


*BCVA representation  
and education*



# Lunch 'n' Learn

A series of six 30 minute online courses

*Held between April and June 2024*

A large, stylized blue silhouette of a cow's head is positioned in the background, facing right. The silhouette is filled with a light blue color and has a white outline. The background of the entire page is a light blue gradient with some darker blue geometric shapes.

BCVA's new six, 30-minute 'Lunch 'N' Learn sessions are ideal for the busy, experienced farm vet. These cover the kind of common problems we see on most cattle farms – the ones that we seem to encounter and discuss as a practice on a regular basis – but can't always resolve.

Not only will you meet your CPD obligations without taking a whole day off – you'll also get a real burst of inspiration (and we all need that sometimes), and quickly elevate your understanding on a broad range of key topics.

Thanks to the expertise of our experienced and engaging presenters, you'll be covering liver fluke, dairy calf nutrition, digital dermatitis, cryptosporidiosis outbreaks, on farm biosecurity, and cattle abortions.

You can come to one session, several, or the whole series – all with significant discounts for BCVA members.

# Liver Fluke

**Course Date** - 25th April 2024

**Course Time** - 13:00 - 13:30

**Course Tutor** - Diana Williams



## About the Speaker

Diana obtained a BSc (Hons) in Zoology and a PhD from the University of Nottingham, spent three years at the Cambridge Vet School working on calf pneumonia before going to the International Livestock Research Institute in Kenya where she spent eight years working on control of bovine trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness or nagana), one of the most serious diseases affecting cattle in sub-Saharan Africa. She was appointed lecturer in veterinary parasitology at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine in 1994 and moved to the School of Veterinary Science, University of Liverpool, in 2008 as Professor of Veterinary Parasitology. Diana was the Head of Department of Infection Biology in the Institute of Infection and Global Health at Liverpool for five years and leads a large research programme that focusses on improving control of the parasite, *Fasciola hepatica* (the common liver fluke). Liver fluke is a leading cause of disease globally, and has a major impact on productivity, health and welfare, particularly in farmed ruminants

## Synopsis

The trematode parasite, *Fasciola hepatica*, or liver fluke, is common in the UK and highly pathogenic. It affects sheep, cattle and horses. Climate change is having a significant impact on its epidemiology making traditional control options unsuitable. Liver fluke has been shown to reduce milk yield in dairy cattle, particularly high yielding herds. Some studies have also suggested that infection affects fertility and milk quality. There are few options for treating dairy cattle, particularly milking cows, with most treatments only licensed for use at drying off. Due to the short window between drying off and when treatments can be applied, diagnostic tests, where the samples must be sent to laboratories for analysis, take too long. Hence dairy cows are either not treated at all or are treated in the absence of a diagnosis. This talk will discuss risk factors for infection in cattle, a new pen-side lateral flow diagnostic test that provides results in about 10 minutes and consider how to manage infection in replacement heifer calves.

# Early life nutrition of the dairy calf

**Course Date** - 1st May 2024

**Course Time** - 13:00 - 13:30

**Course Tutor** - Dai Grove White

## About the Speaker

Dai Grove-White was Head of the Department of Livestock Health and Welfare at the University of Liverpool until his retirement in 2019. He qualified from Liverpool in 1975. He has spent his working life with both beef and dairy cattle in the UK and overseas including a period in large scale dairying projects in the Middle East. He was a Government Veterinary Officer in Zimbabwe in 1981 to 1982. Prior to his appointment at the University of Liverpool in 2000, he was in large animal practice in Bala, North Wales where he developed a keen interest in neonatal calf disease. This led to him gaining Fellowship of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in 1997 for work on the acid base disturbances associated with calf diarrhoea and their correction. He was awarded an MSc in Epidemiology in 2005 and a PhD in 2008 for studies on the molecular epidemiology of *Campylobacter* in cattle and sheep. His specific research interests included dairy calf nutrition and health, sheep lameness and the equine gut microbiome. Although retired from full time work, he retains an honorary position at the University of Liverpool and is involved with teaching on the CertAVP modules in cattle health. He is an associate editor for the Veterinary Record and is also active in undertaking peer review for a number of veterinary scientific journals. He is an RCVS Recognised Specialist in Cattle Health and Production and a Diplomate of the European College of Bovine Health Management.

## Synopsis

This 30-minute webinar will cover:

- The importance of adequate early life nutrition for dairy calves
- Growth targets and monitoring during early life
- Systems of feeding with their advantages and disadvantages
- Overview on the types of milk replacers
- Role of nutrition in calf disease
- Feeding the sick calf

Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the importance of early life nutrition and its impact on future production
- Be able to advise farmers on growth targets and establish monitoring systems
- Have an overview on the available milk
- Be able to devise and recommend calf feeding protocols
- Appreciate the role of nutrition in disease

# Investigating Cattle Abortions

**Course Date** - 9th May 2024

**Course Time** - 13:00 - 13:30

**Course Tutor** - Sonja Jeckel



## About the Speaker

DrVetMed Sonja Jeckel graduated from the Veterinary University in Giessen, Germany in 1995. She worked subsequently for a few years in mixed practice in Devon before doing a PhD equivalent in molecular virology. In 2004, she joined the Royal Veterinary College initially as an equivalent to a Veterinary Investigation Officer and later as lecturer and senior lecturer. She is running the RVC – Farm Animal Pathology Diagnostic Services, a partner Post Mortem provider to APHA. Sonja is a Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists and has a particular interest in infectious and reproductive diseases of farmed animals.

