



Newsletter

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Hay: 01497 820410

Abergavenny: 01873 858300

Hereford: 01432 769527

Ledbury: 01531 806130

R.M. JONES

ask@rmjones.com

www.rmjones.com



During every lambing you end up with the spares, the orphans, the tiddlers. These can be a frustration especially if you don't have a ewe to foster them onto or they won't feed. The general view is they don't turn a profit but that isn't usually the case.

These are the **5 steps** to success with the spares;

Environment

Clean dry straw, no draughts, and kept warm with an **R.M.Jones** heat lamp.

Colostrum. 3Qs – Quality, Quantity, Quickly

Ewes colostrum is always the best but if the ewe isn't milky and there's none in the freezer to defrost then use **Downland Lamb Force** colostrum – knocks the socks off the competition with the highest levels of antibodies (Cambridge University trials). Feed 50mg/kg LW at birth and then every 6hrs for the first 24hrs.



Milk Powder

Quality milk powders give the best results and **Downland Lamb Force** with Pro Zest stands head and shoulders above the rest – trials show a 3kg LWG advantage over well-known competitor brands: that's the benefit of using powder based on ewe's milk with added probiotics. Feed warm or cold, by bottle or ad lib, available in conventional and freeflow versions. Now with a **£100** cashback for 1 tonne deliveries



Solid feed

Lambs require solid feed available from several days old especially as they should ideally be weaned off from milk at 5 weeks old. **Lloyds creep** is formulated with quality ingredients to ensure palatability and maximise growth rates. Available in 25kg bags or bulk loads, they can be mixed with cereals to reduce costs as the lamb gets older.



Fresh forage

Always ensure clean dry forage, ideally straw, is available at all times to maintain rumen development and function.

Look after your Sheep with Sheep Natural Energy buckets

Sheep Natural Energy is a specially formulated feed bucket to be fed to ewes when extra energy and micronutrients are required. Feed throughout pregnancy and pre-post lambing to maintain ewe health and condition. And after all the rain we have had this is really needed.

Its unique formula on includes Omega 3 fish oils and protected fats along with sugars to give her an energy boost when she needs it most. Quality protein sources are used to meet the demands of the growing lamb and ensure excellent milk quality and supply at lambing.

Top 4 reasons why you should use Sheep Natural Energy

- Nutrient dense lick complete with all minerals and vitamins for healthy ewes
- Balances forages and grazing, making it a cost effective alternative to bought in feeds
- Easy to use and convenient
- Contains variety of energy sources ideal to meet the demands of the ewe nearer lambing

Arable Update

Market averages

UK LIFFE wheat May21 @ £203 - 205

MATIF OSR May21 @ £373 - 376

AN34.5% Fertiliser @ £270 - 272/t

Overview

Most land is still saturated and will need some dryer weather to travel let alone allow any form of cultivations. Holding off until soil conditions are dryer does, as every farmer knows, make quite a difference to the establishment and profitability of the next crop. Most autumn crops have wintered well and have some potential.

Key tasks this month

- Make sure the drill is cleaned out, seed is on farm and everything is ready to plant when the ground conditions are suitable
- Early Nitrogen on OSR and thinner cereals needs to be applied. This first dose should be Sulphur containing (Cereals @ 40kgSO₃/ha, OSR @ 75kgSO₃/Ha). We can give you accurate GAI information for crops either through RHIZA and crop apps. This will help you target your N more effectively.
- Late weed and LLS control may be required in OSR, it may be possible to tank mix this with a trace element package including Boron, Magnesium and Molybdenum.
- Where conditions allow land destined for maize can receive its organic manure and cultivated up. This will allow it to warm up quicker meaning maize can be planted several days of colder ground.
- Where green crop is still being grazed consider reduced tillage to establish your spring crops. This will keep all the nutrient in the top 100mm where the plant can rapidly utilise it

Other

We have some seed still available – please give us a call to discuss your needs.