

DIY AI Course

DIY AI it is not just about saving time and money by serving cows at the right time. It is a whole new skill aimed to allow you to take charge of your herd's reproductive performance.

Teaching DIY AI is one of the most difficult courses to train. Until now the student could not see the cervix and the remaining reproductive track of the cow, while she or he is trying to inseminate. The trainee had to exclusively rely on their best ability to feel the target organs.

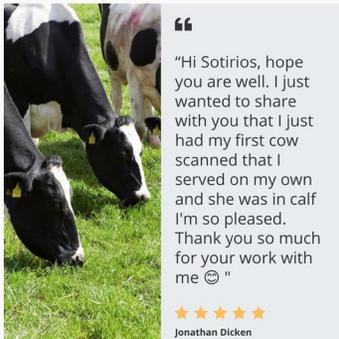
With most AI courses anywhere up to 1 in 3 delegates fail to take up the skill they've learnt after the course, for that reason alone.

All this has now changed with our introduction of Henryetta. We believe in cutting edge clinical services and training, so we have invested to not just one, but two DIY AI simulators.

Our training groups include a maximum of 4 delegates or less.

Our training is blended, simulators and live cows. This allows the tutor to best demonstrate the technique to even the most challenging situations. Then once the principles have been established, you will be practicing on cows.

This is better for students and for cows. Our success rate has exponentially increased, it is now only 1 in 5 or less that don't make the mark. See what others have to say:



For more info visit: mendipvets.net/diy-ai

Hoof Health

7mm of hind claw horn thickness is responsible for 79kg in the average cow

There's a lot more to trimming a cow's hoof than just making it look tidy! The average cow bears down 79 kg of her bodyweight on just 7mm of hind claw, with more of the weight on the front of the cow than the back.

This and the fact that the critical fat pad, acting as a shock absorber and as a pump carrying blood to the hoof, cannot be replaced means the cow's productivity and longevity depend on her feet. The way the cow interacts with her environment is pivotal to and from the biomechanics of the foot.

Standing time, cubicle acceptance, cubicle comfort, building ventilation and contact with slurry, footbathing type & frequency, balanced diet, genetics to mention a few, all affect or are affected by the biomechanics of the cow's foot.

Correctly balanced stress and stabiliser claw will allow the cow weighing an average of 700 kg to withstand a variety of external challenges. The Heel Fulcrum, which acts as the balancing point between the weight bearing toe triangle and shock absorption heel. The Pressure Ridge, which represents the hardest horn quality in the sole. And finally, the Breakover point, which takes into account the area that the cow wears herself provide some of the evidence in evenly distributing the bodyweight between the claws.



For more info visit: mendipvets.net/basic-hoofcare

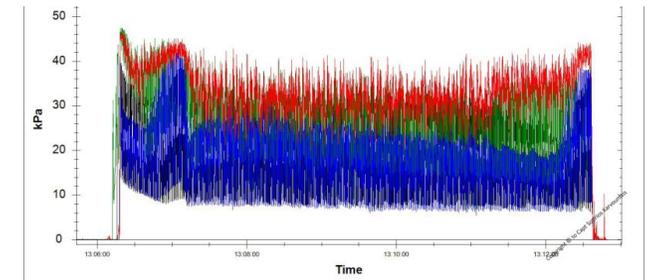
Udder Health

7 out of 10 dairy milking parlours have problems that reduce the quality of milk!

Issues with the vacuum at the teat level are quite difficult to identify with the naked eye. Teat scoring can provide an early warning system, but not always.

Where there's a heavy reliance on relief milkers, it is easier to blame the human factor than the machine. How the milking plant interacts with the animal, can be broken down to distinct areas that can be monitored regularly and rectified. To mention a few, poor liner fit, inadequate udder preparation and biphasic milking, poor milk-flow away from the teat.

A damaged teat-end removes the udder's biggest defence against infection, increases the risk of mastitis, poor quality of milk, worsens milk margins per hour. Not all milk produced is milk sold. Take the automatic cluster remover (ACR) for example. Check the cut-off milk flow that triggers them pulling the cluster and the delay between shutting off the vacuum and pulling the units off. Even on new installations we've found they were not functioning properly.



For more info visit: mendipvets.net/udder-health

Endoscopic Training

1-1.5cm incisions - Discover a whole new world!

One of the biggest challenges that cattle clinicians face when examining sick cows, is the limited number of means to achieve a definitive diagnosis. Our biggest allies in this battle are our faithful thermometer, the reliable stethoscope, our observant eyes, the rectal palpation, a limited range of biochemistry on-farm tests (BHB, ketone, blood constituents).

Exploratory laparoscopy is a powerful prognostic tool, where with minimal intrusion an abdominal condition can be investigated further. One or two small holes, while the cow is standing or in dorsal recumbency, allow us to further clarify cases of general "malaise" but more importantly to comment on whether any treatment is likely to succeed.

As our diagnostic skills are constantly reviewed and we continually strive for excellence, it is important to "think outside the box" when looking to facilitate our diagnoses. The combination of endoscopy and ultrasound would be a hugely beneficial complement to our arsenal of clinical skills.



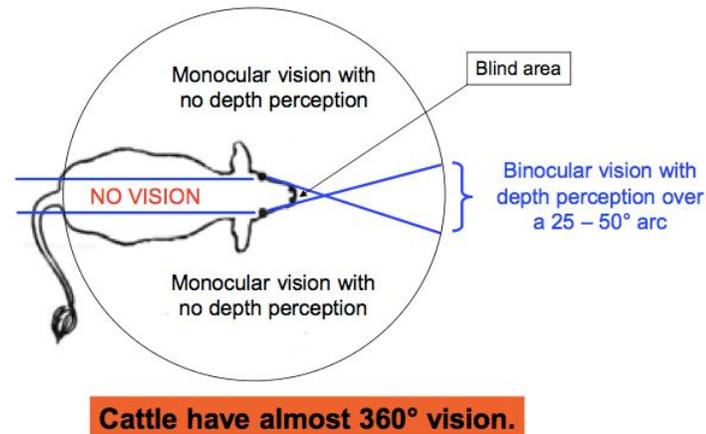
For more info visit: mendipvets.net/endoscopic-training

Better Animal Handling

Unbelievable - Increased Productivity through Better Animal Handling!

Learn about livestock behaviour and develop safer and more profitable approaches when working with your stock with our Better Livestock Handling for Increased Profitability course. When you have completed the course, you'll be able to appreciate the benefits of good livestock handling, identify the factors affecting cattle handling and understand how those factors can be applied to handling systems.

Field of vision in cattle



Cattle have almost 360° vision.

For more info visit: mendipvets.net/better-handling

Dairy Farm

75mm or less - Might make a difference between contracting bTB and staying clear...

Bovine Tuberculosis affects thousands of cattle every year. It is a debilitating disease, that leads to death. It also may be transmitted to humans, which is another important aspect. Cattle get infected through contact with other infected cattle, infected members of the wildlife or contaminated materials, such as manure.

Surveying how wildlife interacts with your holding and minimising cattle access to them and infected feed, will reduce the likelihood of infection. Gates to the holding that are 1.5 meters high and have no more than 75mm gap at the bottom will make a difference.

Also, raising water and feed troughs up to a meter or more off the ground will also have the same effect.



For more info visit: mendipvets.net