

Data Driven Decisions

Intermediate Courses 2024

A series of 5 online interactive workshops

Held monthly from April to September 2024

Who? This course is aimed at vets who wish to get to grips with commonly available data and how they can use this to help further engage clients and guide decision making on farm.

What? Topics include fertility, mastitis, beef, genetics and nutrition. This course consists of 5 modules with each run over one day. Modules can be booked individually or as a full course and if more than one module is booked it is not compulsory that the same delegate attends all.

Each of the five sessions will be limited to a maximum of 10 delegates, to ensure plenty of opportunity for interaction. No question should be left unanswered and there will be plenty of opportunity to discuss particular questions or topics with both the tutors and other delegates.

Where? The courses will be run online via the Zoom platform and will involve polls, breakout sessions for group exercises and lots of facilitated discussion.

Why? The focus of the workshops is using data to engage clients and take the next steps towards a more proactive preventive approach to tackling problems on farm.

Mastitis



Course Date - 16th April 2024

Course Tutor - James Breen

About the Speaker

James qualified from Bristol in 1998 and entered mixed practice at the Orchard Veterinary Group, Glastonbury. He returned to Langford in 2001 to take up a residency in Farm Animal Medicine, developing his interests in dairy cow medicine and surgery as well as teaching veterinary undergraduate students. He later joined Prof Andrew Bradley and Prof Martin Green on a national dairy cow mastitis research project and has since been involved in the development and roll out of the national AHDB Dairy Mastitis Control Plan and latterly the QuarterPRO scheme. James remains in dairy practice in Glastonbury, looking after herd health for several clients and now splits the rest of his time between consultancy and advisory work for Map of Ag and teaching and research at the Nottingham Veterinary School. He holds the RCVS Certificate in Cattle Health and Production (2003) and the RCVS Diploma in Cattle Health and Production (2008) and was awarded a PhD for studies into cow risk factors for clinical mastitis and increased somatic cell count. He is an RCVS Recognised Specialist in Cattle Health and Production.

Synopsis

The workshop will focus on the available data in relation to mastitis, what it means and how it can be used to help drive decisions on farm. There will be the opportunity to use your own data sets during the workshop. Topics covered during the day will include:

Using mastitis data to monitor:

- Prevalence and incidence... and benchmarking
- Moving away from reacting towards active monitoring

Control of new high cell count cows:

- Patterns of infection, what we need to monitor and how (including the Pattern Analysis Tool)
- Using data to aid treatment decisions of high cell count cows at dry off

Control of the first clinical mastitis case:

- Obtaining and working with clinical mastitis data
- Patterns in clinical mastitis data and the underpinning epidemiology

Fertility



Course Date - 2nd May 2024

Course Tutor - Chris Hudson

About the Speaker

Chris qualified from Bristol vet school in 2002 and has worked in vet practice and in academia. He holds the RCVS Certificate and Diploma in Cattle Health and Production, and is an RCVS Recognised Specialist in this area as well as holding a PhD for work on factors associated with fertility in UK dairy herds. He has many years' experience of delivering consultancy to dairy herds across the UK around all aspects of herd health and efficiency; particular interests include measuring and monitoring dairy herd performance. His research interests focus on deriving maximum value from routinely recorded farm data, and using simulation to aid decision making.

Synopsis

The workshop will focus on how to use reproductive data to help dairy farmers make better decisions around cow management. Real world examples will be used to show how data analysis can be used to drive decision making to optimise reproduction. Participants will be encouraged to bring their own example datasets which can be evaluated during the workshop. Topics covered include:

Logistics of fertility data:

- Readily available data and how to access it
- Aspects of data quality
- Analysis options

Key metrics:

- What they measure and how to interpret them
- How they all fit together
- Using the outputs to help farmers make better decisions

Nutrition



Course Date - 16th May 2024

Course Tutor - Julia Moorhouse

About the Speaker

Julia qualified from Edinburgh in 2000 and worked in farm animal practice in the North of England before joining Map of Ag in 2013. She has completed the RCVS Certificate in Cattle Health and Production and gained a Masters in Sustainable and Efficient Food Production from Aberystwyth University in 2019. Julia now leads the veterinary team at Map of Ag, providing nutrition consultancy to dairy and beef clients and health and welfare consultancy to agri-food businesses. Her key interests are youngstock nutrition and management and dairy herd nutrition (with a particular focus on mineral nutrition).

