

CATTLE LAMENESS CONFERENCE – PRESS RELEASE

The 2011 Cattle Lameness Conference is taking place on Wednesday 13 April at the School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, Sutton Bonington Campus. This is 3rd Cattle Lameness Conference, writes Dr Nick Bell, Chairperson of the organising and scientific committee. “This event builds on the success of the inaugural conference held in 2009 and the follow up meeting held last year. The feedback from the 160 delegates in 2010 was that the industry requires this to be an annual event and we believe that this year’s programme will again stimulate interest and provide a conduit for the dairy industry to tackle this highly important area of cattle health and welfare.

The conference is targeted at veterinarians, advisors and consultants, pharmaceutical and chemical representatives, milk buyers, accreditation bodies, retailers, policy makers, government, academics and funding bodies. In fact it should be of benefit to all those associated with the dairying industry,” he says.

The conference will be opened by Professor David Logue who will review the relative importance of nutrition and the environment on lameness, and how current knowledge can benefit the dairy cow. The conference then will look at the importance of underfoot conditions and cow flow on dairy cattle lameness with Neil Chesterton from New Zealand. This then links to the impact of cow behaviour on lameness from studies carried out by Dr Nicola Blackie.

“Following lunch there will be an opportunity for delegates to study the poster presentations. The first speaker in the afternoon will be Dr Jon Huxley who will review the research findings now reaching fruition at the new veterinary school at Nottingham. These will include the impact of lameness on milk loss, eating time and the impact of foot trimming,” states Nick Bell.

“The final presentation at the 2011 conference will be given by Owen Atkinson, who will give a practising veterinary surgeons view on implementing the DairyCo Healthy Feet Programme,” explains Nick.

“The Conference is going to be a valuable day for all those in the dairy industry with an interest and a passion in reducing the levels of lameness in the national cattle herd,” concludes Nick Bell.

Scientific conferences rely on sponsorship to ensure that they can be held and to help keep registration fees reasonable. The organising committee are indebted to the financial support provided by Zinpro (Platinum Plus), Marks and Spencer (Gold), Ice Robotics (Gold), DairyCo (Gold), Boehringer Ingelheim (Silver), Vetoquinol (Bronze) and DairyUK (Bronze).

For further information go to www.cattlelamenessconference.org.uk or contact Emma Palfreyman at the School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, University of Nottingham on 0115 951 6283.