

# Spore Counts

## Latest Spore Counts

### Facial Eczema – production losses in the absence of clinical disease

Over the next few months we will be updating the table below with results from our three monitoring sites. As counts increase you have any questions, please give us a call and we will be happy to advise you on the best course of action to protect your stock against this debilitating disease.

SPORE COUNTS – Three Marlborough Sites Being Monitored

Area	Last date tested	Spore Count
Rai Valley	9/03/2016	Low – Moderate (150000)
Havelock	9/03/2016	Low (87000)
Linkwater	9/03/2016	0

While pasture spore counts remain below action levels in all three monitor areas, counts are slowly increasing so again the advice is to anticipate some moderate counts if we get moisture in the coming weeks. Continue zinc dosing as advised at a low level to prime the cow's intake.

The most severe effects of FE can be subclinical with cows generally off colour, losing weight and milk yields plummeting. Often a high % of the herd is affected. There seems to be a perception that FE doesn't strike severely in the top of the south, however we can tell you this is not the case and would fully recommend getting zinc dosing systems up to scratch this summer! Alternatively have a chat to us about Faceguard capsules.

As spore counts can vary dramatically between farms and even between paddocks. If you have any concerns you are welcome to bring in a grass sample (approx. an ice cream container full with no soil/roots) and we will do an individual spore count and get the results to you.

