



**TWEMLOWS**  
STUD FARM

2020 / 21 Newsletter



## 2020 Season Update

At the beginning of this year no-one could have foreseen how this year would turn out. In March we were wondering whether we would have a stud season but due to the almost worldwide lockdown in the Spring it has been a very busy season for us with mares visiting the stud for **AI, Embryo Transfer, OPU and Foaling**.

Monica, our senior vet, had three assistant vets – Rebecca Keating, Ria Hartevelde and Stephanie Fitzgerald supporting her, along with Nikee, our Stud Manager and her team on the yard, Liz, Michelle and Jody in the office and Mark and Tim on the farm. The new vet centre has been a success with greater efficiency and easier for the mares. The new offices and lecture room are finished and we have moved over from the front house yard to next door to the vet centre so everything is more centralised.

Our **OPU & ICSI** services are successfully underway with oocytes being sent to Italy resulting in frozen embryos in storage for owners to have transferred to recipient mares in the future.

(See overleaf for more information on this service). We are making plans for 2021 and start the season with Monica and Rebecca in the vet centre and two more vets joining us the Spring. We hope all our clients stay safe; we look forward to hearing from you and seeing you next season.



## Woodlander Mares

Three generations of the world renowned Woodlander mares arrived in the summer -

**Woodlander Dornroschen** (left) was reunited with her first foal **Woodlander Farouche** (middle) and Farouche's first foal **Woodlander Walk On The Wild Side** (right).



## Pony News

Two of our recipient mares made headline news in the Sunday Mail newspaper earlier in the year with their foals. The foals, owned by Katherine James, are by **Veni Vidi Vici** and their dam is **Back In The Black**,



The foals are for Katherine's twin daughters, both of whom have represented Wales, to continue their showjumping careers.

## A Rare Breed — Suffolk Mares



This summer we have had 6 **Suffolk** mares for insemination and embryo transfer. This breed is on the list of endangered **Rare Breeds** so it has been a great opportunity to breed these mares.

(l to r: **Millgreen Midnight Rose**, **Holbeach Honey** & **Gateridge Eloise**)

Following the successful insemination last year of the Suffolk Mare, **Easton Ruby** (belonging to **Nottingham Trent University**) with sexed semen from the pure bred Suffolk stallion, **Holbeach Iggy**, **Easton Ruby** returned to Twemlows this spring for foaling.

She gave birth to a lovely filly foal as predicted by the sexed semen. This was a good result for **Stallion AI Services** with this new service.



## Staff Profile—Rebecca Keating MRCVS



Rebecca started in the spring assisting Monica with all aspects of the stud work. Rebecca is from Co Galway and has always been passionate about being a stud vet. Whilst studying she did hospital externships in

America, Canada and the UK. Following graduation she spent time working at the VDL Stud Farm in Holland and at Kylemore Stud in Ireland before moving to England in 2019 to join the Liphook Equine Hospital in Hampshire, and then Twemlows Stud Farm.

## Bolesworth Elite Foal Auction

Bolesworth held their **2020 Elite Foal Auction** on 21st August. This was a great success and a testament to the high quality of foals selected. Out of 17 foals forward 10 were Embryo Transfer foals using **Twemlows** recipient mares. The top price foal was by **Cassaljack**, the dam was Di Lampard's **Ruby VIII** and our recipient mare, **Thyme**.

*Please get in touch if you have a mare you wish to re-home and would like more details about our recipient mare herd.*

Seamus and Kieran Taylor brought their successful showjumping ponies for insemination - **Flicka Flick Flack** (right) to **Landadel** and **Millparks Maeve** (left) to **Ashdale Legend**.



The brothers and their ponies have represented their school, The Lakeland Academy, as well competing nationally.

We were delighted **British Breeding** awarded Liz Wilkinson the "Unsung Hero" Award 2020 at their recent awards ceremony. Liz has been with us for over 40 years and her guidance and support to staff and clients has been instrumental in the development and success of the Stud.



**OPU** (Ovarian Pick Up) is the collection of eggs (oocytes) directly from the mare's follicles in her ovary for the purpose of carrying out Intra-Cytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI).

The advantages of OPU are:

- ◆ Ideal for subfertile mares unable to produce an embryo from embryo transfer or unable to carry a pregnancy to term.
- ◆ Can be carried out outside the normal breeding season as mares do not have to be cycling, ie during the winter months
- ◆ Little interruption to any competition work
- ◆ Embryos are frozen and can be stored until transferred into a recipient when required, or sold if the owner desires
- ◆ Use of stallions with very limited frozen semen straws. Only a small section of straw is required to carry out one ICSI
- ◆ Use of subfertile stallions

Oocyte retrieval rate can vary however this will depend on the individual mare. Overall, the likelihood of getting one or more embryos per OPU session is 60%, and the chances of getting a pregnancy after transfer of a frozen embryo are around 70%.

**Genetic Salvage** is carried out in the event of a sudden and catastrophic accident or untimely death of a mare, this means that valuable genetics can be salvaged through ovary removal. In this procedure ovaries are removed from the mare under general anaesthesia prior to euthanasia or immediately post mortem. The ovaries are packaged and sent to the lab at Twemlows Stud to harvest the oocytes and ship them to a specialized lab to carry out ICSI.



### TRANSPORTED EMBRYO SERVICE



is an ideal choice if you want to take embryos from your mare but prefer to keep her at home. We provide you with well synchronised recipient mares to carry your mare's embryos.

*For full details on this and our embryo services please contact us*

## COURSES 2021

### ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION TECHNICIANS TRAINING COURSE

*16 & 17 March and 30 & 31 March*

### FOALING THE MARE

*20 March*

### FOALING & YEARLING MANAGEMENT

*21 March*



## STUD OPEN DAY Saturday 17 April

· Stallion Show · Trade Stands · Silent Auction · Food Hall ·



### PRACTICAL ULTRASONOGRAPHY

A series of one day courses designed for vets and new graduates wishing to gain experience in scanning mares for breeding purposes.

*3, 9, 11 & 23 March*



### VETERINARY CPD PRACTICAL EQUINE GYNAECOLOGY

Interactive Workshop Style Lectures & Practicals  
Examining Mares & Stallions

*Lecturers:*

*James Crabtree MRCVS, Simon Staempfli MRCVS  
Monica Morganti MRCVS, & Tullis Matson*

*9, 10 & 11 February*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL [LIZ.WILKINSON@TWEMLOWS.CO.UK](mailto:LIZ.WILKINSON@TWEMLOWS.CO.UK)

