



Wensum Valley Veterinary Surgeons

FARM Newsletter

November 2019

FARM CLUB LAUNCHED BY WENSUM VALLEY VETS



Our new meeting room at the practice

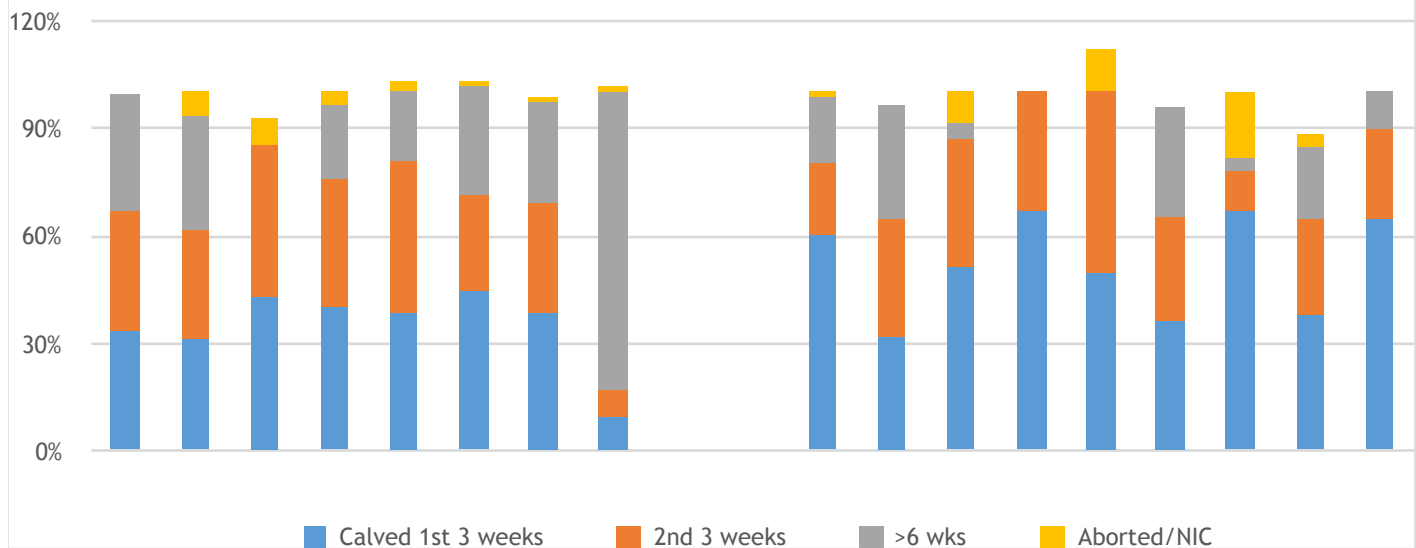
On Tuesday 29th October we held the first meeting of our 'Beef Discussion Group'. This is the first part of what will become our **Farm Club** with Sheep and Dairy Discussion Groups to follow. The aim of the meeting was to encourage the vets and farmers to gather to share information and knowledge with the intention of helping everyone improve the profitability of their business.

Attendees were asked to fill in a herd health questionnaire asking about fertility and calf health. This data was then used as the basis of the talk. A couple of the graphs from the meeting are shown overleaf.



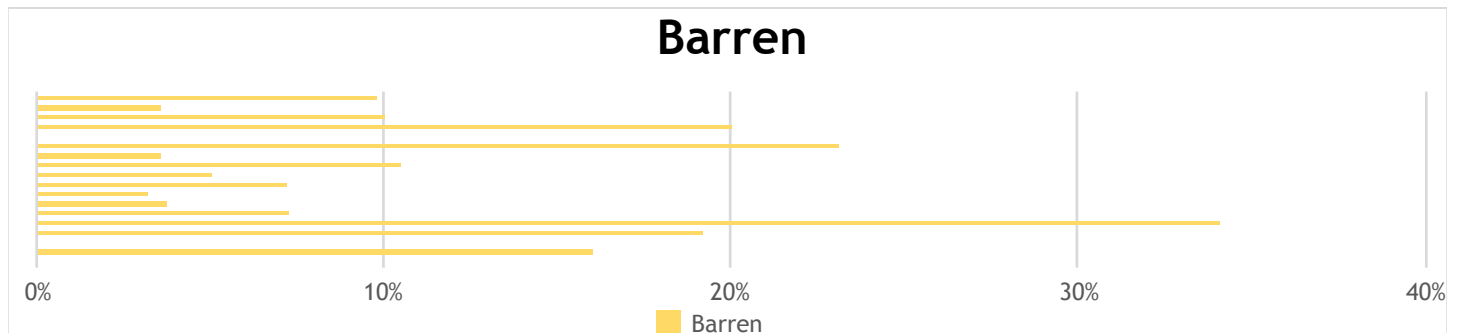
Howard in full flow during this month's meeting

Spread of Calving



The bars represent data from some of our farms. The far right bar is the target spread of calves in a calving window. In the group we discussed how the tighter the spread of calving the better the overall health of the cows and especially the calves will be and how we could achieve this tight calving period.

Barren



There is a wide variation in the percentage of barren animals within different herds. We discussed the various reasons for cows being barren, ranging from reduced bull fertility to issues of nutrition in the cows. The target for barren cows should be just 5%.

The evening was very well received with all agreeing it was useful and thought provoking. If you have any requests for topics for future meetings then please do let one of the vets know.

NOVEMBER CHECKLIST

- ✓ Arrange to have the Spring Calving Cows / Early Lambers scanned if not already done.
- ✓ Pre/Post Housing Worm/Fluke Egg Counts and Treatments as required.
- ✓ Arrange for herd blood testing.
- ✓ Assess if you have enough fodder and ration to run through the whole winter.
- ✓ Early Winter Body Condition Scoring.

contact the practice on 01328 864444

check out our website : wensumvalleyvets.co.uk

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