

South Wales Farm Vets

Ty Newydd

Groes Faen

CF72 8NE

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Our Team



Mary Walters



Rhian Matthews



Morgan Hanks



Tom Searle



Russell Fuller

Living And Working In Your Community

September 2022

Hello and welcome to the September Newsletter – where did August go??

We had a fabulous day at the Vale Show – many of you helped us demolish a huge selection of cakes and gallons of cold drinks! It was stiflingly hot on the day but many of you bravely showed – congratulations to everyone who did well – in fact, to all of you who stood in a ring in that sun.

Sian and Russell held an oversubscribed Antibiotic Resistance Workshop last month. Feedback has been excellent and a second date has been fixed – 20th September at Pontyclun RFC. Places are limited to 20 and half are already booked. You get a certificate of attendance and it counts towards your Red Tractor annual review. Please phone the office to book.

This month, we welcome a new member of staff, Morgan Donagh. Yes, another female Morgan – what were the chances of that?! See later for her introduction. Morgan is a new graduate and will be with us 2 days a week and at Maesglas 2 days a week – learning those transferrable skills. Very few of you will have ever started a new job in a new environment with new people – it's a terrifying time and a friendly face and a kind word make all the difference.

Mary

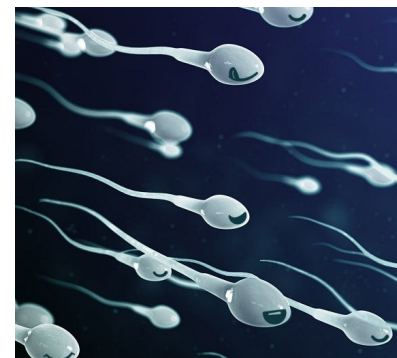
Ram Fertility testing day

Reduced price ram fertility tests at the practice on 13/9/22

£30+VAT per ram for physical examination and semen evaluation

There is the potential to freeze and store semen of suitable quality at an additional cost if discussed at time of booking

Suitable for rams used in single sire groups or synchronisation protocols



Ring the practice to book your time slot—first come first serve basis

Why should I fertility check my ram?

Rams are responsible for 50% of the flock's fertility. The consequence of running sub-fertile or infertile rams are fewer lambs born due to a greater number of barren ewes, with the bottom line that the flock is less profitable.

Ram infertility rates can be as high as 20% in flocks with systemic disease problems but are more normally in the 8-10% range. Approximately 60% of rams that fail a fertility examination do so based on a physical element alone with the remainder picked up on semen analysis.

The major factors of ram physical examination can be summed up by the 4 T's; Teeth, Toes, Testicles & Tone.



Sian Fuller



Dom Day



Jimmy Jackson



Sian Lloyd



Helen Dando



Tracey Huntley

Teeth - good teeth are essential as rams will commonly lose 15% of their bodyweight during 6 weeks tupping.

Toes - mobility is critical to ram performance, if he can't keep up with the ewes or is too sore to successfully mount them then mating will be a complete failure.

Testicles - this sounds cliché, but big is best, target scrotal measurement over 34cm. Testicles should be symmetrical, non-painful, mobile within the scrotum, with good consistency and tone. Larger, firm testicles produce 80% more semen than medium sized, soft testicles.

Tone - Body condition score should be 3.5-4 out of 5, you want a sexual athlete, not a fat "couch potato". As already mentioned rams will lose condition when working, however rams that are over-condition have reduced libido and increased fat in the scrotum which can affect temperature control leading to sperm damage.



Performance Target

- Mature ram - 85% of 80 healthy ewes in first 17 day cycle
- Ram lamb – 85% of 40 ewes
- Barren rate <2% at scanning
- Ram longevity 4-5 seasons

We can do all this for you along with the semen analysis at our ram fertility testing day 13th September. Just give us a ring to book your space.

New Arrival

Hi my name is Morgan I am a local girl from Bridgend, well known, because my dad is a local Doctor! I did my first degree in Bio veterinary science at Hartpury in Gloucester, which was great, because being a Welsh girl I love rugby!

I then went to Liverpool university to do my Vet degree, and have been there for the last 5 years! I loved the city especially as I am a big Beatles fan!

Outside of work I love open water swimming and will be found on the beach swimming, or attempting to surf!

I've always loved the outdoors and can't wait to drive round the Welsh countryside visiting your farms!



Medicine meeting

Red Tractor compliant antibiotic resistance meeting. Free to attend but places are limited and must be booked in advance. Clients must be Farming Connect registered. Certificate of attendance on completion.

Contact the surgery to book your place

Location: Pontyclun Rugby Club, CF72 9DQ

Date: 20/9/2022

Time: 2pm—4pm



Office opening hours

Monday – Friday

8.30am - 5.30pm

Emergency out of hours service

Weeknights 5.30pm - 8.30am

Saturday & Sunday all day