



# NADIS *A Platform for the Future*

This year NADIS has seen a significant increase in its activities which are aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skill of farmers and livestock keepers. The success of the NADIS programme is evidenced by the number of farmers trained, with more than 11,000 issued with individual training certificates since March 2010. Together with open access to web based disease training bulletins, government sponsored TB awareness training and the continued popularity of their parasite forecasting service, underlines NADIS' position as a mainstream provider of veterinary based animal health and welfare training for farmers. NADIS is enhancing its training with exciting new developments including City and Guilds certification and future developments will include NVQ accredited training. This leaflet outlines current NADIS activities and is an introduction to some of NADIS' initiatives. Further information and access to the disease bulletins, parasite forecasts and training opportunities can be found by visiting their website at [www.nadis.org.uk](http://www.nadis.org.uk)

## NADIS - Animal Health Skills



*Practical workshops enable skills like foot trimming to be taught to small groups of farmers by their veterinary surgeon who knows the health status of their farm*

NADIS (National Animal Disease Information Service) has been delivering training to livestock keepers in veterinary based animal health Knowledge Transfer (KT) since the start of the Rural Development Programme in June 2009. NADIS is now providing training in all 8 of

the English RDA regions and works closely with HCC in Wales and QMS in Scotland.

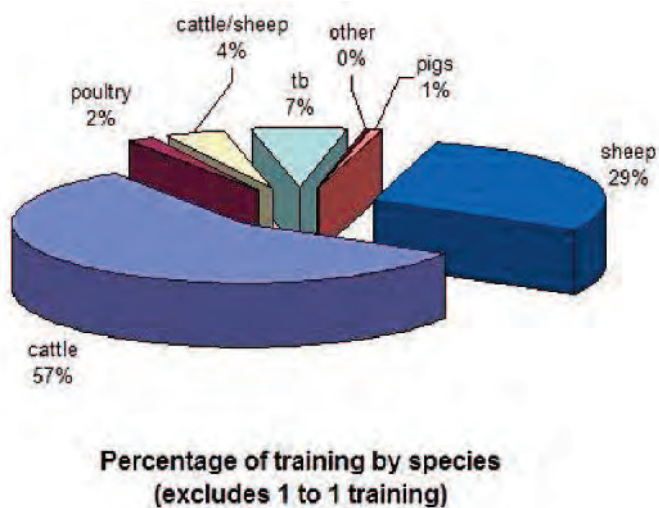
The strong professional relationship between livestock keepers and their vets is well known and NADIS looks to build on this relationship by developing the veterinary based animal health training programme livestock keepers can receive from their vet. All training is delivered by local veterinary surgeons to their own clients. Training is delivered by a range of methods to ensure it is easily accessible to the widest number of livestock keepers, thus reaching hard to reach livestock keepers.

- Online vet mentored
- 1 to 1 on farm veterinary training
- Workshops (up to 12 livestock keepers on farm practical skills taught – average attendance 12)
- Seminars (lectured based meetings – average attendance 30)

Over the past 13 months NADIS has provided training and certification to over 11,000 farmers

### Summary of NADIS Certificated Training by Type and Month - Period March 2010 - April 2011 Inclusive

	SEEDA		SWDA	EEDA	EMDA		WMDA		ONE	Yorkshire	NWDA	Totals	
	1-2-1	VMQ	TB	W/S	W/S	W/S	TB	W/S	TB	W/S	W/S	W/S	
Mar-10		478			642	120				48	43		1331
Apr-10	18	519	52		316	70				64	132		1171
May-10	95	91			407	144				2			739
Jun-10	72	263	16		47					6			404
Jul-10	13	135			169			29		0			346
Aug-10	8	57			61			23		116			265
Sep-10	28	103			43			17		6			197
Oct-10	9	82			59	74		23		0			247
Nov-10	8	84	36	7	89	42		15		56			337
Dec-10	138	551	16	4	8	80		25	54	34			910
Jan-11	76	159			254	91	70	0	156	11			817
Feb-11	24	163		9	177	78	190	62	93	18			814
Mar-11	246	2171		45	240	79	93	5	267	31			3177
Apr-11		86		9	129		26		148	91			489
Total Events	735	4942	120	74	2641	778	379	199	718	483	175	0	11244
Mean score				90.35%	88.90%	82.41%		86.57%		81.52%	84.15%		
SD				12.50%	18.15%	19.48%		14.70%		23.10%	16.80%		
Max				100.00%	100.00%	100.00%		100.00%		100.00%	100.00%		
Min				61%	0.00%	0.00%		11.00%		0.00%	7.00%		



***Distribution of practices delivering NADIS knowledge transfer training***

The training has covered the key livestock species. As the programme has developed a veterinary based animal health resource has been produced, covering all the conditions that affect UK livestock, providing a unique training resource for livestock keepers.



