

Medicine Supply Update

Happy New Year to all! Despite a bit more certainty regarding Brexit there are a frustratingly large number of farm animal veterinary medicines that are now out of stock, or have been discontinued, or have been replaced by an alternative brand. We can only apologise for this situation, although it is not of our making. Rest assured that we are working as hard as we can behind the scenes to maintain continuity of supply to our clients. A brief summary follows...

Milking cow antibiotic tubes are a particular area of concern. **Tetra Delta** is still unavailable although we have been promised a return to market at some point in the Spring. **Multiject** is a very similar product (same withdrawals—milk 108h, meat 7d), and benefits from being slightly less expensive, and having better on label dosing instructions (1 syringe daily for 3 days).

Ubro Yellow is also temporarily unavailable, and production may be stopped in the long term. Unfortunately there is no direct equivalent containing framycetin antibiotic. **Cobactan** is a CIA and so off limits, and **Synulox / Combiclav** tubes are also temporarily unavailable.

In summary, for the short term it seems that the only mastitis tubes available will be **Ubrolexin** and **Multiject**. The practice and XLVets are seeking clarification of the situation from the medicines companies, and actively looking for alternatives.

To keep on the right side of the prescribing guidelines we are now stocking **Ovareilin**. This is a similar product to **Receptal** but it has a wider range of on label uses including CIDR Synch protocols. Please note that the standard dose of Ovareilin is 2ml im. Receptal will still be carried in stock, but its use will be restricted to the treatment of Ovarian cysts using a 5ml dose.

Norodine is temporarily unavailable, we are now stocking an equivalent product, **Duphatrim**.

Adrenacaine local anaesthetic (for dehorning etc) seems to come in and out of stock, but XLVet have secured a long term supply of an alternate product, **Pronestesc**. This product should be stored in a fridge when not being used.

Framomycin is an antibiotic often used for E Coli mastitis, but unfortunately production of this product has stopped permanently, with little explanation given. Alternatives (eg Norodine) are available so it may be worth giving us a ring and chatting through the options with a vet.

Leptospirosis Vaccine seems more readily available, and the practice has chosen to stock **Spirovac** as we feel that there is less of a chance of any future interruption in supply. We have secured an excellent price with Zoetis, the manufacturers which means that we can compete with the agricultural merchants so please give Al C at the practice a call for more details.

After a long and very frustrating list there is potentially some good news to end with. We have been assured that Ceporex is on the way back to the shelves. This is very similar to Cevaxel (ie 0 hours milk withdrawal) but it is a first generation Cephalosporin and therefore not a CIA. When are we expecting it? We have been told Springtime but given the inaccuracies and half truths peddled by some of the meds companies recently we are not sure what to believe!

We will try to keep you up to date with any further changes in future newsletters, or by text message. Please give the practice a call if you have any queries.



Level 3 Agricultural Apprenticeship

Mount Vets are delighted to announce that, in conjunction with Bicton College, we will be launching a level 3 specialist dairy apprenticeship programme in September 2020. This highly practical programme will be delivered both on farm and at our premises at Colliton Barton Training Centre. It will cover all aspects of the health and welfare of dairy animals.

An apprentice brings fresh ideas and new skills to grow your business. For most businesses the training is fully funded and as an employer you could also receive £1,000 incentive if you take on an apprentice aged 16-18.

The apprenticeship course will cover

- Welfare and biosecurity
- Animal husbandry, management systems and handling
- Nutrition
- Milking routine
- Mastitis
- Lameness
- Breeding/fertility management
- Calving
- Dry cow management
- Calf rearing
- Replacement heifer rearing
- Common cattle health problems and use of medicines
- Grassland production
- An introduction to record keeping/basic accounts
- Management of the new born calf



Cost and funding

For a small business with fewer than 50 employees this apprenticeship will be fully-funded for apprentices aged 16-18 or 95% funded for an apprentice aged 19 and over. As an employer you could also receive a £1,000 incentive if you take on an apprentice aged 16-18.

What is an apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship has a minimum duration of 12 months of which 20% has to be 'off the job' learning. This apprenticeship course is delivered in the workplace with limited contact time by a college assessor when they visit the apprentice. Therefore additional 'off the job' learning is required in the workplace by the employer.

What qualifications do you need to start?

Preferably GCSEs at grade 4 or above to include English and Maths or a Level 2 Apprenticeship in Agriculture, or at least 12 months full time experience of working on a farm.

How long will it take?

This is an 18-24 month programme, working on a one training day per month day release basis.

Next steps – we will arrange to interview and sign up any staff looking to become an apprentice or we will support you with the costs and hassle of advertising and finding an apprentice

For More Information please phone our Colliton Branch on 01404 841011



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