Facial Eczema

FARM FRAMEWORK

IDEXX

If regional spore counts reach ≥20,000 spores/g pasture conduct grass spore counts on individual farms (IDEXX test code: GSPC)

Faecal Spore counts (IDEXX test code: FSPC)

Sample 10 animals

600,000-1million/g = Mod Risk

>1million = High Risk

(Start prevention when spores/g trending to 100,000)

If static continue to monitor

Results trending upwards toward 30,000 spores/g

Begin management program including use of zinc (Zn) (various methods), fungicides and trace elements testing

2-3 weeks later blood test approx. 10 cows across a range of age, size, and production, to check zinc levels. Use IDEXX Trace Elements Farm Framework to assist in selecting testing profile

<20 umol/L serum levels - adjust zinc supplementation to increase above 20 umol/L

20-35 umol/L serum levels – recommended level - continue with supplementation program as is

After 2-3 weeks exposure (spore counts 20-30,000) check GGT levels to ensure supplementation is effective.
Continue to monitor serum zinc concentrations and consider adding calcium (IDEXX test code: CA)
Before finishing supplementation program conduct on-farm grass spore counts

Spore count over 10,000 continue management program and review as necessary

Spore count result less than 10,000 and trending down over 3 weeks, cease management program and continue to monitor spores

Before Winter check liver Copper (Cu) and Calcium (Ca) levels as Zn supplementation decreases Cu absorption and affects Ca

Note: Do not supplement with Cu over the Zn supplementation period (as copper supplementation exacerbates sporidesmin toxicity and reduces the efficacy of zinc supplementation)

Do you know the Trace Element status of the herd?

TE FARM FRAMEWORK

Time of the year

NO
Comprehensive testing recommended

AUTUMN
Is Facial Eczema a risk?

- YES: Serum Ca, GGT, Mg, Phos, Zn, Liver Cu, B12 and Se
- NO: Serum Mg, Cu, Liver B12 and Se

SPRING
Has the herd been affected by Facial Eczema?

- YES: Is there a reduced feed intake?
  - YES: Cu, Se, Mg, BOHB, Ca, GGT
  - NO: Cu, Se, Mg, Ca, GGT
- NO: Is there a reduced feed intake?
  - YES: Cu, Se, Mg, BOHB, Ca, Phosphate
  - NO: Cu, Se, Mg, Ca

YES
Status check testing recommended

AUTUMN
Is Facial Eczema a risk?

- YES: Cu, Se, Mg, GGT, Zn
- NO: Cu, Se, Mg

SPRING
Has the herd been affected by Facial Eczema?

- YES: Is there a reduced feed intake?
  - YES: Cu, Se, Mg, BOHB, Ca, GGT
  - NO: Cu, Se, Mg, Ca, GGT
- NO: Is there a reduced feed intake?
  - YES: Cu, Se, BOHB and Phosphate
  - NO: Cu, Se, Mg, BOHB

= serum test

= serum test with liver biopsy