

Mendip Vets Cattle Scanning for Lay Personnel Course



At a glance...

Assessed Customised Provision

Delivery Method: Theory and Practical

Recognised by: DEFRA

Introduction

This course will help you to diagnose pregnancies by scanning cows on the farm. It will ultimately help you to improve the pregnancy rates of your cattle.

Overview in brief

Work closely with your vet, while minimising and waiting time for cows to be examined, learn to ultrasound scan your cattle. Knowing whether your cows are pregnant it is an important consideration in the cow's productive cycle. The biggest gains in cattle fertility management are made by identifying those animals that are not in-calf, early.

Improve your pregnancy rates, by scanning cows on farm as often as you can and those animals you identified as empty you then present to your veterinary surgeon to examine and treat, when necessary.

As such you become more efficient. You minimise waiting time for cows, in turn they eat, rest and produce more. On the other hand, animals you identify as not in-calf, they are presented to the vet sooner and get treated by them promptly. This is beneficial for cow and herd, further improving your productivity and finances.

This course is absolutely limited to diagnosing pregnancies, the treatment of cattle infertility is strictly outside the remit of this course. For those, you need to consult your veterinary surgeon.

The course starts in a farm barn with an appreciation on how a transrectal ultrasound scanner works.

Then, intense hands-on practice on scanning cows follows, allowing you to establish the foundations needed for when scanning on your own.



The scanning techniques practiced in our course are based on cow's rectal examination using an ultrasound probe. You shall be taught how to insert an internal probe in cow's rectum, in order to determine whether the animal is pregnant or not pregnant.



There will be a skills assessment at the end of the practical session.

The finer details

Our highly experienced instructors will help you understand how to carry out a simple assessment on whether a cow is pregnant or not.

The organisers' combined experience brings in over 50 years knowledge and images from the UK, Canada, US, New Zealand and Europe. The course's key fundamentals will cover how bovine ultrasound examinations are carried out in the UK and abroad.

The training day is an intense one, with combination of theory on how the ultrasound works, understanding images. This is then followed-up by extensive practice on cows.

Finally provided it is battery operated, we would encourage you to bring your own sector scanner with your goggles or screen. Otherwise, we can supply a model for you to practice on the day.

Who should attend?

Farmers, farm workers and farm consultants who wish to learn or improve their understanding on whether cows are pregnant or not, through internal ultrasound assessments.

What will be covered?

- Understand the principles and applications of ultrasound scanning
- Review key performance points of ultrasound applications
- Familiarise yourselves with the operation of the scanner
- Practice ultrasound scanning on farm
- Principles of safe handling of stock
- Biosecurity and protecting man and cattle
- Pregnancy diagnosis and aging of the fetus
- Identification of twin pregnancies, whenever possible
- Gender determination, whenever possible

Other areas of interest



- Mendip Vets DIY AI Course
- Mendip Vets Sheep Scanning
- Mendip Vets Advanced Hoofcare
- CowSignals ©



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