'Agriculture is the foundation of civilisation and every stable economy.'
Alan Savory

We understand how important the health of your livestock is to your livelihood.

That's why we want to make sure you are informed about an emerging issue that can pose a health risk to livestock – antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Similar to when worms develop drench resistance, bacteria that develop AMR are harder and more expensive to treat. Treatment failure can lead to poor production or death, even from common bacterial diseases. Antibiotics are used in humans too, so when bacteria become resistant to antibiotics it impacts on both animal and human health.

5 ways vets are working to reduce AMR

1. The more we use antibiotics, the more we encourage resistance. Veterinarians will only prescribe antibiotics when there is evidence of bacterial disease.

2. Veterinarians will work with you to identify bacterial disease and can only dispense the amount of antibiotics you need to treat the animals that require it.

3. To legally prescribe, a veterinarian must have recently been on-farm and examined your stock for the health problem in question. Veterinary approval for antibiotics to treat specific diseases may be a part of some Herd Health Plans.

4. If you are based in a remote location and already have a Herd Health Plan veterinarians are able to dispense antibiotics in accordance with this plan. It is important to speak to a veterinarian if there are any changes in the health and disease of your stock.

5. The growing threat of resistance is changing the way some health problems are managed. New research is emerging all the time. Shared decision making between you and your veterinarian will ensure the latest knowledge can be used on your farm.

Best practice use of antibiotics = Antimicrobial Stewardship

This means having a biosecurity plan and being smart about how we use antibiotics. The goal is to maintain the best health and production for our animals and minimise our risk of selecting for resistant bacteria.

AMR Vet Collective
amrvetcollective.com

Talk to your vet today about improving herd health and biosecurity on your farm.

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