**Neospora infection in cattle**

*Neospora* is the major diagnosed cause of infectious abortion in cattle

### The problem:
- This parasite is transmitted to cattle by infected dogs that shed parasite eggs in faeces
- Once cows are infected they transmit the parasite to their calves during pregnancy
- Infected cows are much more likely to abort than uninfected cows

### Diagnosis and treatment:
- There is no vaccine or treatment to prevent infection or abortion
- There are commercial blood tests available for live cattle to help determine if they are infected or not
- Abortions should always be investigated to get an accurate diagnosis
- Foetal and placental tissues may be examined for the presence of *Neospora* parasites

### General control tips:
- Keep dogs away from calving areas and cattle feed
- Dispose of placenta and aborted foetus in a safe manner
- Don’t buy *Neospora* infected cattle in and consider testing new stock
- Consider culling out infected cattle over time

[www.moredun.org.uk](http://www.moredun.org.uk)