



Intervet Connect Newsletter - Summer Term 2007

Welcome to the summer term 2007 edition of the Intervet Connect newsletter for veterinary students.

In this issue we will cover a variety of interesting topics:

- [Launch of Strangles code during Strangles Awareness Week](#)
- [Overview of *Encephalitozoon cuniculi* \(*E. cuniculi*\)](#)
- [ADAM - entering a new age in dry cow management](#)

I hope you find this newsletter of interest. Should you have any comments or wish to see particular topics covered, please e-mail support.uk@intervet.com.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P Boyden".

Paula Boyden
Intervet Connect Co-ordinator

BHS LAUNCHES NEW STRANGLES CODE

The British Horse Society (BHS) is launching a new strangles code during Strangles Awareness Week (14-20 May) to help provide horse owners with help and advice on this highly contagious and debilitating disease.



The launch follows the news that 10% of BHS approved yards in Scotland were affected by strangles in 2006, a good indicator of the endemic nature of the disease throughout the rest of the UK.

To help assess the impact of strangles and promote the code, Intervet UK, founder of Strangles Awareness Week, will be joining forces with the BHS and BEVA to run an online survey during the initiative.

The poll, which will be featured on the website - www.equine-strangles.co.uk - will help gauge horse owners' knowledge of the disease and the extent of known outbreaks throughout the country. This, in turn, will enable organisations such as the BHS to plan their long-term management strategy for strangles.

David Dugdale, president-elect of BEVA, comments: "BEVA fully supports the drive to increase the awareness of this debilitating disease and supports the BHS's new code to reduce the incidence and spread of the disease."

To find out more about Strangles Awareness Week see www.equine-strangles.co.uk.

INTERVET LAUNCHES PANACUR® RABBIT

Often overlooked, the protozoan *Encephalitozoon cuniculi* (*E. cuniculi*) affects up to 50 per cent of all domesticated rabbits and can lead to convulsions, kidney damage, blindness, ataxia and sudden onset head tilt.

The disease is spread by spores shed in the urine of infected rabbits and is usually ingested in contaminated food. Spores can also be spread transplacentally or inhaled.



TV vet Matt Brash & Ingrid Tarrant

Rabbits with *E. cuniculi* can carry the disease without showing any clinical signs and potentially spread it to other species such as guinea pigs that live with rabbits.

To help control *E. cuniculi* and intestinal worms in rabbits, Intervet UK has launched **Panacur® Rabbit**, an easy to administer paste that should be administered daily for nine consecutive days, two to four times a year. Rabbits should also be dosed during periods of higher risk, such as when the rabbit is acquired, prior to mating and when mixing with others.

Shoumik Das, product manager at Intervet, comments: "**Panacur® Rabbit** is an easy to use wormer that will help rabbit owners control both *E.cuniculi* and intestinal worms with a trusted brand."

WHAT DOES ADAM OFFER DAIRY HERDS?



Challenging the traditional on-farm approach to dry cow management, which is arguably the most important period in a cow's lactation cycle, Intervet has launched an innovative herd management strategy for farmers to implement on their dairy herds.

The Advanced Dry Cow Analysis and Management (ADAM) enables farmers to adopt a variety of practices and principles to improve performance by adapting the therapy, nutrition and management of cows during the dry period. These include adjusting the length of dry periods to achieve a significant production advantage and improving milk solids, further boosting productivity.

Developed by a panel of leading dairy experts including Chris Watson, former president of the British Cattle Veterinary Association, Dr James Hanks of Pan Livestock Services and James Husband, a veterinary consultant specialising in the nutritional management of dairy cows, the wide-ranging benefits of the strategy include:

Production - extra milk in the tank from extended lactations and increased milk solids for even better financial performance

Management - fewer group changes and less problems with energy balance due to nutritional disruptions
- simplifying management overall

Fertility - better nutritional status improves multiple physiological factors which contribute to excellent fertility performance

Health - improved mastitis control and reduced metabolic disorders

Paul Newland, herd manager at Church Farm, Lasham in Hampshire, who has implemented the strategy on his herd, comments: "The cows, on average, have given an extra 400 litres of milk, but our biggest benefit is that our milk fever rate stands at 0.1%."

To help support ADAM, Intervet has produced an interactive DVD covering all aspects of modern management techniques. Packed full of the latest developments in managing dry cows, the DVD includes sections on mastitis, nutrition and the shorter dry period, benefits of short dry periods on fertility and what happens to the udder both pre and post calving.

For further information on any subjects featured in this newsletter, please email support.uk@intervet.com.