



online database.

A sample is taken during the normal tagging of new-born calves, or alternatively pre-movement, and includes the use of branded white tags as part of the testing procedure in order to provide an easily identifiable and highly visible prompt for calf buyers to check test results before purchase.

Dan Humphries (pictured), of XLVets member practice Lambert, Leonard and May, says it will improve the identification of source farms and reduce the risks of persistently infected (PI) calves moving from unit to unit, thereby stemming the spread of the disease.

“All practices will have the option of participating in the scheme, with the database being hosted independently, thereby allowing the branded white tag to become a universal symbol to promote BVD awareness and prompt positive action to remove PIs,” he says.

The scheme is being sponsored by MSD Animal Health.

## BVD testing and monitoring scheme

A NEW calf testing and monitoring scheme for BVD was introduced at the recent Beef Expo.

Backed by the 53-strong group of XLVets practices, Check Tag BVD aims to promote the testing of calves and provide verification of a negative test result for the disease through an