portal.

NEW Features include:

- Auto-save
- Editing options for text boxes
- Auto-attach up-to-date completed AMU Calculations
- Ability to attach supporting documents to the review
- New sections with species specific questions
- When a Dairy enterprise is present there are sections to populate the Red Tractor Health & Performance Review PDF.

It is essential that the AMU Calculation is completed and submitted before you start the health & welfare review.

If you have any queries about completing the AMU Calculation or Review then please contact us on healthplan@wlbp.co.uk or 01970 636688.

RT Antibiotic Failures

If your client has a Red Tractor antibiotic failure, they need to report the failure to you within 7 days. Under the Red Tractor standards the vet must send confirmation that the failure has been reported.

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Annual Health & Welfare Review Vs Farm Health Plan

- Health Plan can be completed by the farmer or the vet.
- Annual Health and Welfare Review <u>must</u> be completed by a vet.

ONLINE VET MEETINGS

Please join us on the following dates for our WLBP Online Vet Meetings.

Highlighting the 2021 & 2022 results of the AMU Calculator:

AMU Calculator

- Monday 3rd June @ 5:30pm
- ◊ Monday 10th June @ 5:30pm
 - Wednesday 12th June @ 2pm



Please email healthplan@wlbp.co.uk if you would like to join.

WLBP AMU Reports

We are pleased to share with you the Welsh Lamb and Beef Producers Antimicrobial Use Reports for both



2021 and 2022. These reports provide detailed analysis of antimicrobial use (AMU) in beef, sheep and dairy sectors across Wales. Please click on the links below to find out more:



2021 AMU Report

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2022 AMU Report



WLBP AMU Calculator - Metrics

Frequently Asked Questions:

Why are only breeding ewes used when calculating the total amount of sheep? What about rams?

It is recognised that there will be rams on the farm and that antibiotic will be used in these rams. It is very important that all antibiotics used in the flock are included in the calculation.

However only the number of breeding ewes are included in the calculation to keep things simple.

For further information, please follow the links below: <u>Sheep AMU Metric Document</u> <u>CHAWG AMU Beef Benchmarking Metrics Report</u> <u>CHAWG AMU Dairy Benchmarking Metrics Report</u>

How are adult dairy cows defined?

Adult dairy cows are defined as female dairy breed animals 2 years of age or older, including those that are lactating, in the dry period or destined to become culls.

Why is it recommended to have a 12-month benchmarking period based on a calendar year?

A 12-month period based on a calendar year has been taken as the standard within the sheep industry to allow for within-year seasonal fluctuations in usage. It has been recommended to allow comparison across systems regardless of lambing dates.

<u>New Veterinary Medicines Regulations are coming into force on 17 May 2024 -</u> <u>GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>

AMR-specific changes in which the cattle sector may have a particular interest include:

- Restrictions on the routine use of antibiotics in animals. Blanket dry cow therapy (administering antibiotics at drying off without an individual risk assessment) is considered to be routine use.
- Restrictions on the administration of antibiotics delivered via a group administration route (for example, in milk/milk replacer) to more than one animal at the same time.

The provisions above are subject to the professional obligations of a veterinary surgeon to ensure the health and welfare of animals under their care.

Further information and guidance to help interpret these changes can be found on the <u>VMD Information Hub -</u> <u>GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>.

Confusion regarding

FAWL, Vet Attestations & RCVS Guidelines

WLBP have recently been made aware of circumstances where there has been confusion regarding the requirements of FAWL, Vet Attestation and the RCVS Guidelines.

The requirement to visit farms as part of prescribing prescription-only veterinary medicines

(POM-Vs) is an RCVS requirement (as shown in the latest guidance, see text box).

The FAWL scheme is identified as a qualifying scheme for the purposes of export certification. Therefore, members of FAWL are exempt from completing the Vet Attestation Process. For this exemption, FAWL members are asked if a vet has visited the farm in the last 12 months.

RCVS - 'Under care' - new guidance

The 5 key changes can be found by clicking the following link:

<u>'Under care' - new guidance - Professionals (rcvs.org.uk)</u>

Contact Details

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