

Spring Evening Meeting
Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown
Wednesday 20th April 2016

7.00pm - Supper, 7.45pm - Business meeting
8.30pm - First presentation

Selective Dry Cow Therapy and selective clinical case treatment options

Speaker: Norman Beggs, MVB MRCVS

The current practice of blanket antibiotic treatment of all cows in conventionally managed dairy herds at drying off is difficult to justify as good stewardship of antimicrobial prescription. This talk will summarize the criteria which can be used to select herds which are suitable for implementation of selective dry cow therapy strategies and the criteria which can be used to select cows within these herds which do not have intramammary infections at drying off and can therefore be justifiably treated with internal teat sealant only. Selective clinical case treatment depends on rapid identification of the pathogen causing each clinical intramammary infection and development of a farm-specific treatment protocol by the prescribing veterinarian.



Norman grew up on a dairy farm outside Omagh in County Tyrone. He qualified from UCD in 1986 with an MVB degree in Veterinary Medicine. He spent the first two years of his professional life working in mixed, mainly large animal practice in Northern Ireland, followed by a year in the PDSA in England and a period in a mixed practice in Fishguard, returning to Northern Ireland for three more years in mixed, mainly large animal practice. After practice he spent time working for Veterinary Services in NI and delivered animal health lectures to the agricultural students in Greenmount Agricultural College. He worked as a Veterinary Research Officer in the Veterinary Sciences Division laboratory facility which later became AFBI Omagh from 2002 to 2015. His role also involved on farm investigation of dairy herds which were having an abnormally high incidence of clinical mastitis or high bulk milk somatic cell counts. He is a member of the BCVA & NMC, which is a global milk quality educational organisation that provides information to the dairy industry relative to mastitis control, udder health, milking management and milk quality. He retired from AFBI on 30th November 2015 to set up his referral practice "Udder Health Solutions Ltd".

Followed by short presentation by AHWNI on:

Moving to the Compulsory phase of BVD Eradication Programme

Animal Health and Welfare NI (AHWNI) is an industry-led, not-for-profit partnership between livestock producers, processors, animal health advisers and government and is leading on the NI BVD Eradication Programme.

Following supper at 7 pm, there will be a short AVSPNI Business meeting at 7.45pm for AVSPNI full members only; this will be immediately followed by the first presentation at approximately 8.30pm.

Everyone is welcome to come along to hear these excellent speakers.

*AVSPNI members—free of charge including fork supper; non-members - £30 plus £15 for those availing of supper
Supper **MUST** be pre-booked. Choice of Chicken Curry or Beef Stroganoff. Vegetarian option available on request.*

All charges should be paid on or before the evening of the meeting.

Cash, cheque or card can be accepted on the night.

Please register for this meeting by e-mailing info@vetni.co.uk or telephoning 028 25898543 by mid day 19th April