

Focused on Farming



JUNE 2014 ISSUE

Ten signs that your cows have got Sub-Acute Ruminant Acidosis (SARA) at grass David Lewis

1. Less than enthusiastic cuddling.
2. Poor rumen fill.
3. Cows dropping their cud.
4. Dirty, rough coats.
5. Tail swishing - resulting in dirty backs - this is due to cows feeling uncomfortable.
6. Rapid breathing, may be only in individual cows.
7. Individual cows with low butterfat % and high milk protein %. There
8. Cows selectively eating straw or hay.
9. Increased number of cases of displaced abomasums and ketosis.
10. Excess body condition loss in early lactation.

Grazed grass offers lots of readily available energy and protein and low levels of fibre to slow down the digestive process. Fibre is slowly digested and also makes the cow chew which is the animal's natural means of buffering due to the natural buffers in saliva that neutralise acid. However, as good grazing is low in fibre, even a natural grass diet does not offer a normal balance of digestion and buffering. In addition, grazing situations can be worsened by the recent trend for high sugar grass varieties.

Some studies show that over 40% of grazing dairy cows have marginal acidosis. Buffer feeding of forages during the grazing season may also help reduce acidosis, and concentrate type should be changed at turnout to a ration more suitable for feeding at grass.

Ask me about solutions to SARA issues, including our range of Butta-lac dairy cakes.

Monthly offers

Country Store

Ectofly 5 litres for only
£62 + VAT (2.5 litres £38 + VAT).

Wagg worker complete 17kg, our
price **£10.49.**

Skinner's muesli mix
only **£19.99 for 15kg.**

Burgess supacat 10kg reduced from
£22 to £19.99.

All Buckler & Hoggs boots **only £39.**

Shires Montana yard boots were
£54.99, now £29.

Sherwood Countrysport shirt was
£18.99, now £14.

Fieldpro Lauderdale quilted jacket
was **£45, now only £15.**

For all your fencing requirements ask us for a competitive quote

**Ex Masham
While stocks last!**



Don't forget!

**we are closed on Saturday
5 July as you won't get to us
due to the Tour de France.**



Propcorn Barley

Nick Bowkett

Propcorn provides a simple and cost effective method of storing grain. The benefits of propcorn treatment are numerous in terms of cereal preservation and improved animal performance. Propionic acid stops the growth of moulds, yeast and bacteria. It also prevents the heating up of barley that has been harvested in less than perfect weather conditions.

Propionic acid also aids processing making rolling easier and making grain less likely to shatter. This makes the barley less dusty, improving intakes when fed out. Application results in fewer digestive problems compared with feeding dry cereals.

We stock propcorn in either 1000 litre IBC's or in 205 litre barrels. We also sell propcorn applicators. Why not ring us for a price?



Ask Neil

(Interview with Jameson's seed expert Neil Edminson)

Q Which forage crop is best suited to sheep?

Stubble turnips can produce an economical, nutritious and palatable feed only 12-14 weeks from sowing. Winter hardy, forage rape is a low input forage crop for autumn / winter keep to finish lambs. Whereas swedes are a high energy feed, ideal for finishing lambs after Christmas.

Crop	Yield (t/ha)	Crude protein (%)	Av. DM yield (t/ha)	Growing costs (£/ha)
Stubble turnips	38-40	17-18	7	153
Forage rape	25-35	19-20	7	152
Swedes	70-80	10-11	11	218

Q Which fields on the farm can I grow these crops?

Use free draining fields with pH at 6.5 and ones that offer shelter and dry out quickly after rain.

Q Have you any "top tips" for successful crops?

For stubble turnips, consider broadcasting seed into standing cereal crops 2 weeks before harvest. You could also consider sowing the variety Tyfon as you should get two grazings due to regrowth. You should consider brassica varieties that are resistant to powdery mildew and club root.

Q Are there any downsides to feeding brassicas?

Health issues can arise where crops are grazed too early; too high nitrogen fertilizer is used, combined with low phosphate and high sulphur. Also, bloat can be a problem if you don't feed long fibre or if the stock are hungry when they go on to it. Brassicas are low in iodine so deficiencies can result in unsupplemented animals. Keeping lambs clean before marketing can be an issue, this can be reduced by adding small amounts of Italian ryegrass to the seed mix.

Congratulations

Congratulations again to Sally & Andrew Hargraves, Yeadon for winning the show and sale of new season lambs at Wharfedale Farmers in May. Their 39.5kg lambs also achieved top price for the day at 304p/kg.

Congratulations to the Tindall family from Linton Springs for wins in the charolais sheep section at Otley show.

Also, at the end of May sale at Otley, top price new season lamb at 333p/kg from Kirsty & Mark Farrar, Tadcaster, fed on Jameson's Intensive lamb creep.

