ANIMAL FEEDS • FERTILISERS • SEEDS • COUNTRY STORE

# Focused on Farming

Countryside Stewardship Graham Jameson



**JULY 2015 ISSUE** 

## Wooden gates –

Many of you will be considering applying for a Countryside Stewardship (CS) grant, it seems complicated and there are various parts, so here's a rough guide so you can see if it's for you. Some of the options can also be used to meet Ecological Focus Areas (EFA) (applies to arable farmers) required for basic payment, however payment rate is reduced.

- Statement of priorities these outline the priorities for your local area, e.g. Yorkshire Dales, land management options to enhance conditions for breeding waders such as lapwings & curlew.
- Three elements
  - Mid-tier
  - Higher-tier
  - Capital grants
- Choose from various options such as:
  - AB7 Whole crop cereals
  - o GS3 Ryegrass set-seed
  - o FG12 Wooden field gate

It's a competitive process and not all will be successful, so to increase your chances, you can choose the following which are groups of options: -

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- Wild pollinator & farm wildlife package, including, for example:
  - o AB16 Bumble bee mix
  - AB15 2 year sown legume fallow
  - GS4 Legume & herb rich swards
- Shelter & nesting sites component, including, for example:
  - AB4 Skylark plots
- Wintering food for seed eating birds, including, for example:
  - AB9 Winter bird food
  - GS3 Ryegrass set-seed
  - o AB13 Brassica fodder crop
  - o OP2 Wild bird seed mix

We are able to supply the seed mixtures required for these options, for example the nectar flower mix and the wild bird seed mixture which can be used as EFA and as part of CS.

Please give us a ring to discuss your options or visit:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/countryside-stewardship-get-paid-for-environmental-land-management

## **Monthly offers**

3ft £52; 4ft £54; 5ft £56; 6ft £58; 10ft £84.50; 12ft £90. Wooden posts available in various sizes.





Garlic buckets – buy
5 and get another
one free.

#### **Animal health**

Ectofly 5 litres £63.00 + VAT; 2.5 litre £41.00 + VAT



Spotinor 1 litre £108.00 + VAT; 250ml £32.00 + VAT

#### **Country store**

Doff Tomato feed 1 Litre: was £2.99 NOW ONLY £1.99!



15% off all Jack Murphy Clothing!

NAF Citronella Fly Spray 750ml, with free Citronella bridle tag. Special Price £9.89 SAVE 10% off RRP





Gelert Country Choice 12x400g
Working Dog tins - 12 for the price of
10. Now only £4.60!

## Ex Masham While stocks last!

Please mention the newsletter when ordering





## Have you thought of growing Forage Rape?

#### Peter Harland

Forage rape is a valuable feed when sown after a grass ley or winter barley, and it's ready for grazing in approximately 3 months from sowing. This leafy catch crop is high in protein with average fresh yields of 12 tonnes per acre. The crop has a wide sowing window and will provide excellent autumn/winter keep for finishing lambs. The crop can also work well alongside stubble turnips to extend the usage of that valuable crop.

Please give me a ring on 07803 116410 to discuss further.

# **BUZZ OFF!**

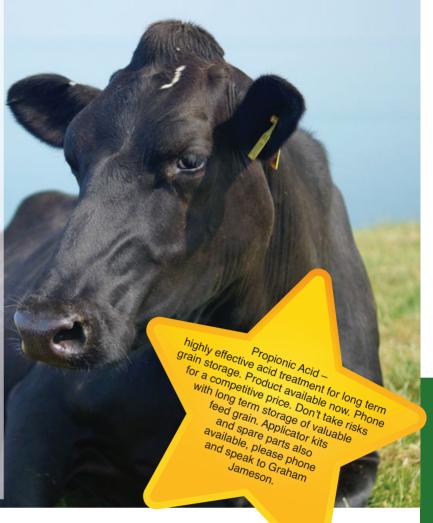
### Kathryn Henry

Flies cause serious economic problems for farmers including milk yield and growth rate losses, as well as spreading diseases, including mastitis and infectious eye diseases. Flies can also induce avoidance behaviours in cattle which disrupts normal grazing. At Jamesons we stock three pour-ons to control flies in cattle: -

	Flypor	Butox Swish*	Spotinor
Duration of fly control	Up to 8 weeks	8-10 weeks	4-8 weeks
Milk withdrawal	6 hours	zero	zero
Meat withdrawal	3 days	20 days	17 days

Also, to help keep fly numbers down, you can remove muck heaps and dirty bedding from housing and treat posts and window frames etc.

Please ask me about fly control in cattle. Call into the trade desk or give me a ring on **01765 689666**.



# Lambs not thriving? Jake La

Recently we have seen two or three farms where lambs were not thriving which turned out to be cobalt and selenium deficiency. Deficiencies in both minerals result in poor growth rates in lambs.

