



SOUTH MOOR FARM VETS

–NEW AND IMPROVED!!

Exciting times at South Moor Farm Vets! The start of June is the launch of our rebooted and supercharged farm service. We are:

- getting rid of our visit fee (for all pre-planned visits)
- cutting our hourly rate (to £150/hr ex VAT) and
- reducing lab fees.

(Keep your eyes peeled for our new brochure -one is in the post to you!- to see all the details.)

We're also chuffed to have Ben Watson taking up the reins as the new director of the farm department. He'll be heading up our large team of farm vets, ATTs and farm admin staff, and striving to make sure that our independent practice continues to offer our clients the best possible service. Let's have a few words from him.....



"I am immensely grateful to have been offered the opportunity to become a Director at South Moor Vets and lead our fantastic team of admin staff, ATT's and farm vets.

A core value of South Moor Vets has always been clinical excellence and in my new role I hope to develop our range of services to keep pace with the rapidly changing industry and the needs of our valued clients. I am very proud to live and work in South Devon, my home turf, and I am excited to continue building the strong community presence South Moor Vets has always fostered.

Despite these new responsibilities I am still likely to be found on a farm with my arm up a cow and muck on my boots. I am looking forward to getting started and hope to see as many of you as possible at our upcoming events!"

IT'S SHOWTIME!

It won't be long now til show season kicks off. South Moor Farm Vets will be supporting the Yealmpton, Totnes, Kingsbridge and Widecombe shows this summer, so come along to our stand and say Hello! Look forward to seeing you there!

Save the Dates!

Yealmpton Show
Weds 31st July

Totnes Show
Sunday 28th July

Kingsbridge Show
Saturday 7th September

Widecombe Fair
Tues 10th September

Improved AHWP

Last week the APHA announced that the **Animal Health and Welfare Pathway** is being further expanded to include more funding for farmers.

It provides:

- 2 hours fully funded vet time
- more money for disease testing and control, and
- improved access to some grants.

If you haven't got involved yet, give us a call and we can help you get started.

FOLLOW US!

LET US KNOW IF THERE IS ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE TO SEE!



southmoorfarmvets

VaDia – Dynamic Milk Testing

We are excited to announce we now offer dynamic (during milking) parlour testing. The difference between this and the standard parlour tests is that the VaDia is checking the units during milking at the cow level.

What is the VaDia?

The Vadia is a small vacuum gauge/device that is attached to the unit during milking. Several short tubes run from 3 of the mouthpieces and one short milking tubes to the VaDia. It is able to assess the milking vacuum and pulsation in these three mouth pieces and short milk tube as the cow is being milked. This gives us a picture of how the milking machine is performing in real life while milking the cows.

How does it help?

A significant proportion of mastitis (16%) is directly related to the milking machine and further 20% indirectly. The mastitis rate will lowest when the vacuum is at the optimum level. So whether you're trying to reduce cell counts, lower bactoscan or improve efficiency of milking, the VaDia results can help steer us into tweaking the parlour routine and settings to achieve these aims.



What we assess?

During the visit there are several things we will be checking:

- We will analyse the parlour routine, cow flow, pre- and post-milking prep
- Teat scoring: hyperkeratosis, teat oedema , dry teats , firmness , colour
- VaDia data analysis- showing issues such as biphasic milking, over milking, poor liner fit, vacuum level and fluctuations.



If you would like to find out more give us a call for a chat about how it could help you!

DOCKETS!

You may find your vet handing you a paper docket after your next visit. Hopefully this will be a simple way for you to have an immediate record of any medications used, (along with batch numbers and expiry dates), rather than have to wait for your bill. Let us know what you think!

Dead useful! The value of post-mortems

We've had some interesting findings on post-mortem exams on-farm recently, from unexpected out-of-season lungworm to congenital heart defects. It just goes to show how valuable post-mortems are as a tool to monitor and improve herd and flock health.

Although there's a cost involved to asking the vet to do a post-mortem (generally a pretty minimal one), it can potentially lead to big financial savings. Sometimes it's the only way to get a definitive diagnosis and that can be super-valuable if it identifies a problem that might be affecting the whole group. (That was definitely the case with the lungworm herd, and ditto for recent cases of blackleg, pulpy kidney, fluke and mycoplasma).

There isn't always a smoking-gun diagnosis, but when there is it can be a game-changer. In order to maximise the chances of us getting an answer, the rule is the fresher the better; give us a call as soon as you think it might be needed.

