

# BCVA Congress 2025












## Programme

**9th - 11th October**

Edinburgh International Conference Centre, The Exchange,  
150 Morrison St, Edinburgh, EH3 8EE



### Key to colour-coding

 BVD	 General Practice	 Keynote	 Reproduction
 Calves	 Infectious Diseases	 Lameness	 Respiratory Disease
 Camelids	 Innovation	 Mastitis	 Sustainability
 Commercial	 Johne's	 Non-technical skills	 TB

*\*Programme is subject to change\**

# Thursday 9th October

		Lectures							
		Holstein Room		Dexter Room					
09:00		A case series piloting a novel tool to measure parasiticide use and decision making in cattle - <i>Jenny Allan, Nick Bell and Rob Howe</i>		Title and speaker TBC					
09:15		The Nidderdale Dung Beetle Project: Sustainable parasite control in ruminant systems - <i>Ben Walker</i>		What affect does a recent TB test have on Johne's disease milk antibody results? - <i>Kate Ogden</i>					
09:30		BCVA Carbon Calculator benchmarking report - <i>Speaker TBC</i>		Persistent bovine tuberculosis in a biosecure beef breeding herd - <i>Dick Sibley</i>					
09:45		Market Trading – a wakeup call for roundworm biosecurity - <i>Lynsey Melville</i>							
10:00		Ruminant Antibiotic Stewardship Roadmap – Farm vets role in maintaining reputation, exports and consumer confidence - <i>Tim Bailey, Mark Jelley, Fiona Lovatt and Gavin Morris</i>		Title and speaker TBC					
10:30		REFRESHMENT BREAK							
11:00		President's Address							
11:15		Title TBC - <i>James Rebanks</i>							
12:15		Panel Discussion: Navigating dynamic and complex change <i>Chair: Anthony Chadwick</i> <i>Neil Hudson, Tom McNeilly, James Rebanks et al</i>		Interstitial pneumonia in the GB cattle population - <i>Chris Burns</i>					
12:30				Optimising IBR control in GB dairy herds - <i>Karen Bond and Jude Roberts</i>					
13:00									
13:15		REFRESHMENT BREAK							
		Holstein Room		Dexter Room		Jersey Room		Hereford Room	
14:00		Delivering herd health planning for local, regional and national disease control programmes - <i>Dick Sibley</i>		Title and speaker TBC		A holistic approach to calf disease outbreaks <i>Sophie Mahendran, George Lindley and James Adams</i>		Bull semen testing - how to avoid the ball's up's <i>Rob Anderson, Iain McCormick and Colin Penny</i>	
14:15									
14:30		How could we control infectious diseases more effectively? - <i>Peter Orpin</i>		Using mBAS on first lactation heifers at calving benefits the animal, the farmer and the environment - <i>Rob Drysdale</i>					
14:45									
15:00		Title and speaker TBC		Opportunities in dairy-beef production systems – a blueprint to optimise performance - <i>Julia Moorhouse</i>					
15:15		Diversification and public health risks: shigatoxin producing <i>E. coli</i> update and best practice advice for farm enterprises - <i>Sue Tongue and Madeleine Henry</i>		Data Integrity – what it is and why it is important - <i>Nicole Ainsworth, Sven Buckingham and Lindsay Heasman</i>					
15:30		REFRESHMENT BREAK							
16:00		The GB Dairy Cow Lameness Manifesto - what is it and why now? - <i>Owen Atkinson</i>		Title and speaker TBC		Control of somatic cell count and clinical mastitis incidence rate: interactive case studies to challenge and help you! <i>James Breen, Jude Roberts and Julia Moorhouse</i>		Bovine reproductive manual and ultrasound examination <i>Peter May</i>	
16:30		Upper limb lameness in cattle - <i>Karin Mueller</i>		Building Great Workplaces - why should culture matter to cattle vets? - <i>Rob Williams</i>					
17:00		Effect of hoof trimming using a roll-over crush on heart rate variability and eye temperature in dairy cattle - <i>Nicola Blackie, Daryl Foot and Alexandra Longfield</i>		Continuous long-term mapping of environmental parameters withing different calf housing shed designs - <i>Sophie Mahendran and George Lindley</i>					
17:15		Title and speaker TBC		Title and speaker TBC					
17:30		A randomised controlled field trial of an adhesive gel bandage in addition to topical antibiotic treatment of digital dermatitis in dairy cows - <i>Nick Britten and Rachel Hayton</i>							
17:45		FINISH							