Cobalt is needed to form vitamin  $B_{12}$  and deficiency results in loss of appetite and therefore growth retardation. Cobalt is not stored in the body to any extent therefore regular supplementation needs to happen. For oral drenches to be effective, they need to be given at least every 3 weeks. Cobalt boluses last longer, but are more expensive. Mineral buckets work well too and have the added bonus of not needing to round animals up.

Selenium deficiency is common on pastures growing on acidic soils, and especially in those areas with rainfall above 450 mm/year. The use of phosphate fertilizer will also decrease selenium availability. In fact nearly all of the forage sample results we see are low in selenium. This can be coupled with other minerals such as sulphur which are antagonistic to selenium supply, or iron which locks up cobalt. A blood test is a certain way to be sure of selenium or cobalt levels in your flock.

For more information on minerals please give me (Jake Lakin 07740 409826) or Ruth Lawson (07725 263050) a call.



## Around the markets

Congratulations to G.
Pickering from Thackside
Farm, Whitby topping
Ruswarp May-day suckled
calf sale at £1720 and £1620
at 6 & 7 months old using a
special keymix from us.

Top price lambs at Otley auction at 232p/kg came from Andrew & Sally Hargrave using hogg blend. Top price ewes and rams at £107.50 presented by the Tindalls from Linton Springs using our Sheep Pro 40 pellets.

Also, **top price** cow & calf at £1460 from Robin Jackson, Blubberhouses, using Primestock pencils.

Doing their job yet again, the Bowes top Northallerton auction with **top price** steers at £1354, £1347 & £1390 fed Cattle pro gold.

At Leyburn auction, Mike Broadley from Masham took the **top spot** with an angus steer at £840, using calf rearing nuts and calf weaner pellets.



USEFUL NUMBERS Country Store 01765 680215 • Nick Bowkett 07715 994178 (Product Sales) • David Lewis 0771 Graham Jameson 07802 253060 (Sales) • Jonathan Stansfield 07732 396078 (Grain Buyer / Fertiliser Sales) • Rich 263050 (Nutritionist)



# What does poor fertility cost? Dr Ruth Lawson

Sadly we can't do anything about the milk price, but there are production parameters more within our control - fertility is one of these.

According to NADIS, the average loss due to fertility in the UK is around £250 per cow, which is equivalent to approximately 3.5p/litre. Cattle fertility has declined in recent years. For example, average first service conception rates (the proportion of cows getting pregnant to their first service) are currently <40%; in the early 1980s the expectation was rates of more than 50%. However, this decline may have now slowed.

Effective heat detection is crucial to maintaining good fertility; but the modern dairy cow is in oestrus for such a short period of time and stands to be mounted on fewer occasions whilst on heat. This change in behaviour is one of the main causes of the decline in fertility on dairy farms.

Although it has a multitude of effects, the costs of poor fertility can be calculated from its impact on two factors: (1) involuntary culling and (2) increased calving interval. Also, there is huge variation between farms.

So how much does culling cost?
The simplest cost to calculate is the difference in price between a cull cow

and its replacement. The average value of a replacement heifer is £1200 and the value of a cull cow can range from £700 to £300, this assumes of course that she makes it to the auction ring! In addition, the heifer will not produce the same amount of milk as the cow it replaces. nor will it produce the same margin over feed costs as the cow. Also, poor fertility can mean the loss of valuable genetics as high PLI cows are culled because they are empty. For example, a good milker, with no history of mastitis or lameness. Yet she is going to be culled because she is not pregnant 200 days after calving. Alternatively, a poor milker which has had a history of high cell counts. She is going to be kept in the herd because the good milker is being culled for not being in-calf. If the less profitable cows are still culled, this can only be achieved by increasing the culling rate. Adding these figures together results in an average cost of around £1000 - £1200 for each cow culled due to poor fertility. So for a 100cow farm culling 19% of cows for failure to conceive, the cost of culling will be at least £13,000. This is probably at least half of the economic cost of poor fertility on most farms.

Poor fertility also means fewer calves born per year, but also means that more cows have to bred to reduce replacements reducing the value of the calf crop. Conversely better fertility means reduced AI costs as services per pregnancy are decreased, which also saves on labour as there is less time getting cows drafted for AI.

But the main economic impact of increased calving interval is on milk production. There are two effects here. Firstly, increased calving interval means that the average production per cow per day will reduces as cows spend proportionally more time in late lactation when yields are lower; and, secondly, during late lactation the margin between milk income and feed costs is lower and thus the profit margin per litre is less. So poor fertility means that cows spend longer producing lower amounts of less efficiently produced milk.

In summary, poor fertility costs money in two ways. Firstly, it increases the interval between calvings and secondly replacing the culled cow can cost around £1000 per head.



