

Reference Number	C-C.7
Module Title	Cattle – Youngstock Rearing and infectious diseases
Category and Value	C – 10 credits
Study Hours	100

Introduction

The focus of this module is bovine youngstock rearing and infectious diseases in cattle. It is recommended that candidates complete Foundations of Advanced Veterinary Practice (A-FAVP.1) prior to this module, as they provide essential postgraduate training in literature critique and evidence-based medicine and fundamental training in reflective and evidence-based writing, and clinical reasoning, required for case-based assessments.

The candidate is also expected to build on the foundation skills developed when undertaking the A and B modules, and to demonstrate progression towards advanced practitioner skills. The candidate will be able to evaluate their own standards of practice and develop strategies for continuous improvement in the future.

This is an optional module for those wishing to obtain a Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (Cattle).

Aims

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

At the end of this module students should be able to:

1. Critically evaluate the husbandry, management and monitoring of diseases in youngstock in cattle in the UK, and the role of the veterinary surgeon in heifer and beef rearing program.
2. Apply evidence-based medicine, reflection on practice 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. Critically evaluate 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. 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. Critically appraise the literature relevant to clinical cases in the topics covered and how the literature can be used to inform practice.

Module Content

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, leptospirosis, Neospora, Salmonella, Johne's disease, tuberculosis, 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

Assessment Strategy

Module providers are responsible for deciding on assessment strategies and methods, subject to accreditation by RCVS.