

C-C.7 Bovine Youngstock Rearing and Infectious Diseases

Credits: 10 (100 hours)

Provider: Veterinary Postgraduate Unit – Institute of Veterinary Science

RCVS Content Covered

The following outlines the modular content as set out by the RCVS.

The Artificially reared calf – Birth to Weaning

- Problems at birth, passive immunity and colostrum
- Common calf diseases: especially alimentary and respiratory diseases; their epidemiology, recognition and treatment, including rational drug use, prevention and control

The Dairy Heifer – Weaning to Calving

- Management of calves at weaning, post weaning diseases
- Normal targets for growth
- Common diseases at grass: their epidemiology, recognition, treatment, prevention and control
- Common diseases in housed animals: their epidemiology, recognition, treatment, prevention and control
- Puberty and factors controlling its onset, weight and condition score at service
- Reproductive problems, congenital abnormalities, acyclicity, poor pregnancy rates

Suckled Calf Production

- Management of replacement heifers for optimum fertility
- Common diseases of suckled calves: diagnosis, treatment and prevention

Common and Emerging Diseases

- Epidemiology, recognition, treatment, prevention and control of the common and emerging diseases including, IBR, BVD, Lepto, Neospora, Salmonella, Johne's disease, TB, Schmallenburg, Bluetongue.
- Herd economic assessment of disease and disease prevention; herd health preventative medicine schemes
- Recording systems for monitoring disease: analysis of health records and targets for disease incidence

Aim of the Module

The aim of this module is to enable the candidate to develop comprehensive understanding of the management of youngstock in beef and dairy herds, and the diagnosis and treatment

of diseases of young cattle. The candidate will be able to critically evaluate their own standards of practice and develop strategies for continuous improvement in the future.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module successful candidates should be able to:

1. demonstrate a systematic understanding of the management and monitoring of diseases in youngstock in cattle in the UK, and critically evaluate the role of the veterinary surgeon in heifer and beef rearing programmes;
2. demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of and the application of evidence based medicine and sound clinical reasoning processes to the aetiology, pathology, diagnosis, differential diagnosis, treatment, prognosis and control of common and emerging diseases affecting beef and dairy youngstock in the UK;
3. demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the legislation relating to youngstock rearing and infectious diseases and how it relates to the health, management and welfare of cattle and food production in the UK;
4. demonstrate the ability to systematically evaluate the husbandry and management of youngstock; make sound judgements in the absence of complete data and communicate their conclusions in the form of a herd health plan or youngstock rearing strategy to the farm owner or manager both verbally and in the form of professional reports;
5. review and constructively criticise current literature in the subject area.

Assessment Strategy

2 x reflective case reports (1500 words), 1 x herd specific health plan (1500 words), 1 x short answer questions and/or MCQ test and 1 x journal critique/journal club presentation (pass/fail)

PLEASE NOTE: It is your responsibility to ensure that you have access to sufficient appropriate cases where you were the primary decision maker to produce adequate material for the module. This may not be possible with some internship positions. You must also be aware of any limitations of your facilities that may make the accumulation of appropriate cases difficult or impossible.