

Newsletter

August 2023

Summer appears to be providing standard variable weather which will hopefully settle for the better in time for the main harvest. This month we welcome our newest addition to the team, Tony, who starts on the 14th. We have had a break from student teaching for a month but they will return at the beginning of August.



Tony O'Loughlin

Hello – I am originally from a dairy and beef farm in N Ireland and have spent most of my career in farm practice in the SW of England working with dairy, beef, sheep and pigs.

In 2017, having been a director in a large farm practice in Devon for 15 years, I decided I needed to travel and enjoy different experiences. After a few years working as a locum across the UK I took a leap of faith and moved to Orkney in 2019 – spent 2 years there with Northvet enjoying the large amount of spring calving beef work, and the dairy work with the Orkney Cheese farms. It certainly helped refine my caesarean technique! It was a great experience and an amazing place to live.

After a move back to Devon I felt the need to travel again and hence the job at the FAP – the challenge of a job within the university was an opportunity to challenge myself clinically and to learn. Having some family in the city helped make the decision.

Outside of work I like to cycle, play some music – I play bass guitar, and get to music gigs. East Lothian and Edinburgh should provide opportunities to enjoy all the above.

Looking forward to meeting you all soon.

Preparing for Sustainable Farming

Just a reminder of the Scottish Government's scheme that was launched this year. This scheme enables keepers to claim up to £1250 over two years. These claims can be for a number of animal health and welfare interventions, outlined on the rural payments website (<https://www.ruralpayments.org/topics/all-schemes/preparing-for-sustainable-farming--psf-/preparing-for-sustainable-farming--psf--full-guidance/>) .Interventions for year one must be completed by 31st December 2023. An online claim system is due to be launched by the end of September and retrospective claims can be made. These interventions will be things that you may well already be doing and can still qualify for the scheme. **There are no on-farm inspections associated with the Interventions.** You can be reassured that doing one or more Interventions will not trigger an on-farm audit or inspection.

Pharmacy updates

We continue to face challenges with availabilities of a number of medications and vaccines and will endeavour to source alternatives where possible. We asked in February for an indication of dose requirements for **Scabiguard** to ensure that we get an appropriate allocation when it becomes available. We are only looking for approximate numbers at present and you will not be held to those numbers. **For those that haven't let Ali know approximate numbers please let her know as soon as you can.**

Hospital Cases

With ambulatory work quieter at this time of year, we rely heavily on our hospital caseload for student teaching. If you have any cases you think suitable for the hospital please let us know. We are happy to do vasectomies in the hospital and this reduces the costs for the procedure.