# Friday 10th October

Lectures			Workshops	
	Holstein Room	Dexter Room	Jersey Room	Hereford Room
08:30	Scottish BVD Eradication Scheme: What have we achieved so far and what is coming in Phase 6? - <i>Helen Carty</i>	Feeding and activity behaviours in scouring calves with or without dehydration - <i>Beth Riley</i>		
08:45	BVD Eradication Scheme: Do we have to worry about sheep? A case study of a calf persistently infected with Border Disease Virus - <i>Helen Carty</i>	A survey of outcomes in suckler herds with extended spring calving seasons - <i>Ellie Button</i>		
09:00	Practical strategies for BVDV monitoring post-eradication - <i>Jonas Brock, David Graham and Maria Guelbenzu</i>	Colostrum quality in neonatal ruminants: A hygiene focus - <i>Katie Denholm and Ali Haggerty</i>	Supporting impactful hoof care as a practicing vet – developing practical skills to deliver positive mobility in cattle <i>Jay Tunstall, Tim Carter and James Wilson</i>	Opportunities to engage with sheep and beef farmers over their data – KPIs, medicines and more <i>Fiona Lovatt and Sarah Hewitt</i>
09:30	Plotting the path to BVD Eradication in NI – the role of the veterinary practitioner - <i>Sharon Verner</i>	<b>Title and speaker TBC</b>		
10:00	Investigating the impact of neonatal calf diarrhoea vaccination and optimised management on calf growth rates in dairy farms, using univariate and machine learning methods for multivariate analysis - <i>Jonathan Statham</i> 	Colostrum supplements and replacers tools to increase calf immunity - <i>Bianca Theeruth</i> 		
10:30	REFRESHMENT BREAK			
11:00	Thinking like a mountain - <i>Peter Cairns</i>			
12:00	<b>Title TBC - Vanessa Swinson</b>	Cattle clinical conditions encountered, and the ruminant clinical skills performed by veterinary students during their work-placed based final year clinical rotations - <i>Peter Cockcroft</i>	Improving delivery and engagement in the Healthy Feet Programme including demonstration of the new Healthy Feet App <i>James Wilson</i>	Using the new Johnes's Pattern Analysis Tool report – identifying routes of transmission and hidden high-risk cows <i>Andrew Bradley and Al Manning</i>
12:15		To be (a cyst), or not to be? That is NOT the question - <i>Vicki Shepherd</i>		
12:30	What do we know about antimicrobial resistance at a population level in healthy British cattle?: BAmRCS and other studies - <i>Madeleine Henry and Sue Tongue</i>	Digital dairy chain and ovation agriculture in advancing agricultural innovation - <i>Michael Christian and Jillian Gordon</i>		
13:00	LUNCH			
14:00	<b>AGM</b>	Validation of the diagnostic accuracy of the 3M™ Petrifilm™ coliform and aerobic count plates to measure colostrum bacterial contamination on Scottish dairy farms - <i>Tracy Anderson</i>	Bitesize Biosecurity: a farmer-centric approach to the communication of information and advice about animal biosecurity <i>Kate Lamont and Andrew Duncan</i>	Benchmarking the future of your dairy herds: post-weaning to first lactation <i>Jess Reynolds and Emily Payne</i>
14:15		Analysis of colostral Brix percentage at harvest, storage and feeding on Scottish dairy farms and associated farm level risk factors - <i>Emily Silva</i>		
14:30	Can we have reliable chemistry with the dead? - <i>Alan Murphy</i>	Key Insights from the implementation of the UK National Johnes's Disease Control Program - <i>Peter Orpin</i>		
15:00	Copper Toxicity – An emerging issue in dairy bred calves - <i>Alan Murphy</i>	Using milk ELISA data to highlight the impact of Johnes's Disease on dairy cattle productivity - <i>Emma Nicole Taylor-Holt</i>		
15:30	REFRESHMENT BREAK			
16:00	<b>Title and speaker TBC</b>	Using 'LAMP' ('Loop-Mediated Isothermal Application') as a veterinary practice based rapid diagnostic approach for mastitis in dairy cows - <i>Jonathan Statham</i>	Camelids for Cattle Vets <i>Karin Mueller and Ami Sawran</i>	Using Johnes's Control to build strong vet: farmer relationships. What can we learn from a veterinary practice that has successfully reduced Johnes's levels in over 90% of client herds? <i>James Hanks, Pete Orpin, Debby Brown and Emma Taylor-Holt</i>
16:30	From imports to imitations - the work of the VMD Enforcement Team - <i>Andy Parker</i>	A review of point of care diagnostics for bovine mastitis therapeutics – aims, research evidence and considerations for your clients - <i>James Breen</i>		
17:00	Emergency slaughter and late term slaughter - <i>Elena McWatt</i>	Correlation of serum IgG with indirect measures of passive immunity transfer in dairy and dairy-cross calves - <i>Ryan Davies, Alastair Macrae and Dave Renaud</i>		
17:15		Impact of passive immunity and IgG from transition milk on pre-weaning dairy and dairy-beef cross calf health in a pasture-based block calving system: A cohort study - <i>Ryan Davies and Alastair Macrae</i>		
17:30	FINISH			

