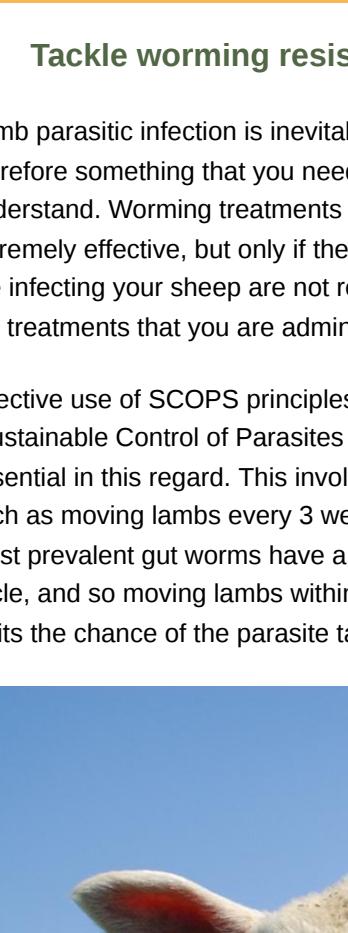


Welcome to our 2022 Autumn Newsletter!



Featuring...

- Tackle Worming Resistance
- Pneumonia Vaccinations in Cows
- Ram Performance
- Farmers Community Network



Tackle worming resistance

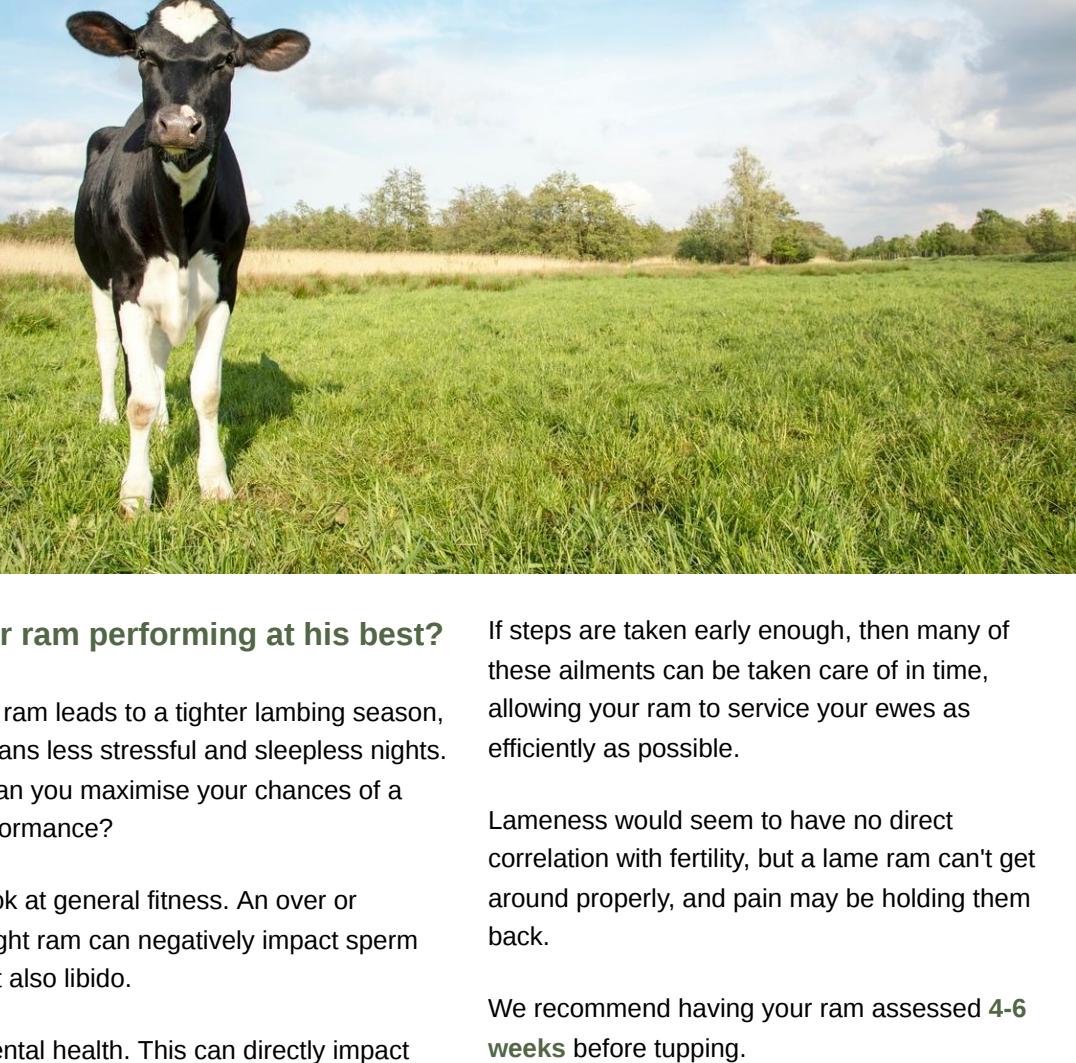
Lamb parasitic infection is inevitable, and therefore something that you need to understand. Worming treatments can be extremely effective, but only if the worms that are infecting your sheep are not resistant to the treatments that you are administering.

