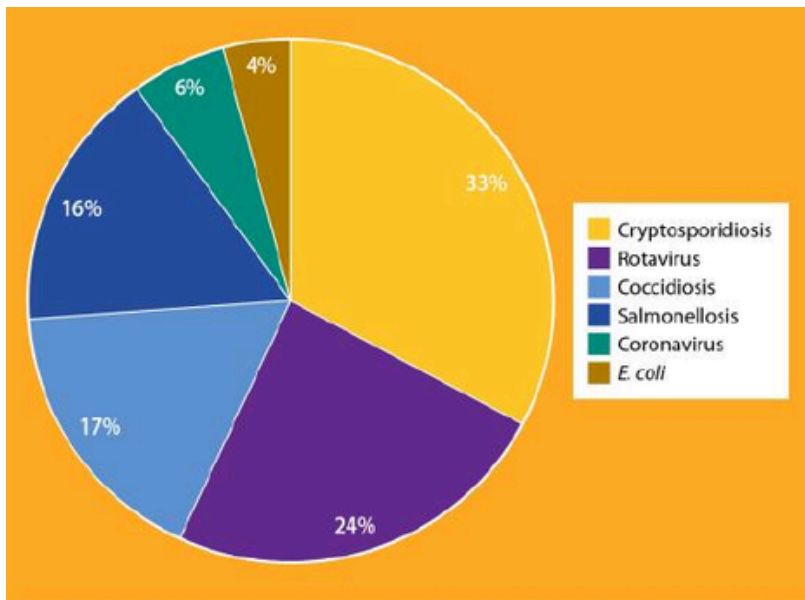
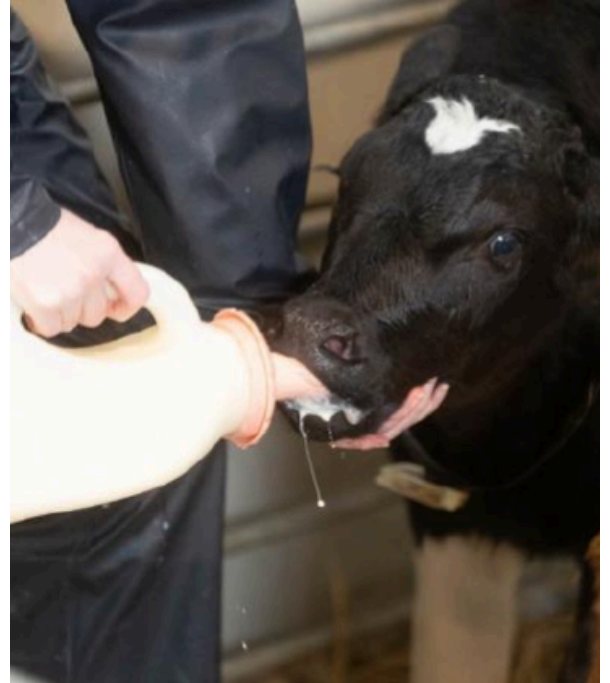


# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## Game-Changing Control of Calf Cryptosporidiosis

If the management of calf cryptosporidiosis has been challenging recently, speak to us about a **game-changing new vaccine** that can help. Vaccinating pregnant heifers and cows with the new Bovilis Cryptium® vaccine from MSD Animal Health can provide protection for calves **from birth at the start of colostrum feeding** – when they are most vulnerable. Active immunisation raises antibodies in colostrum against the protozoan parasite *Cryptosporidium parvum*, which will help to reduce clinical signs (e.g. scour/diarrhoea) when calves are fed this fortified colostrum.



Calf cryptosporidiosis is the **most common cause of infectious scour** in the UK (see figure 1). The disease is widespread on UK dairy and suckler cattle units and is prevalent throughout the year. The condition is **mostly seen in calves 7-14 days of age** but can strike at any time. Infection with the parasite causes **blunting of the intestinal villi**, reducing capacity for nutrient and water absorption. This has a significant impact on a calf's future productivity. In a recent UK study, cryptosporidiosis in the first 16 days of life significantly **reduced weight gain** over a six-month period, with severe disease calves

weighing 34 kg less on average than low disease calves. This equated to a **£161 reduction** in the calf sale price.

## SUSTAINABLE FARMING GRANT REMINDER!

Friendly reminder that farmers in Scotland can claim up to £500 per year through the Sustainable Farming Grant, by addressing two animal health interventions on their farm! For a payment of £250 per intervention, you need a vet to initiate an investigation and provide a clear action plan to address health concerns.

**For more information, please contact one of our farm vets or visit [ruralpayments.org](https://ruralpayments.org) under Preparing for Sustainable Farming.**



# HOW TO USE THE NEW VACCINE

Bovilis Cryptium® should be administered to cattle **during late pregnancy**. The primary vaccination course is two doses (4 to 5 weeks apart, in the third trimester of pregnancy. To be completed **at least 3 weeks** before calving). Cattle that have had the primary vaccination course only need a single booster dose during subsequent pregnancies. The protection of calves **depends on adequate ingestion of colostrum and transition milk from vaccinated cows**. It is recommended that all calves are fed colostrum and transition milk during the first five days of life. At least three litres of colostrum should be fed within the first six hours after birth.



Bovilis Cryptium® can also be administered to cattle during late pregnancy at the same time as the Bovilis® Rotavec® Corona vaccine. Bovilis® Rotavec® Corona boosts antibodies in colostrum for other important infectious scour pathogens; rotavirus, coronavirus and both E. coli F5 (K99) and F41. Calves gain protection against these pathogens by drinking the fortified colostrum from their vaccinated mothers.

## BEEF & SHEEP MEDICINE COURSE

We just hosted our Red Tractor accredited Beef & Sheep Medicine Course, where Neil and Kate spoke about various aspects of veterinary medicines and their responsible use. The course covered everything from the different classes of veterinary medicines, injection site techniques, and legal responsibilities, to the crucial role

of responsible use in the face of industry pressures such as antibiotic and anthelmintic resistance.

After a tasty lunch, we wrapped up with a quiz - congratulations to all attendees for successfully passing the course! If you are interested in the next medicine course, let us know.

