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## MAY 2023 NEWSLETTER

**NEMATODIRUS FORECAST** – Due to an unusually cold and wet April, we have not yet seen any *Nematodirus battus* issues in lambs. However, with warmer weather predicted for early May we anticipate outbreaks to start soon. Remember this worm hatches in large numbers once temperatures rise above 10C for long periods of time, it occurs in fields which were grazed by lambs the previous year. It can cause significant issues / infestations including scour and growth rate reduction and cause mortality of up to 5% in the worst outbreaks. Faecal egg counts are not helpful for diagnosis as signs can develop before worms in the gut start reproducing (releasing eggs). If you suspect you may have an issue based on clinical signs, please give us a call to discuss.

**Avian influenza** restrictions have at last been lifted, and chickens can be released. However there have been a few recent breakdowns, one as close as Newton Abbot. We would advise that basic biosecurity measures are still applied to help protect your flock. These measures include keeping food and water inside or undercover to minimise access for wild birds, and ensuring footwear is clean of any bird faeces when entering bird runs/ bedding area.

### AN EXTRA LEG OF LAMB!

We know all farmers are trying to optimise yields from their spring lamb crop, but this lamb presented to us in April was taking it to the extreme! It was decided to remove the extra limb before turn-out to avoid the chance of it getting caught in fencing/bushes.

The radiograph shows the extent of the extra limb, there was a fully formed scapula (shoulder blade) sitting behind the normal one. The lower limb was removed but the shoulder blade had to be left in situ, and will hopefully not cause an issue, apart from possibly confusing a butcher at some point in the future! The lamb recovered well and went out in the field with its dam a few days later.



### FLY CONTROL AT INFLATION BEATING PRICES!

We have some 3L Flypor left over from last year and as such have held the price in place from last season - £85.30 + VAT. The expiry date on this batch is the end of September 2023. Contact Jonathan if you are interested.

Flypor is licensed for the control of flies and lice, and the treatment of sarcoptic and chorioptic mange in cattle. A single dose is usually sufficient to control flies for up to 8 weeks.



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