



R.M.JONES Newsletter

FARMCENTRES

www.rmjones.com

November 2023

Winter Feeding Critical To Lambing Returns

We always talk about feeding management of Ewes at **Flushing & Pre-tupping**, but **Ewe Nutrition** is needed in **Mid Pregnancy** for the placenta to **Grow & Develop**.

The placenta provides all the nutrients for the unborn lamb in late pregnancy. Poor Placenta development results in small lambs – Irrespective of late pregnancy feeding. SAC trials show that **Cobalt** deficiency in first half of pregnancy produces lambs that are slower to stand & suckle, and more prone to neonatal disease.

"Inadequate nutrition in early/mid-pregnancy cannot be compensated for later on in pregnancy and can result in the production of smaller and weaker lambs with higher mortality."

Opti-Lix High Energy provides a very palatable and available source of **Minerals, Trace Elements** and **Vitamins** and is ideal for feeding **Ewes**.

Opti-Lix Buckets Vs. Concentrates

Buckets	Concentrates
Up to 10% improvement forage digestibility	Replaces cheap good quality grazing (substitution effect)
Replaces up to 3 x its weight in cake	More expensive
Supports rumen function	Risks of acidosis
Convenient	Labour intensive
"Round the clock" availability	Limited availability
Shy feeders get their share	Dominant animals overconsume
More even group performance	Uneven group performance
Suitable for outwintered stock	Difficult to feed on wet ground



Don't Fluke it up!

Did you know as little as 50 Fluke per animal can reduce weight gain by 10%

If you need to control fluke in your sheep then you should control fluke in your cattle too - because this parasite affects both sheep and cattle. Otherwise the fluke infestation on your farm will be prolonged, leaving losses from this disease to continue unchecked. Integrating cattle and sheep treatments can break this cycle. **Talk to us about what is best for YOUR farm as we have a specific Flukicide pour on.** We can do a Faecal egg count so you only treat for what is there.

Arable Update – November 2023

Comments

60% - 70% of cereals are now in the ground. Some have been planted in good conditions whilst others have been a bit forced. The wet conditions towards the end of October have prevented some autumn herbicides being applied and created quite a lot of slug pressure.

Tasks

OSR

Some OSR crops are still looking very backward. These crops will be affected by **Phoma/LLS** more than larger canopies. Ensure you have some disease cover on them – products such as **CC Vulture** will help, this can be mixed with growth enhancers such as **Nutriphite**. As mentioned last month, where crops are strong, a well timed **growth regulator + Boron, Manganese and Magnesium** will aid branching and future canopy size.

Late residual herbicide timing will depend on soil temperature. Remember the limitations on straw use if you use **AstroKerb**.

Cereals

Where cereals have missed their autumn herbicide application there is still time (as long as conditions are appropriate) to get good grass weed control from post emergence sprays. Products such as **Octavian Met, CC Jab** and **Orient** are strong on a wide variety of grass weeds. Talk to agronomist about any rate changes necessary.

As mentioned last month **BYDV** was an issue last year. Aphid numbers are high this year. Fortunately the main Aphid appears to be the **Bird Cherry Oat Aphid** which is relatively easily controlled.

Keep seed rates up if you are still drilling – realistically **450 seeds/m²** if drilling in mid November.

UK LIFFE Wheat Nov23	£182 - £186/t
MATIF OSR Nov23	£350- £370/t
AN34.5% Fertiliser	£380 +/-

Current wheat GS	GS12
Current OSR GS	GS13—GS20

Technical Corner:

With cereal planting well underway it's time to start considering autumn herbicide options to control those difficult grass and broad leaved weeds (BLWs). Knowing the weeds you have is a must for good autumn weed control. An effective herbicide plan incorporates a range of active ingredients with different modes of action to give the best control. There are 9 main Autumn active ingredients that herbicides are composed of each designed to tackle different weeds.

Grass weed control - **Pendimethalin, Cinmethylin, Aclonifen, Prosulfocarb, Flufenacet** and **Triallate** (pre-emergence only)

BLW control - **Metribuzin, Prosulfocarb, Picolinafen** and **Pendimethalin**

Modes of Action (How herbicide is taken up by plants):

- Inhibit Cell Division: **Pendimethalin & Cinmethylin**
- Destruction of leaf **Chlorophyll** and prevention of Photosynthesis: **Picolinafen, Diflufenican, Metribuzin & Aclonifen**
- Inhibit Lipid Synthesis: **Prosulfocarb & Triallate**

Persistence of active:

- +100 days: **Flufenacet, Aclonifen & Diflufenican**
- 30-100 days: **Pendimethalin, Picolinafen, Metribuzin, Cinmethylin, Prosulfocarb, Triallate**

Crop Nutrition and Nutrient Management Plans

We are starting to carry out a large number of Crop Nutrition and Nutrient Management Plans. With Farming Rules for Water, NVZs and SFI requirements as well as the practicalities of getting the best bang for your buck from expensive fertiliser. It is a pretty good idea to plan what products you need and how to make the best use of them. Please give us a call if you need more help and advice.

NROSO

This years NROSO course has now be released – the format has changed this year. There is now “Test and Check” module and the number of slides has dropped dramatically. Please let us know if you would like to attend. We are aiming to run 3 sessions in Mid to Late January.