# Saturday 11th October

Lectures		Workshops		
	Holstein Room	Dexter Room	Jersey Room	Hereford Room
09:00	Beef farmers' knowledge, attitudes and behaviour regarding herd fertility and the role of the vet - Ruth Cranston	Scottish BVD Eradication Scheme: What top tips can we pass on and what pitfalls should you avoid? - Jenny Purcell	Title and speaker TBC	Active allyship in challenging situations Issa Robson and Tobias Hunter
09:15	584 cattle caesarean sections - what we learnt in first opinion practice - Charlotte Bain	BVD eradication in Wales – Progress to date and lessons learned - Neil Paton		
09:45	Predicting a cow's future breeding potential based on structures present on the ovary at a post natal examination - Tracy Anderton	BVD Panel Discussion - Helen Carty, Maria Guelbenzu (other speakers TBC)		
10:00	Using mBAS pheromone in beef calves at weaning and castration can have real production and sustainability benefits - Oliver Giles			
10:15	High-resolution respirometry reveals mitochondrial impairment in milk-derived cells from lame dairy cows - Nial O'Boyle			
10:30	REFRESHMENT BREAK			
11:00	Can gut microbiome signatures be used to assess the health and productivity status of dairy cattle? - Nisha Tucker	Title TBC - William Tulley	Coaching skills for farm vets Zoe Shepherd	Title and speaker TBC
11:15	Proof-of-Concept study for contactless vital signs monitoring in animals using micro-doppler radar - Mostafa Elsayed, George King, Julien Le Kernec, Konstantina Linardopoulou, Martin Tomlison and Lorenzo Viora			
11:30	ECHOVI: Advancing automated mobility assessment in dairy cattle - Mostafa Elsayed, Julien Le Kernec, Konstantina Linardopoulou and Lorenzo Viora	Hypocalcaemia in dairy cows; measure and check soil health - Jamie Robertson		
12:00	A randomised controlled trial evaluating the impact of an automated mobility monitoring system on reproductive performance and foot health in dairy cows - Nektarios Siachos	Predict and preserve: a micro-RNA based Johne's Disease diagnostic test - Robert Coultous		
12:15	Successful caesareans for those lacking in confidence or experience. An evidence-based approach to reducing the trepidation of a middle-of-the-night-surgery! - Rebecca Howard and Dey Tarusikawa			
12:30	Title and speaker TBC	CoolCows! Using genomics and IVF to rapidly breed more methane-efficient, sustainable cattle - Emma Stuart		
13:00	LUNCH			
	Holstein Room	Dexter Room		
14:00	Dung beetle project - Anuschka Marsman	Utilising behaviour change models to improve the uptake of NSAIDs for calf diseases on cattle farms: a survey-based study - Mascha Sohrmann		
14:15		The impact of early life social housing on dairy calf play behaviour in the neonatal and post-weaning periods - Ciara McKay		
14:30	Ten years of TST: reflections on the use of Targeted Selective Treatment (TST) in a commercial organic suckler beef herd in Scotland - Kathryn Ellis	Associations of neonatal and early life calf management with fertility performance in primiparous heifers - Charlie Parker		
14:45	Closing the gap to 2030: where are we now, and how can we reach our dairy greenhouse gas emission reduction targets? - Helen Dent	Determining iodine status of bovines - Nigel Kendall, Andrea Clarkson and Harry Papworth		
15:00		Myostatin variants in UK beef bulls: how prevalent are they, and how do farmers use them? - Kaz Strycharczyk		
15:15	Schmallenburg in Scotland: a year in review - Megan Fergusson, Kythe Mackenzie and Martin Tomlinson	A holistic approach to reduction of Udder Cleft Dermatitis in a Dairy Herd in the South-West of England - Mike Kerby		
15:30	Congenital brain lesions in calves caused by bluetongue virus serotype 3 infection - Annalisa Loria	The use of a transfixation pin cast (TPC) to manage a metatarsal physéal fracture in a calf - Fergus Neish		
15:45	A study on the impact of BTV-3 on confirmed premises for the 2024-2025 outbreak - Sam Partridge	The Animal Health and Welfare Pathway – animal health and welfare review and the endemics schemes - James Russell, Jonathan Statham and Defra		
16:10	FINISH			