## Synopsis

Abortions in cattle (regardless of beef or dairy) are associated with significant financial losses for the farmer and can carry zoonotic risk, and therefore investigations into abortion causes are important. This webinar will provide the participants with guidance on the approach to investigating cattle abortions with a focus on infectious causes. It will initially discuss considerations for personal safety in investigations, the potential role of notifiable diseases and differences in the approach to stillbirths compared to abortions. This will be followed by guidance on appropriate sample taking and discussion of laboratory tests to confirm or rule out an aetiological diagnosis for the abortion. Cross-references to common infectious causes of cattle abortion in the UK will be made throughout.

Learning objectives:

- Participants should understand the value of investigating abortions (ruling causes out as well as confirming them).
- Participants should be aware what samples to take from aborted fetuses for diagnostic investigations.
- Participants should be aware what laboratory confirmation is required to confirm an aetiological cause of an abortion.
- Participants should be aware of the common causes of cattle abortion in the UK.
- Participants should be aware of their responsibilities with regards to notifiable disease detection and to H&S concerns.

# Digital Dermatitis



**Course Date** - 23rd May 2024

**Course Time** - 13:00 - 13:30

**Course Tutor** - George Oikonomou

## About the Speaker

Prof Georgios Oikonomou is Professor of Cattle Health and Welfare at the School of Veterinary Science, University of Liverpool. He is a vet and has spent a few years managing a 600 cow dairy herd in Greece before moving to the USA where he worked at Cornell University and got involved in various research projects on dairy cattle lameness, mastitis, and reproductive diseases. He is currently managing several research projects on dairy cattle lameness and is also providing consultancy services to UK dairy farmers.

## Synopsis

Digital Dermatitis (DD), a major cause of cattle lameness, is a painful, infectious, foot skin disease that is endemic on more than 90% of UK dairy farms affecting more than 50% of the UK dairy herd annually. Given the substantial numbers of affected cows, it is not surprising that in the 2021 published Cattle and Sheep Health and Welfare Survey DD was listed as the highest priority disease impacting cattle production and welfare. In addition to pain and compromised animal welfare, DD is also associated with reduced milk yield, feed intake, and reproductive performance, and estimated to cost the UK dairy industry more than £74 million per year.

In this webinar we will discuss best practices for DD treatment and herd level management.

# Challenges of *Cryptosporidium* and how to manage cryptosporidiosis outbreaks

**Course Date** - 4th June 2024

**Course Time** - 13:00 - 13:30

**Course Tutor** - Frank Katzer



## About the Speaker

Dr Frank Katzer leads a research group at the Moredun Research Institute, near Edinburgh in Scotland, where he studies protozoan parasites (*Cryptosporidium*, *Toxoplasma*, *Neospora* and *Babesia*) of livestock. He obtained his D.Phil. from the University of York and subsequently worked at the Roslin Institute, Glasgow University Veterinary School, Edinburgh University Veterinary School and since 2007 is based at the Moredun Research Institute. His research area focuses on developing and improving diagnostic tests for protozoan parasites; developing vaccines; and understanding parasite transmission routes. His research aims to help farmers to control protozoan parasites in livestock by developing intervention strategies to stop/reduce the risk of parasite infection for animals and humans.

## Synopsis

This is the first of two webinars focusing on *Cryptosporidium* and it will provide an introduction to the parasite; how it causes disease; the infectious dose; the economic impact of the infection; the importance of co-infections; and how it can be diagnosed, including on-farm diagnostic kits and challenges of intermittent shedding. The webinar will also provide details of treatment options (electrolytes, intravenous drip and halofuginone vs paromomycin) and it will also look at the importance of colostrum management and future vaccines. The second webinar on *Cryptosporidium* will focus biosecurity options to reduce the impact of cryptosporidiosis.

# On farm biosecurity practices to manage cryptosporidiosis

**Course Date** - 5th June 2024

**Course Time** - 13:00 - 13:30

**Course Tutor** - Frank Katzer



## About the Speaker

Dr Frank Katzer leads a research group at the Moredun Research Institute, near Edinburgh in Scotland, where he studies protozoan parasites (*Cryptosporidium*, *Toxoplasma*, *Neospora* and *Babesia*) of livestock. He obtained his D.Phil. from the University of York and subsequently worked at the Roslin Institute, Glasgow University Veterinary School, Edinburgh University Veterinary School and since 2007 is based at the Moredun Research Institute. His research area focuses on developing and improving diagnostic tests for protozoan parasites; developing vaccines; and understanding parasite transmission routes. His research aims to help farmers to control protozoan parasites in livestock by developing intervention strategies to stop/reduce the risk of parasite infection for animals and humans.

## Synopsis

This is the second webinar focusing on *Cryptosporidium* and it will focus of cryptosporidiosis related biosecurity practices. The webinar will provide insights into on farm transmission routes; sources of infection for the calves; why it is important to reduce the infectious dose and to delay first exposure of animals to the parasite. It will also provide advice on cleaning and information on disinfectants that work against *Cryptosporidium* oocysts and what to look out for when using the disinfectants. Other topics that will be covered are group housing vs individual housing; mixing of animals; water supply and drainage.

# Registration Form

Lunch 'n' Learn 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"/>
Liver Fluke - 25th April	£30		£42	
Feeding Calves - 1st May	£30		£42	
Bovine Abortion - 9th May	£30		£42	
Digital Dermatitis - 23rd May	£30		£42	
Cryptosporidium - 4th June	£30		£42	
Farm Biosecurity - 5th June	£30		£42	
All 6 Modules (10% Discount)	£162		£228	

**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.*