



Newsletter

May 2026

This month we give you an update from the APHA on the bluetongue situation in Scotland going forward, as always get in touch to discuss further if concerned. Jeanne reminds us about Nematodirus forecasting, Tony gives an update on what's keeping him busy at the moment and an advert for upcoming medicine course.

Bluetongue update

We asked APHA for an update on the situation regarding Bluetongue for the year ahead and they have provided the following:

Retrospective analysis of the environmental data in partnership with the Met Office indicates possible periods in 2025 when it was possible that foci of infection in England and Wales led to spread over water north-westerly to the Island of Ireland, and part of those plumes could equally have brought infected midges to Dumfries and Galloway.

Active winter surveillance of cattle in all border counties in Scotland was undertaken during November and December 2025 to establish to detect incursions of bluetongue virus serotype-3 into Scotland to detect infection with 95% confidence of a 5% prevalence and all tests were negative. We have confidence we have remained free of bluetongue so Scotland will make an effort to try to stay free, and movement controls remain controlled by licence as it would be almost certain that virus would reach Scotland given the number of livestock moved in a typical year.

We continued to review the latest available science and evidence, and determined a period in Scotland when midge vectors will likely become competent again this year in the spread of the bluetongue. The current relaxations in movement controls will end and, **in order to mitigate the risk of an incursion of bluetongue into Scotland new movement controls for susceptible animals will come into effect on 1 June until 9**

September. For more information, please visit <https://www.gov.scot/publications/bluetongue/>

As we approach the period when we would expect temperatures across the UK to be suitable for spread of BTV through midges, we are restarting our modelling and risk assessment work to better understand the risk of disease incursions and onward spread from any source. In

addition, we seek to improve our understanding of the impact of BTV in parts of the UK where it is present, in particular the true scale of the outbreak and the effects on cattle fertility, milk production and on sheep mortality. Given the serious welfare implications we strongly recommend that vaccination is considered by farmers and vets

Nematodirus in lambs – how the SCOPS forecast works

If your flock is at high risk of Nematodirus, speak to a vet about treatment options.

High-risk situations:

- SCOPS forecast indicates high risk (warm weather following a cold period)
- Lambs grazing the same fields as last year
- Lambs aged 6–12 weeks on grass
- Additional stress factors (e.g. coccidiosis, triplets, poor ewe milk supply)

Each year, it's worth revisiting how the SCOPS Nematodirus forecast works. Predicting risk timing isn't exact, but it becomes much more useful once you understand how to interpret it.

How to use the forecast:

- Select a weather station that closely matches your local conditions (temperature and rainfall)
- Check the station's elevation:
 - o For every 100 m your farm is higher than the station, expect hatching to be delayed by about 1 week.
- Monitor the forecast closely in the lead-up to risk periods

Example:

- Edinburgh: "Hatching in progress" (red) → likely to reach "peak hatching" within a week.
- Drumalbin: "Minimal hatching" (yellow) → continue monitoring
- Charterhall: "Hatching imminent" (orange) → monitor closely and watch for clinical signs in susceptible lambs

https://www.justgiving.com/page/anthony-oloughlin-3?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL&utm_campaign=lc_frp_share_transaction_fundraiser_page_donation_received_-_nth_donation

Any donations gratefully received.



Responsible Use of Medicines Course 2026

Red tractor approved course

Date: 15th July 2026

Location: Langhai Dairy Farm, Roslin, EH25 9ST

Time: 1pm meeting for lunch followed by 2pm talk

This session will cover all of the requirements to meet the Red Tractor Farm Assurance standard whereby every farm must have one member of staff who has attended an approved training course. Any member of staff from our farms is welcome to attend and is not limited to one per farm. All species will be covered during the talk. Even if you are not Red Tractor Accredited the training will meet potential future requirements of other schemes such as QMS.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

Cost of £20 per person

A certificate of training will be issued after the talk

PLEASE CONTACT THE PRACTICE TO CONFIRM YOUR PLACE BY 10th JULY ON 01314454468

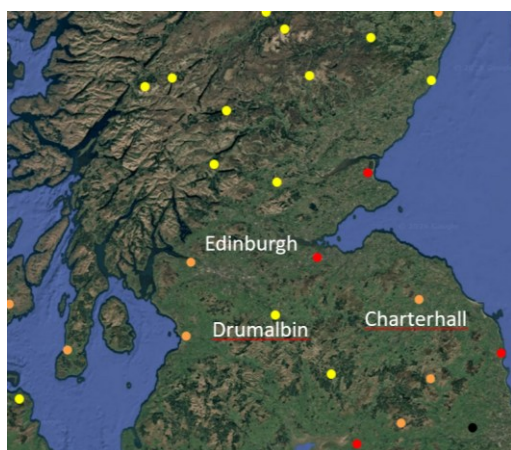
Out of Hours Calls

As most are aware we have recently changed the call handlers for out of hours calls to the practice. The new system appears to be working well, but please let us know of any issues from your side.

The previous phone number (01223849835) is no longer active.

To reach us after hours please call 0131 4454468 and you call will be diverted.

Location	5th Jan 2026	12th Jan 2026	19th Jan 2026	26th Jan 2026	2nd Feb 2026	9th Feb 2026	16th Feb 2026	23rd Feb 2026	2nd Mar 2026	9th Mar 2026	16th Mar 2026	23rd Mar 2026	30th Mar 2026	6th Apr 2026	13th Apr 2026	20th Apr 2026
Aberdaron	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Aberdeen Airport	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Aberporth	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Aboyne	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Charterhall	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Drumalbin	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Dundrennan	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Dunkeswell Aerodrome	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Edinburgh/Gogarbank	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Eskdalemuir	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow



Map showing weather station locations

Land's End to John O'Groats

Myself and 2 pals are cycling from Lands End to John O'Groats - LEJOG - starting on Sun 19th April. Doing it over 19 days - we aren't top level athletes! And we want to enjoy the trip so taking our time to appreciate the journey is important.

Going to be a challenge as winter and spring and a full time job restrict training opportunities - so this is an attempt!! But I'm sure we will get there.

I'm raising money for Prostate Scotland and want to promote this cause - raise funds and awareness. We all will know someone who has been affected by prostate cancer - a terrible disease that affects so many men. My uncle Jim was a huge inspiration to me in my life and we sadly lost him to this terrible disease. His positivity for living life to the full stays with me every day.

Currently the screening options for the disease are poor, we need better availability of testing and an increased awareness amongst men.

Farm Animal Practice, RDSVS, Easter Bush Veterinary Centre, Roslin, Midlothian, EH25 9RG
 Telephone: 0131 445 4468 Out of Hours Emergencies: 01223 849835 Fax: 0131 650 8836

farmanimalpractice@ed.ac.uk www.ed.ac.uk/vet/farmanimal

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