



R.M. JONES Newsletter

FARMCENTRES

www.rmjones.com

March 2023

Downland Lamb Force Ewe Milk Replacer

Is made with ewe milk to maximise the digestibility of the protein and protect the antibodies in the milk. It is easy to mix, simple to feed, highly palatable and optimises the early weaning growth potential and development of the young lamb.

Downland Lamb Force Ewe Milk Replacer contains ProZest, a natural gut conditioning package to support performance and health. ProZest is comprised of the following components working synergistically to promote a healthy population of microbes in the digestive tract:

- **Antioxidant** to boost immunity.
- **Essential Oils** to manage the microflora.
- **Prebiotic** to provide nutrients for beneficial bacteria.
- **Vitamins & minerals** to increase growth rates.
- **Flavour** to maximise intake.

Trials have demonstrated that this natural gut conditioning package can improve lamb growth rates by 15%. It prepares the lamb's nutritional system for weaning and helps prevent growth checks leading to less digestive upsets and healthier, stronger lambs.



Providing lambs with the... 
ZEST FOR LIFE

Improving performance in early life and feed efficiency to maximise growth.

Boost Lamb Growth with Optigain Lamb

Optigain Lamb is a highly concentrated liquid supplement specifically formulated with key ingredients known to support growth & development in young & growing lambs.

- **Increased Vitamins A, D3 & E**— higher levels of key vitamins to support lamb growth.
- **Increased Cobalt**— essential for Rumen development and production of Vitamin B12.
- **Added Amino Acids**— aids growth & development in young lambs.
- **Higher levels of Vitamin E, Selenium & Natural antioxidants**— to support the natural immune function.

Optigain Lamb helps maintain vigour, performance & balance pasture deficiencies

Dose at around 6 weeks of age.

Arable Update – March 2023

Comments

March is when the arable workload really starts. Fertiliser applications, herbicides, ground preparation and planting kick off in earnest.

Tasks

Barley Barley yield is driven by tiller numbers and tiller survival. Keeping these alive and green is crucial. Consider an early fungicide such as Helix to maintain green leaf area. The balance of any Nitrogen needs to be on by later this month

Wheat Crops that have not had an autumn herbicide will need weed control earlier in the month. **Avocet, Palio, Othello** and **Hatra** have pretty wide weed spectrums and control a range of grass weeds. Wheat will need approx. 35% – 40% of its N requirements plus approx. 35kgS/ha around the middle of the month

OSR Most crops will have had a significant amount of their target N. The balance (less any left for an early flowering application) needs to be going on at or around the green bud stage. LLS and Phoma are still an issue. Combining disease control with an effective PGR and a trace element mix containing Boron and Magnesium will pay dividends.

Beet Consider getting all your Potash (K) and Salt (N) applied and incorporated into the soil 4 – 6 weeks prior to planting.

Maize I am an advocate of preparing maize ground in good time. Getting dung incorporated means it will start breaking down and the soil will warm up faster.

UK LIFFE Wheat May23	£235 - £245/t
MATIF OSR May23	£485 - £490/t
AN34.5% Fertiliser	£460! +/-

Current wheat GS	13 - 24
Current OSR GS	25 - 32

Technical Corner – Tiller Formation

Crops are entering a rapid growth period where Nitrogen (N) demands are increasing. Achieving the best yield and best economic response are crucial to performance.

As a guide a wheat crop needs 23kgN/t yield – equivalent to a 9t/acre crop needing 207kgN/ha. This nitrogen will come from a number of sources including;

- Soil Nitrogen Supply (SNS)
- Organic manures
- Manufactured fertiliser

When calculating your N needs it is important to take into account your residual soil N. This is calculated from **soil type, previous cropping and rainfall** (see RB209 guide) or an **NMin** test. The lower the SNS score the lower the level of N in the soil and the higher the crop N requirements – the target N rate is provided in the RB209 charts but can be calculated if required.

Depending on your target yield and armed with your target N rate you can now plan how you will provide the required N to support that yield.

Organic manures generally have far higher N levels than will be utilised by the crop. Farming Rules for Water and NVZ rules require you to take into account the total N content rather the crop available N for pollution risk. Crop demand requires you to use the crop available N. Therefore:

volume applied x available N (RB209 data again) is the amount supplied to the crop.

The balance of your N requirement will then need to come from other sources such as manufactured N.

To get a product application rate is now as simple as dividing the N balance required by the N content of the fertiliser product.

Just remember to keep a diary record of your calculations for the RPA

Fertiliser and Seed

Fertiliser prices have dropped significantly since the beginning of December. The main issue will be supply. If you need some talk to us as soon as possible as production has been drastically cut over the winter so availability may now suffer.

****Seed – talk to us about spring seed including beet and maize****