Synopsis

This workshop aims to provide practitioners with knowledge and confidence to discuss the sometimes bewildering numbers relating to cattle nutrition. Designed for those that have a basic working, practical knowledge of nutrition but wish to understand more about the common headline metrics and how they can be used to be an advocate of animal health, welfare and productivity.

The course will include:

- Data: What's available and how to use it
- Assessing production data for different dairy systems
- Metabolic disease: Setting targets and what diagnostics to use
- Silage, feed and ration data: Common assessment... and what should be being done and sometimes isn't!

Beef

Course Date - 9th July 2024

Course Tutor - Joe Henry



About the Speaker

Joe graduated from Glasgow in 1998 and soon became predominantly a beef and sheep vet with an interest in disease prevention, health planning, production KPIs and grazing management. As well as working in Northumberland he has also spent time working in New Zealand and Poland. In 2018 he undertook a study tour to large cow-calf operations in the western USA. Joe now works at Black Sheep Farm Health, a progressive beef and sheep practice in Northumberland. Alongside his clinical role he also provides the veterinary input to the East Northumberland Farmer's Club benchmarking group which started in 2004. He was also chosen to be part of the EBLEX Technical Advisory Group for the two-year project to evaluate KPIs for suckler herds and growing and finishing beef enterprises in England. Outside of work, Joe also runs a farm with his wife Rachel, including a Luing-based herd of about 100 head.

Synopsis

This workshop will help delegates get to grips with the key data markers they can use to help get involved in a more proactive approach to suckler herd health.

Topics covered during the workshop include:

- **The economics of beef suckler production**
- **KPIs of production:**
 - ◇ Identifying and measuring key KPIs and using them to audit farms and focus attention
 - ◇ Implementing interventions to ensure that KPI targets are achieved
- **Putting into practice:** How to be proactive and use health planning and data to drive discussions

Genetics



Course Date - 12th September 2024

Course Tutor - Mike Coffey

About the Speaker

Mike is a Professor of Livestock Informatics at Scotlands Rural College (SRUC) where he looks after a team of geneticist investigating genetic and genomic improvement of farmed livestock. His own area of interest is dairy cow genetics focusing on body energy changes and efficiency. He also runs the unit called Edinburgh Genetic Evaluation Services (EGENES) which computes evaluations on behalf of AHDB Dairy and AHDB Beef and Lamb.

Synopsis

This course will focus on expanding and consolidating knowledge surrounding genetics and genomics so that practitioner's feel better placed to have constructive discussions with their clients.

The course will:

- Explore the way genetics and genomics are calculated in the UK
- Examine how this data is created, how it's used and how genotypes are generated
- How to interpret genetic and genomic data and practically apply it when discussing breeding programmes
- Discuss where we are going next in terms of traits in the UK

Registration Form

Data Driven Decisions 2024

Name:	
Practice:	
Address:	
Tel:	Fax:
Email (this is the one you will use on the day):	

Module	BCVA Member Including VAT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-BCVA Member Including VAT	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mastitis - 16th April	£300.00		£375.00	
Fertility - 2nd May	£300.00		£375.00	
Nutrition - 16th May	£300.00		£375.00	
Beef - 9th July	£300.00		£375.00	
Genetics - 12th September	£300.00		£375.00	
All 5 Modules (10% Discount)	£1,350.00		£1,687.50	

Total £

Method of Payment - Please send completed forms with remittance (in £ sterling) preferably by BACS to: BCVA, Unit 17, The Glenmore Centre, Waterwells Business Park, Quedgeley, Glos, GL2 2AP. Tel: 01452 725735, Fax: 01452 725780, e-mail: office@cattlevet.co.uk, Web: www.bcva.org.uk

Details for Payment by BACS - Account name: BCVA Ltd

Sort code: 20-33-83, **Account number:** 13495434 (Please send a remittance advice slip)

Payment by Credit Card (We do not accept American Express)

Credit Card:

Issue No: Expiry date:/..... Start date:/.....

CSC (Card Security Code): (last 3 digits on signature strip)

House Name/Number and Postcode of address where card is registered:

Cheques should be made payable to BCVA Ltd

Refund Policy for CPD bookings

Cancellations - Please note a cancellation fee will be charged as follows:

- Cancellation made at least 14 days before the event - no charge
- Cancellation made between 7-14 days of the event - 20% of the event fee charged
- Cancellation made within 7 days - event charged in full.

Transfers - Transfers can be accepted without charge if made at least 14 days before the event. Transfers made at least 7 days before the event attract a 10% charge and within the 7 day period before the event, a 30% charge will be made.