



Case study: Using Rehydion Gel to aid support in an outbreak of *Cryptosporidiosis* in calves.

"We were amazed by the results from using Rehydion Gel on our scouring calves as they would pick up almost immediately."

Darren Shepherd, Marton Park Farm.



Case summary

Yorkshire farmer, Darren Shepherd, had never really experienced scour in his calves, but in 2024 he had a devastating outbreak of *Cryptosporidiosis* and it hit his youngstock pretty hard, with about 10 calves affected and two deaths.

Common causes

The most common cause of diarrhoea in calves, *Cryptosporidiosis* causes dehydration and calves rapidly lose condition over two to five days. Death may occur when calves are not given oral fluids to overcome dehydration.

Marton Park Farm

Darren farms approximately 600 acres (243 hectares) split between arable and dairy. Milking about 170 Holstein Friesians. Averages 10,500 litres per cow per year on robots, averaging 2.5 milkings per day. All year around calving, using sexed semen for heifers and Wagyu for cows.

Their Vet is Ellie Button at Howells Veterinary Services in Easingwold, Yorkshire

"We had a particularly sick calf that our vet, Ellie Button, tested and it came back positive for *Cryptosporidiosis*. Ellie recommended an oral rehydration therapy gel called Rehydion, that can be added to a calf's milk to provide essential electrolytes to correct acidosis."

"The outbreak was both worrying and frustrating due to the extra time and effort invested in looking after them and the financial implications of reduced daily gain and future production losses."





Treatment approach taken

"We would generally add rehydion to milk twice a day if the calf was drinking milk, but I'd also drench it with a milk powder supplement, if needed, and administer a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory (NSAID) for pain relief."

Results of using Rehydion

"We were amazed by the results from using Rehydion on our scouring calves as they would pick up almost immediately.

Now it is the first thing we give if a calf looks under the weather and we keep a bottle of Rehydion on our milk trolley so that we can act fast at the first sign of scour to enable us to get on top of it so that it doesn't spiral."

Darren Shepherd, Marton Park Farm



The focus on prevention remains key. Calf nutrition and body condition score are carefully monitored throughout, with colostrum quality and hygiene assessed each calving time. A vet-farmer developed treatment protocol adds to a successful calving.

It is very important to discuss with your vet the use of antibiotic and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory treatments alongside oral rehydration.

For further information on Rehydion Gel scan:



Ceva Animal Health, Explorer House, Mercury Park, Wooburn Green, Buckinghamshire, HP10 0HH 01628 334056 ruminants.ceva.co.uk

Ceva Animal Health (Ireland) Ltd, 10 Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin, Dublin 2, D02 T380 Tel: 019697 644
Registered Office: As Address. Reg No: 724670 cevaireland@ceva.com ruminants.ceva.ie

Calves

2 feeds a day for 2 days

20ml per litre of milk, feed

4 x 10ml pumps per feed

1 bottle = 8 feeds

