



Gamebird Meeting

Wednesday 26th March 2014

7pm for 7.30pm

At

Wood Vet Group, 125 Bristol Road, Quedgeley, Gloucester. GL2 4NB

Main topic of the evening

"Ideas we can poach from the poultry industry"

With Andrew Walker BVSc Cert PMP MRCVS Of Slate Hall Veterinary Services.

Andrew will bring his knowledge and expertise in both the commercial poultry and the gamebird sectors of Eastern England, to explore areas where the gamebird industry can improve productivity, reduce disease and medicine usage with ideas and techniques from the commercial poultry industry.

Refreshments will be provided

RSVP - email: <u>largeanimal@woodvet.co.uk</u> or <u>suew@woodvet.co.uk</u>

Tel: Wendy/Sue or Julie on 01452 543999

Newsletter 2014

Hopefully the Gamebird meeting will provide an opportunity for discussion of the challenges ahead this season. The first wish must be for an improvement in the weather conditions. Heavy winter rains has resulted in saturated grounds and widespread flooding a challenge for those with laying flocks unless a rapid upturn in conditions.

Coccidiosis and Hexamita

We are all aware that these conditions are likely to dominate the health issues in your birds this year, as they have done so year on year.

Why are some game farms affected more than others? Is our disinfection and biosecurity letting us down meaning we require regular and extensive use of drugs? Similarly with Hexamita is the widespread and successful use of chlortetracycline and tiamulin (Denagard) masking underlying flaws in management and biosecurity? Is tiamulin becoming the new "Emtryl"? However this is now against a different backdrop with the Veterinary medicine Directive (VMD) highlighting the use of antibiotics in the Gamebird industry (Game Farmer Association Newsletter) Is it time to have a honest appraisal of some of your management procedures and look for areas for improvement – we can all highlight areas where we could do better.

Salmonella

A growing problem over the last few years with some units having significant problems requiring extensive antibiotic medication. With unexplained early mortality please seek help and advice as losses can be significant and early identification gives some hope of limiting issues on the field when strict biosecurity measures are put in place.

We hope to see as many of you as possible at the meeting on March 26th

Graham Stephens Paul Cunliffe Alastair Williams

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