



R.M. JONES Newsletter

FARMCENTRES

www.rmjones.com

April 2021

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Hereford: 01432 769527

Abergavenny: 01873 858300

Ledbury: 01531 806130

Boost Lamb Growth

Trace elements such as Selenium & Cobalt are vital for healthy growing lambs. The Welsh border counties are notoriously deficient in these elements and if they are not balanced then lambs will fail to thrive.

Optigain Lamb is a specially formulated for Growing Lambs. A highly concentrated liquid supplement containing key ingredients known to support Growth & Development in young & growing lambs.

It has high levels of **Cobalt, Selenium, Vitamin A, D3 & E**, together with **amino acids**.

To achieve the best lamb prices it is a good plan to finish lambs quickly—**Optigain Lamb** will help with this! For the very best results use before Essential lamb bolus

Downland Essential Lamb Bolus can be used for lambs over 8 weeks old (25kg) & contains **Cobalt, Selenium & Iodine**. A trial by Glasgow Vet school showed a 38% increase in DLWG compared to untreated.

Vitamin B12 levels increased by 300% and Serum Glutathione (an indicator of Selenium) by 100%

SuperStock Ewe & Lamb bucket— Now has more **Cobalt** and **Vitamin B1** in a new 22.5kg buckets.

Downland Opti-lix Extra High Energy— Now with increased **Cobalt** levels and protected **Selenium**.

Cattle Turn Out – Don't Let Worms Reduce Weight Gain

Over half your Cattle liveweight gain is achieved in the first 3 months after turnout.

Don't allow Worms and Trace Element deficiencies steal the growth!

Using **Zermex Pour On** at turnout cleans pastures of worms because it works longer: – for 10 weeks. So your cattle are protected and able to “do” for only 2.5 pence per day (300kg), and the withdrawal time is only 14 days.

Downland Essential Plus Cattle bolus contains **Cobalt, Iodine, Selenium & Copper** in one bolus application. This is tailor made for our area with the inherent deficiencies in these Trace Elements. Much better value than other boluses – lasts for 6 months.

£4.75/ Bolus for 200kg to 400kg— 2.6 pence per day

£6.04/ Bolus for 400kg upwards—3.3 pence per day

Quantity Discounts available

Turnout is a good time for a booster Clostridial vaccine for your Cattle—protect against Blackleg.

Fodder Crop Options for Winter Feeding

Catch Crop mixtures can help by providing a balanced feed of **protein & energy** supplied by the carefully blending of **forage rape** and **stubble turnips**.

- Balanced feed to graze on your farm
- Autumn or Winter keep
- Improved protein content

Cost effective, Grow Your Own Feed.

Arable Update

Market averages

UK LIFFE wheat	May21 @ £197 - 199/t
MATIF OSR	May21 @ £440 - 442/t
AN34.5% Fertiliser	@ £285 - £290/t
Current wheat growth stage	GS23/24 2+ tillers
Current OSR growth stage	GS3.3 Green Bud

Overview

Although spring has now sprung it is still quite chilly and the conditions have slowed crop development. As temperatures increase crops will move through the growth stages quite quickly. **OSR** in particular will need extra care as crop development can be very rapid.

Key tasks this month

- The start of disease control in winter cereals will be begin in earnest this month. **Septoria** in particular is a disease that can reduce yields by 30 – 40% in a bad year. Maintaining green leaf area is crucial as reduced photosynthesis equals reduced yield. Mixed (stacked) **SDHI** and **Triazole** fungicides used together will protect your crop and slow **fungicide** resistant **Septoria** developing. New products have come on the market, in some cases as co-packs (2 products in 1 pack) or as virtual co-packs (2 separate products in 2 packs but used together). Crop nutrition including foliar **Magnesium** (crucial for photosynthesis) can be applied at the same time as most **fungicides**.
- **Growth regulators (PGRs)** are crucial to get the most out of our crops. Taking away the apical dominance of the main stem forces the plant to partition nutrients to the tillers. **PGRs** stimulate **stronger rooting**, increasing **yield potential**, **standing ability** and **straw volume**. Products such as **Adjust** are more effective in cooler conditions than many other **PGRs**.
- By the end of the month approx. 70 – 80% of autumn cereal crop **Nitrogen** needs should have been applied.
- As **OSR** crops move through **Stem Extension** to **Yellow Bud**, growth regulation to restrict height and maximise branching will be required. **Highgate**, **Toprex** and **Caryx** can be applied during this period and may bring some **Sclerotinia** control during early flowering.
- Spring planting has started. Consider a **Pre-Em herbicide** to give you cost effective season long weed control.
- **Fungicide** and **PGR** timing are crucial – quite often the timing is more important than the rate itself. Where possible please prioritise application as close as possible to the target dates.

Maize Seed

This is **starting to run short** with most preferred varieties already sold out. Unlike previous years, the supply side has been constrained by EU/UK border delays which is limiting replacement maize stock – all suppliers are being affected to the same level. Please talk to your **agronomist** or one of the **Farmcentres** to secure stock.