



R.M.JONES Newsletter

FARMCENTRES

www.rmjones.com

April 2023

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— with **Cobalt** and **Vitamin B1** in a 22.5kg buckets.

Downland Opti-lix Extra High Energy— with **Cobalt** levels and **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!

Talk to us about alternating your wormer active group with a wormer bolus. We can also check if a Moxidectin treatment has been effective with a pre and post treatment FECPAK.

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.

£5.47/ Bolus for 200kg to 400kg— 3 pence per day

£6.94/ Bolus for 400kg upwards—3.8 pence per day

Quantity Discounts Available

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

Hay - 01497 820410 | Hereford - 01492 769527 | Abergavenny - 01873 858300 | Ledbury - 01531 806130

Arable Update – April 2023

Comments

Crops are starting to move through their growth phases as the soil warms up and daylength increases.

Tasks

Barley Ramularia has become an increasing issue in Barley over the last several years. At flag leaf/early awns it is good insurance to apply low cost Folpet (Phoenix) to reduce the yield challenge. Spring Barley will be romping away by the end of the month. Nitrogen wants to be applied early and effective growth regulator early will thicken the crop and reduce lodging

Wheat The balance of any Nitrogen needs to be on by the end of the month as the crop goes into its most rapid growth phase.

Septoria and Yellow Rust are the biggest concern this month. Prevention is definitely more effective as the cure! A well timed T1 on leaf 3 can potentially lead to 1.5t/ha extra yield on some varieties

OSR Most crops will have had most of their nitrogen fertiliser applied. Approx 30kgN/ha at flowering can increase oil content and crop value. Liquid products like **Intrafol N28** supply this very effectively.
Pollen beetle, around from green bud stage onwards, will need monitoring. Generally at least 1 Sclerotinia spray with a suitable fungicide is required before petal drop.

Maize If conditions are right (soil temp of 10C at 30cm depth with good seedbed conditions) its well worth getting it planted. **Maize Kicka** fertiliser provides all the early nutrients required for fast establishment and early growth.

UK LIFFE Wheat May23	£208 - £210/t
MATIF OSR May23	£405 - £415/t
AN34.5% Fertiliser	£460 +/-

Current wheat GS	30 - 32
Current OSR GS	53 - 59

Technical Corner – Septoria

The most significant and damaging disease of wheat crops in this region is Septoria tritici (*Zymoseptoria tritici*). Severe infections can lead to 50% yield loss in extreme cases.

When looking at a wheat plant you will almost inevitably find Septoria. Elongated light brown lesions running parallel with leaf veins often with a yellow edge will form on the oldest leaves first. In well developed lesions small black Pycnidia (fruiting bodies) can be seen. These lesions grow and eventually destroy the leaf. Septoria infection generally comes from wind blown spores from old crop debris and rain splash from the soil. Infected leaf contact will move Septoria through a crop. Ideal conditions are warm (15 – 20 deg) and humid/wet weather.

Why is this important?

Yield is all about maximising green leaf area of the plant for as long as possible. If we let Septoria progress it will move up the plant destroying its photosynthetic potential.

Fungicide resistant strains of Septoria are common.

What can we do to reduce the pressure?

Variety	Choose varieties with a good Septoria rating (7+) eg Extase, Fitzroy
Drilling date	Delay drilling where possible to the middle of Oct
Crop protection	Fungicide mixes including SDHIs, novel Azoles eg RYLOX and multisites can slow disease progression

Spray timing target leaf three and the flag leaf when they are emerged. Getting timing right has a significant effect on disease control.

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****

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