

We are hosting our Youngstock Convention on Thursday 5th March at the De Vere Tortworth Court, GL12 8HH, just off J14 M5, 10:00-16:00. The aim is to provide a forum for knowledge transfer and networking for all parties involved in the supply chain.

So, everyone is welcome! Whether you are a dairy rearing your own replacements, a calf rearer, a suckler herd or a flyer herd selling calves at 6w, there will be something for you.

In the morning, there will be short presentations on a wide range of topics from nutrition to preventative health.

Georgina Thomas will explain that nutrition in the first 8w is key to life-long productivity. Though the calf's genetics are set at conception, which of those genes get turned on is determined by early life nutrition.



Boehringer Ingelheim Sioned Timothy will explain the importance of lung health. How it is that calves showing no clinical signs can still have lung lesions on postmortem, which would have affected their efficiency and welfare.

Kat Baxter-Smith from MSD will demonstrate the importance of early life health and Colostrum. How to prevent scour and the cost of an outbreak will both be discussed.



Kilco^{UK} Tim Brewer will be discussing the importance of hygiene and non-medical ways to reduce the challenges of scour. Cocci and crypto are key pathogens where hygiene is vital to limit spread.



If you are interested in finding out more on how your calves are doing, we can do a youngstock visit. The visit covers areas such as colostrum management, nutrition, housing and infection pressure. This questionnaire-based approach is great at finding out the areas you are doing well on and those we can work together to improve. There is a dairy-based one as well as a new beef checklist so everyone can benefit.

The spotlight is on antibiotic usage and ways to lower use, whilst maintaining health and welfare is key. This will be discussed alongside options such as new drugs and technologies.

The importance of maintaining good immunity is key, particularly in this age of calf. A good biome i.e. "good bacteria" can help in the competition against the bugs. Ensuring good levels of minerals and vitamins are also key to starting a strong immune defence.



Lunch and refreshments will be included at the convention, during which there will be time to look round the numerous trade stands and ask more questions on any topics already discussed.

In the afternoon we will host a producer panel with a question and answer section. We all love to know how other farmers have solved problems and created solutions. Farmers on the panel will be selected from a range of producers - from year-round to block-calves and also calf-rearers.



If you have any queries, or to book tickets, either ring into the office or look for the youngstock convention page on our website. <https://www.georgevetgroup.co.uk/farm-vets/youngstock-convention-2020/>



Agenda for the day:

10:00am Welcome and Introduction

Kat Hart - The George Farm Vets

11:00am Georgina Thomas – Carrs Billington

11:30am Sioned Timothy - Boehringer

12:00pm BREAK

12:30pm Kat Baxter-Smith - MSD

13:00pm Tim Brewer - Kilco

1:30pm LUNCH

2:30pm Producer panel Q&A

3:15pm Networking opportunity

4:00pm Close

Kat Hart BVSc BSc Cert AVP (Cattle) MRCVS



Have you tried our farm supplies shop yet?

In addition to our online shop, we now offer the same products for sale through our main pharmacy at Malmesbury. If you are looking for wormers or fluke drench, fly or lice treatments, vaccines, minerals and supplements or calf products please contact Bridget and the team for a price. You can contact us on the same number that you ring to place drug orders so it couldn't be easier. We can then arrange everything on your behalf.

Products can be collected from Malmesbury, delivered to one of our branches, posted out or our vet can bring it on your next visit. So, next time you are doing routine animal husbandry jobs on farm, or you and your vet discuss treatment requirements for your livestock, think of The George Veterinary Group for these products and give us a call.

You'll be surprised what we have to offer.