07710 600848 (Dairy Specialist) • Jake Lakin (sales) 07740 409826 • Stuart Holmes 07894 595194 (Sales) • Richard Harker 07732 396079 (Accounts) • Peter Harland 07803 116410 (Sales) • Ruth Lawson 07725



## What's new with autumn cereals? Nick Bowkett

#### Wheat

Whilst some wheat varieties such as KWS Leeds and Invicta continue to do well, other older varieties such as KWS Keilder and KWS Viscount have had disease problems. Revelation is probably the best replacement for KWS Viscount. It is best suited to early sowing as it is a bit late maturing. It has good disease resistance but not midge resistant.

Reflection is a good all-rounder. It is high yielding and early maturing with good disease resistance. It is a short-strawed variety.

Evolution can be grown as either a first or second wheat. It is very high yielding with good disease resistance. The specific weight is a bit low and straw strength could be better. It will be a good alternative to JB Diego which is still performing well although perhaps now getting a little outdated.

KWS Gator is the other good choice as a second wheat. Although trial yields are only average it has performed well in this position in the rotation. It has stiff straw and good disease resistance apart from brown rust.

### **Barley**

The only new barley variety of note is Cavalier which has done well in the northern trials. It is resistant to mosaic virus but straw strength and disease resistance are only average. KWS Cassia remains as the best two row variety although it has problems with mildew and rhynchosporium. The alternatives are KWS Tower on light land or Glacier on heavy land. KWS Tower is high yielding and resistant to mosaic virus but susceptible to net blotch. KWS Glacier is also high yielding with good specific weight although susceptible to mildew.



#### **Contractors / Service**

Grassland subsoiling, aerating, ploughing, reseeding & overseeding. Harrogate / Ripon area. Steven Brown **07920 884575**.

Self-propelled forage harvesting. Round and quadrant baling and wrapping. Tractor and man hire **07759 342125**.

Primrose Tyre Services, Bedale. Tel. 01677 450487 or 07977 732096.

Agricultural Electrician, J R Graham. Fault finding and repairs, breakdowns, new installations, lighting, security, 3-phase. Tel John on **07595** 620935 or **01423** 340319.

Fencing Contractors, A and S Corner, Easingwold. Call Andrew for a competitive quote: **01347 823645**.

Cattle freeze-branding, North Yorkshire. Tel Steve Johnson 07940 064991 or 01347 810980.

Fencing Contractors David Robinson. Leyburn 07762 317201.

Agri Pest management. Agricultural pest control - rats, mice, moles, rabbits & insects. Tel. Nick **07716 467460** or **01765 640 867**.

Slitting and over-seeding in one pass. Sward lifting, slurry tanking, ploughing, man & tractor and concrete grooving. Fodder beet cleaner-loader with picking off table for hire. Tel. Mike **01765 689 039**.

Rhodes Feed Services for on-farm rolling, grinding, mill & mix services. All areas covered. **01759 318230** or **07811 432127**.

All types of fencing work. 3 tonne Digger hire. Ditching, lane repairs etc. Simon Poulter **07751 553504**.

5t digger for hire, with or without operator. Andrew Donaldson **07753 637638**.

Fencing, Forestry and Groundworks Contractor. WM Rural Contractors, Yorkshire. Contact Will McDermott **07791335602** for a competitive quote.

Welding tuition available in MMA mig & tig processes on pipe and plate. Call **01609 761697** email: **fortressfabrications@outlook.com** 

### **For Sale & Wanted**

Single axle bale trailer 18 by 7ft £550. Leeds area 07976871198.

Pedigree Black & white dairy heifers – new calven & in-calf. Ilkley area  $\bf 01943$   $\bf 602227$  after 6pm.

20 KVA tractor PTO driven generator, good working order 01423 780207

Pedigree Aberdeen Angus bulls 12-14 months. Easy calving. Good conformation & quiet. BVD, IBR, lepto. & Johnes free. Ripon **01765 658646**.

Charolais bulls. Well bred & ready for work. 18-22 months. Tel. Jenny Clayton **0113 2672921** or **07952 228632**.

Hay in large square bales. Scarborough area 0797 1776671.

Angus bulls for sale or hire. Peter Turnbull 01347 868236 or 07836 370253.

150 KVA John Deere silent generator  $\mathfrak{L}6600$  + VAT. I & WA Todd **01751 460337** or **077650 35582**.

Blonde pedigree cow in-calf. Also blonde bulls. I & WA Todd **01751 460337** or **077650 35582**.

For Sale Mini Heston hay bales, excellent quality, Markington **07866813701** / **01765 677233**.

New Holland 8050 combine. 3943 hours. 12ft cut. Tidy condition. Genuine owner driven machine. Bedale area **01677 450280** or **07971 961403**.

Hay for sale. Good quality. Small bales and also large oblong. Reasonably priced. **01423 864253**.

Quadrant bales of wheat, barley & oat straw,  $8' \times 4' \times 2'$ . Sedgefield area **07715 494378** 

Wanted: Circular Saw Header for tractor mounted hedge trimmer. Tel: **07989 726154**. Wanted: small slurry tanker. Tel. **01748 886412**.