Effective use of SCOPS principles (Sustainable Control of Parasites in Sheep) is essential in this regard. This involves things such as moving lambs every 3 weeks or less. Most prevalent gut worms have a 3 week life-cycle, and so moving lambs within this time limits the chance of the parasite taking hold.

Adopt a 'better safe than sorry' approach to testing. Test regularly for peace of mind, confirmation of effectiveness of worming treatments and to monitor required dosage.

If you decide to rotate wormer groups to combat resistance, be sure to test the effectiveness. There is no use rotating if what you are rotating to is not effective.

Please feel free to give us a call on **01341 422 212** and we will be more than happy to discuss the best course of action to combat resistance on your farm.



Pneumonia vaccinations in calves

Humanity has been given a crash course in preventing the spread of respiratory diseases over the last few years. Now that we have learned from this experience, we might as well apply the wisdom we have gained to help prevent similar illnesses in our cattle.

Maximising space between cows when indoors is key, along with great airflow. Ventilation and moving air are very effective in limiting the risk of transmitting respiratory diseases.

There is a limit to maximum airflow and space available, which is why vaccinations are important.

The key to effective vaccination is to target the most vulnerable of the herd. This is usually the youngest, with the aim to target them before their most vulnerable period, which is winter.

As always, prevention is the best cure.



Is your ram performing at his best?

A healthy ram leads to a tighter lambing season, which means less stressful and sleepless nights. So how can you maximise your chances of a good performance?

Firstly, look at general fitness. An over or underweight ram can negatively impact sperm count, but also libido.

Next is dental health. This can directly impact your ram's weight, and good dental health is usually a good indicator of the overall condition of an animal.

If steps are taken early enough, then many of these ailments can be taken care of in time, allowing your ram to service your ewes as efficiently as possible.

Lameness would seem to have no direct correlation with fertility, but a lame ram can't get around properly, and pain may be holding them back.

We recommend having your ram assessed **4-6 weeks** before tupping.

Let us know if you have any concerns, we would love to help.



Farmers Community Network

Dark, cold nights can be hard, especially for your mental health. This is not something that you can ignore. The high stress and pressure of farming is no secret, so it is important to know that there is help available to you if you feel things mounting up and getting the better of you.

The Farming Community Network is a network of volunteers mainly in the agricultural community, that are there to listen and help with any problems that you are facing in your farming career and life.

No problem is too big or too small.

Sometimes it is hard to see the wood for the trees, and sharing your problem with a good listener can make all the difference.

They can also act as mediators in tense family situations, and can help with paperwork, animal issues, or more personal matters.

Do not hesitate to get in touch to see how they can help you and support you. You can contact the FCN on **03000 111 999**. They are open 365 days a year from 7am, until 11pm. Find out more by visiting their [website](#).



Milfeddygon Dolgellau Cyf

The Vet Surgery, Bala Road

Gwynedd, LL40 2YF

Tel: 01341 422 212

dolgellauvets.com