



R.M. JONES Newsletter

FARMCENTRES

www.rmjones.com

May 2024

May - The Month for Growth

Keep Lambs Thriving

- Boost Growth with **Cobalt**:
 - **Superstock Ewe & Lamb** one of the highest spec'd buckets available
 - **Optigain Lamb** mineral drench—Helps maintain health, vigour, performance and balance pasture deficiencies.
- **Downland Essential Lamb bolus** will boost growth—with **Cobalt, Selenium & Iodine**. Glasgow University Vet school trials showed **38% DLWG** increase over untreated.
- A recent FWI article showed a **3.52kg uplift at 10 weeks** after **treating cobalt deficiency**
- Faecal Egg Count. We are seeing a lot of mixed worm burden in our Faecal Egg Counts, not just Nematodirus. The most expensive wormer is the one that doesn't work!
- Protect against **Fly Strike**.

Look after the Cattle

- Prevent **staggers** with **Downland Extra Magnesium Buckets**.
- Treat at Turnout for **Stomach, Lungworm** & maximise growth rates— don't feed the Worms!
- Clear out **Fluke** in the Summer with Pour ons.
- Use **Downland Essential Cattle Plus Cattle bolus**—6 months continuous supply of **Cobalt, Selenium, Iodine & Copper**.
- Remember to vaccinate against **Clostridial diseases, Blackleg** is a **killer**.

Produce more home grown Forage to reduce feeding costs

- Quality grass seed is the foundation of a good sward.
- **Downland seed** is very high quality with germination specs much higher than the UK minimum requirement.
- In trials Overseeding has increased the feed value per acre of grass by the equivalent of 1.5 tonnes of dried Barley!
- Order Root & Forage crops now, to produce much needed keep during the Winter.

Why spend money on fertiliser when you can work with nature to provide you with **free nitrogen fertiliser from clover**.....



DOWNLAND
PARTNERS IN FARMING HEALTH

Arable Update – May

Comments

Phew... a reprieve at last. Lots of activity from the middle of April catching up on fertiliser, weed control and field activities.

Cereals

- Cereal prices have rallied recently – prices are nearly at £200/t for November. Even though crops in some cases are shy of tillers, it will still pay to look after them. A good quality flag leaf spray will protect your yield by maintaining green leaf area. There are a few new fungicide options this year including **Jessico One** + **Vimoy** and **Questar** + **Velogy**. These products are really pushing Septoria and Yellow Rust control up several notches. Talk to your agronomist about where they fit in your crops.
- There are milling premiums of over £50/t in the market. If you are growing Grp1 wheats eg Crusoe, Skyfall or some Group 2s e.g. Extase, Palladium then it will be well worth looking at a late N application when ears have emerged. This can be either a foliar product or granular (in which case apply at ear emergence to allow time for the N to be taken up).

OSR

- Flowering is gradually declining in crops as pod formation and development take over. Keep inspecting pods for holes and damage.
- A late dose of nitrogen will enhance oil content (oil bonus is worth 1.5% of sale value for every 1% oil over 40%)

Spring Crops

Spring crops will rocket through their growth stages as it warms and given the soil moisture. Managing tiller numbers is especially important this year as the season is so late. Early growth regulator will help reduce apical dominance and keep tillers alive. Contrary to lots of opinions growth regulators will, in a lot of cases, increase straw volume even if overall crop height is reduced. Products such as **Adjust** and **Alatrin Evo** are very crop kind and will have positive impacts on a crops performance.

UK LIFFE Wheat May24

£175 - £177/t

MATIF OSR May24

£355 - £365/t

AN34.5% Fertiliser

£340 - £360

Current wheat GS

GS31—32

Current OSR GS

GS65—GS67

Technical Corner:

The technical corner is giving way to a lighter article this month. We have been sent several pictures of people having adventures in the mud. We thought it would be fun to post some of them on here. If you have any then by all means WhatsApp them to your agronomist or **R.M. Jones** contact.



Farm Event

The annual **iFarm Crop Trials and Arable open day** is on the **25th June at Gatley Farms, Leinthall Earls**. Please book a place with the R.M. Jones office 01497 820410. There will be a range of stands and a chance to see how various varieties have performed (both treated and untreated).