



West Lakeland VETERINARY GROUP

FARM NEWSLETTER- January 2026

EVENING SHEEP DISCUSSION MEETING *DATE CHANGED*

We are hosting a discussion meeting on **Thursday 5th February** at **Seascale Golf Club**. Arrive for **7pm** with **food provided** at **7.30pm**. We will be covering issues including sheep diseases, thin ewes, nutrition and mineral status, how we can identify these issues on farm and how the practice can help with testing and treatment. We will also be covering the use of AHWR follow up grants to fund investigations. **Please contact the surgery**, before the 23rd January, to book your place.

FLUKE

Fluke investigations are underway this season and we are now entering the chronic disease risk period. As the trend towards drier, hotter summers and warmer, wetter winters continues, the liver fluke season is shifting, and the time when grazing animals are picking up liver fluke off pasture is tending to be later but also extremely variable between farms.

In practice we have seen some ewe faeces results coming back as positive with fluke egg and fluke is being found at post mortem, as in the picture. Adult fluke is the main problem at this time of year so testing for active fluke infections on faeces is important. Increased resistance to triclabendazole is a growing problem so accurate diagnosis of current infections is key before treatment.



We recommend submitting 10 faecal samples from ewes to get an accurate picture on your farm.

ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE REVIEW

Many of you have already signed up to the **Animal Health and Welfare Review (AHWR)**, the funding is easy to apply for and can be drawn annually for 3 years. The initial focus for sheep is on investigating the effectiveness of the wormers you are using on your farm. In beef or dairy cattle, the process starts with investigation of BVD status. Please call the surgery and we can guide you through the process of signing up.