



R.M. JONES Newsletter

FARMCENTRES

www.rmjones.com

May 2025

Save the Date – Celebrating 65 Years of R.M. Jones!

2025 marks 65 years since Ron Jones (R.M. Jones) first opened, starting from a small pharmacy in Hay-on-Wye and growing into the Farmcentre business we are proud of today.

To celebrate this special milestone, we're hosting an **Open Day at Hereford Farmcentre on Tuesday, 17th June.**

The event will coincide with the busy market day, and with the livestock market right next door, we're looking forward to a lively and memorable day!

There will be supplier stands, hot food & refreshments, exclusive deals, and a look back at the history of R.M. Jones.

Save the date—we'd love for you to join us and celebrate this milestone together. More details to follow soon!

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.
- An FWI article showed a **3.52kg uplift at 10 weeks** after **treating cobalt deficiency**
- Faecal Egg Count. We are seeing some 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**.

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

Comments

Continued drier weather has kept disease in crops low whilst allowing early establishment of maize and beet. There has been, until recently, enough moisture in the ground to keep crops going. The small amount of rain over the Easter weekend has helped in some drier land

Tasks

OSR

OSR is all but done from an input perspective. A late application of 40kgN/ha during flowering will have an impact on oil content. The oil bonus is worth 1.5% contract price for every 1% over 40% oil content. As an example a £380/t crop @ 45% oil content should achieve a bonus of £28.80/t

Cereals

Most crops will have had a T1 of various types. With the exceptional variables this year has thrown up (thinner crops due to the Autumn, depressed prices due to geo-politics, cleaner crops due to late drilling and a drier spring), some of these fungicides will have been low cost to suppress any disease rather than control it. Weather conditions during May will dictate the crucial T2 fungicide products.

Winter Barley crops are already at flag leaf with Awns emerging – a T2 spray to control Ramularia and late disease is more likely earlier in the month than later.

Spring crops are bouncing through the growth stages, weed control (where it hasn't occurred yet) will be required along with growth regulation to maximise tiller survival and fungicide to control disease. Spring barley can utilise 150kgN/ha (120units) depending on SNS.

Pulses

Pulse crops fix their own N via root N-Fixing nodules until soil temperatures go above around 20degC. Demand for N is highest at seed development when the nodules are slowing down. There is a new product on the market which can help crops overcome this hurdle – **NIENTRIS** is a biological N fixing bacteria that sits around the leaf stomata. By capturing N from the atmosphere and converting it into a form the plant can use yields can be increased by 6%– 12%. If you are interested in trying some out talk to your agronomist for more information.

UK LIFFE Wheat May25	£160 - £170/t
MATIF OSR May25	£430 - £450/t
AN34.5% Fertiliser	£385—£410

Current wheat GS	GS30 –GS37
Current OSR GS	GS50 - GS65

NSA Welsh Sheep

We're at the NSA Welsh Sheep event! If you're attending, be sure to visit us at **Stand 119** — we'd love to see you.



Events – Grassland Overseeding follow up

Following the grass overseeding day on the 11th April we are having a follow up later this month to review what worked (or didn't...), what seeds are best suited to overseeding and how we can control weed problems in new swards. This is likely to be a late afternoon/early evening event.

