



News

Spring 2025

Welcome

We hope you have been enjoying the recent Spring sunshine! The year started well with Scarlett and Jemma hosting a practical lambing client course, thank you to those who came along.

Most recently we hosted an informative evening regarding bluetongue – how we will be managing this as it creeps closer to Somerset and the surrounding area. More on this below.

Further to this, we share more about a new product on the market designed to reduce stress in ruminants, an update on bird flu, details about our foot crush for trimming and the animal health and welfare pathway.

Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 8.30am - 5pm

Telephone: 01934 852 650

24 hour emergency cover

Email us: farmpractice@langfordvets.co.uk

Web: langfordvets.co.uk/farm

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Insta:



Upcoming

North Somerset Show – Monday 5th May 2025



Bluetongue

We held a client event on 19th March to discuss the current situation and to provide more information about the BTV-3 vaccines that have now been authorised for all of England and Wales. If you couldn't make it on the day, we have made the recording available on our website. [Watch Now](#).

With the pleasant spring weather in mid-March, midge activity is expected to increase, and unfortunately that will mean an increase in bluetongue cases over the next months.

Please contact the practice if you would like to place an order for BTV-3 vaccine. If you have a small number of animals, we

are in the process of organising 'vaccine days' to split bottles between multiple clients, which will be more cost-effective for small herds/flocks. The planned 'vaccine day' is:

- 23rd April 2025



Avian Influenza - Bird Flu

Currently – not much update on the Avian Influenza front. The mandatory housing requirement remains in place in the east of the country. The rest of England remains under close surveillance, with enhanced biosecurity measures required. Bird flu is mainly spread through contact with infected wild birds and their faeces.

For more information around symptoms, how to spot the disease and preventative measures, see the government website for more details:

Bird flu (avian influenza): how to spot and report it in poultry or other captive birds - GOV.UK

As a reminder, it is now a legal requirement for all birds to be registered with the APHA and for premises to have a CPH number, even just a couple of chickens in your back garden! For more information on how to register, please see the website below:

Register as a keeper of less than 50 poultry or other captive birds - GOV.UK



FerAppease

We have recently started stocking a new product called 'FerAppease'. This is a maternal bovine appeasing substance, a pheromone, that is for use to help calm cattle. It can also be used on sheep, although the studies have not yet been published for this. The idea is for this to be used before and during any stressful event, to minimise the impact. There are no withdrawal periods as it is not a medicinal product.



Re-ewe-venate

We have a new product on our shelf – the latest addition to the Selekt range. The Re-ewe-venate drench, can be used for treatment of sick ewes around lambing showing signs of twin lamb or hypocalcaemia.



North Somerset Show

We will once again be attending the North Somerset Show on Monday 5th May. Come and find us at our stand **AG16**. We hope to see lots of you there!



Animal Health + Welfare Policy

You can now apply for the animal health and welfare pathway grant to cover multiple species at the same time! This grant funds disease testing and "freestyle" vet time which you can use for any project which aims to improve animal health and welfare in your herd or flock.

- You do need a minimum number for animals to register (11+ cattle, 21+ sheep) and have SBI number
- Disease testing in cattle is BVD surveillance, in sheep it is worm drench testing
- Lump sum for the grant is paid on gov receipt of summary
- Includes VAN number! Saves on admin fee

If you have completed the grant, you can reapply for the grant 10 months after the last, as well as applying for "bolt-on" grant funding to further support vet time on farm.

Foot Crush

Did you know we have our own foot trimming crush? We can bring our foot crush to your holding for routine trimming as well as for problem cows that might need looking at. This can be added on to your TB test as an additional service. Contact the office now to get your cows booked in.



Bristol's Final Year Vet Students

Our Farm Animal Practice vets are accompanied by final year vet students on their visits. These students have completed all their formal teaching for the vet degree and are in a year of placements across all different clinical specialties before they graduate and start work themselves. Students can be a useful pair of hands when it comes to handling animals, moving cattle through crushes or record keeping on visits.

Occasionally we will supervise students to practice clinical skills whilst on a visit, we will always ask permission before doing so and time taken for teaching will be deducted from the bill.

If you specifically do or do not want students to attend a visit to your animals, please let our admin staff know at the time your visit is booked and we will try to accommodate wherever possible.

We hope you find our students useful support when we come out to see your animals, and we are grateful to you for supporting their veterinary degree, and ensuring we have great vets in the future to take care of your animals!



Farm Animal Referral Service

We offer advanced referral care for small ruminants, camelids, and pigs, supported by state-of-the-art diagnostics, surgery, and farm-specific facilities. From imaging to orthopaedics, we provide tailored support for complex cases.



[Find out more...](#)