***Seminars have average attendances of over 30 across all the RDA regions***

The NADIS training is inclusive, so all practices no matter their size can take part. So far over 90 practices have enrolled to provide training across the RDA regions. Many of these practices have not regularly been involved with training in the past. NADIS provides the material in ready to use PowerPoint presentations to facilitate delivery for participating practices. New updates are sent to practices every 3 months so the presentations always contain the latest training material. This provides the opportunity for livestock keepers who have not previously had access to veterinary based animal health training to receive training from their veterinary surgeon and engage in continuing professional development. The NADIS distribution of training practices covers all the RDA regions and new practices are continually being recruited providing a nationwide network of veterinary practices actively engaged in training their clients in veterinary based animal health.

NADIS also provides booklets containing several associated disease bulletins to practices as part of the training package for distribution to livestock keepers at the meetings.

NADIS also has monthly animal health features in the farming press such as South West Farmer, Welsh Farmer, Farm Week (NI) and Scottish Farmer and further press exposure is planned.

## **PARASITE FORECASTING**

Endoparasites cost the UK sheep industry £84m annually and the problem of anthelmintic resistance is increasing. Recent research (Gerald Colles 2010) suggests that only 15% of farmers understand the SCOPS recommendations. NADIS publishes a monthly parasite forecast based on detailed Met Office data for the 10 weather regions of the UK. The Parasite Forecast highlights the likely parasitic challenge to livestock in the regions and emphasises the SCOPS recommendations in a practical context. Specific forecasts are published for fluke and nematodiosis at strategic times of the year



***Scour in lambs during June, maybe caused by internal parasites, principally Nematodirus and Teladorsagia. If the problem is not addressed, this may lead to losses and long-term poor growth rates.***

## NADIS Knowledge Transfer (KT)

The NADIS KT programme is modular so it is easily accessible to livestock keepers. Each module is made up of a series of bulletins which cover a disease in detail. All bulletins are written by recognised veterinary authorities, peer reviewed and presented in an easy to read practical format. A unique library of clinical images is used to improve livestock keepers awareness of the early clinical signs of disease. Increasingly video footage of clinical signs is being used to further increase the impact of the signs to watch out for.

At the end of each bulletin a series of MCQs is presented based on the key learning points in the bulletin. These mcqs are marked electronically and certificates issued with the participants name. The aim is to improve the understanding of disease control and prevention by better engagement with veterinary health plans.

A comprehensive range of diseases affecting the different species of UK livestock has been covered in a disease A-Z that livestock keepers can easily access on the NADIS website [www.nadis.org.uk](http://www.nadis.org.uk).

*A comprehensive list of diseases affecting UK livestock have been covered including.....*



## Veterinary Health Planning:

Veterinary health plans identify the disease prioritises for a particular farm. All too often it becomes a paper based exercise and is only referred to at the annual health planning meeting. NADIS engages the livestock keeper in the veterinary health planning process. Disease bulletins can be selected so that training is provided to cover the diseases prioritised in the health plan. The livestock keeper engages in the training with veterinary mentoring. Following the training a series of multiple choice questions are presented on the key training information. Certificates are issued to show the training has taken place. By actively engaging the livestock keeper in training directed at the farm's disease priorities, the understanding and knowledge of the key factors affecting disease control and prevention will be gained with the resultant benefits to animal health and welfare for that farm enterprise.



*1 to 1 and small group training for diseases highlight the priorities as part of the health planning process.*

Certificates are issued to verify training has taken place with the name of the participant, score and disease covered. The training is tailored for the disease priorities identified in the health plan, making it an active health planning programme that can be audited. An electronic record is kept of the training provided, the participant and the score they obtained.



*A typical NADIS knowledge transfer certificate (WMDA in this case)*

## City and Guilds

The NADIS training is accredited by City and Guilds certification, so stock keepers can have a record of the training they have undertaken and the scores they obtained. This is an important factor in up skilling the livestock sector.



## Future Development Plans

Future plans will include further certification through NVQ qualifications for those livestock keepers and students who wish to gain recognised qualifications. Delivery will be by veterinary surgeons in conjunction with agricultural colleges as well as on line so livestock keepers can access a high level of veterinary based animal health training in remote areas.