USEFUL NUMBERS Country Store 01765 680215 • Nick Bowkett 07715 994178 (Product Sales) • David Lewis 07715 994178 (Product Sales) • Graham Jameson 07802 253060 (Sales) • Jonathan Stansfield 07732 396078 (Grain Buyer / Fertiliser Sales) • Peter Harland 07803 116410 (Sales) • Ruth Lawson 07725 263050 (Nutritionist)

Just add water

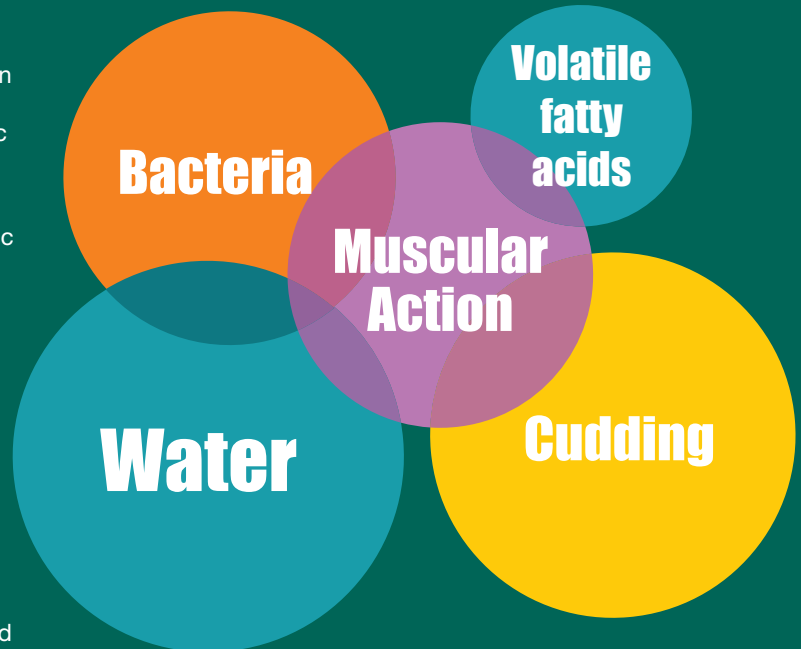
Dr Ruth Lawson

Calf rearing is an important job as the young calf is the future of the herd. Well reared, healthy calves will produce high yielding, healthy adult dairy cattle and fast growing beef animals. Our calf weaner pellets are highly palatable and are formulated to maximize early intake of top quality ingredients, optimizing calf performance at this most critical time. Our approach to feeding calves is to encourage the development of a strong immune system which promotes health at a time in the animal's life when it is most vulnerable. We formulate to promote effective rumen development so that calves can go on to maximize their genetic potential.

Our calf weaner pellets contain the correct levels of all vitamins and minerals needed to support healthy growth, and are specific to calves. We have included lots of extras to help rumen development, all you have to do is add water (for the calves to drink). We have included salt to promote saliva production which helps buffer acid in the rumen. The cereals in the pellets will supply volatile fatty acids to help rumen development. Both pro- and pre-biotics encourage beneficial bacteria in the developing rumen, leading to an increase in intestinal development and stimulating feed intake by up to 20%. To encourage intake, our calf weaner pellets contain a flavour which means calves go mad for them.

We have also used etheric oils to encourage feed intake and stimulate health. If that's not enough, our weaner pellets have a **vitamin E eq of 100 mg** to give a real boost to immunity and help the calf fight pneumonia.

Kick starting the rumen is critical for the calf and there are five requirements for effective ruminal development: -



The fairer sex?

Jake Lakin

It is well known that heifers do not gain weight as well as steers and feed conversion efficiency is poorer. Since it costs more to feed heifers, the store heifer needs to be cheaper, so where does she need to be?

Using EBLEX figures for 18 month old heifers of £778.43 and steers at £870.98 and assuming weights of 420kg for heifers and 475kg for steers, we calculated costs and margins for both. The finishing diet we used was rolled barley, protein concentrate and wheat straw, with steers having a higher dry matter intake than heifers. The heifer diet we formulated should achieve 1.4kg live weight per day and cost £2.13 per day, whilst the steer diet should achieve 1.55kg per day and cost £2.33. We calculated that the heifers would take 127 days to take them to average slaughter weight, whilst the steers would take 100 days. The feed costs for heifers were calculated to be £271, whilst the steers cost £233. This would give a margin of £30.74 for heifer and £36.32 for steers.

Perhaps the difference in margin isn't as great as we expected and if heifers could be bought at just £6 cheaper than the average, they would compare well with steers.

**Dalesman Garlic
Grazer buckets
Buy 10 and
get one free.**

Contractors / Service

Agricultural Electrician, J R Graham. Fault finding and repairs, breakdowns, new installations, lighting, security, 3-phase. Tel John on **07595 620935** or **01423 323436**.

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

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

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. 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 **07791 335602** for a competitive quote.

For Sale & Wanted

Barney's farmhouse foods. Homemade jams, chutneys, marmalades, sauces & cakes for sale. Tel. **01423 780207** or email anneoxenfarm@yahoo.co.uk

Limousin Bulls. Tel John Swales **07713 322245** or **01845 597339**.

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

Blakewell Simmentals – bulls and females for sale. Tel. Ian Steele on **07931 358286**.

Point of lay chickens, warrens, cream legbar, road rock, bluebells, light sussex, copper black. Tel. Bedale **07746 940791**.

Wanted farm plastic – delivered or collected, ring for a quote on Selby **01757 288112** or **07761 248174** or email martinbirdsall20@gmail.com.

28' bale trailer for sale, double axle, new build **07753 637638**.

Blonde pedigree bulls. Super conformation & nice temperaments. Easy calving sire. Also some pedigree heifers. I & WA Todd **01751 460203** or **07765 035582**.

Silent generator 60 KVA good working order. I&WA Todd **01751 460203** or **07765 035582**.

ALFA-LAVAL Vacuum milk pump (VP77), single phase, 1000rpm, 50KPA, 4KW, 1600L/min, in good working order £250+VAT. MH Burt Tel: **01947 897357** or **07976 360116**.

Wanted part time milkers, ring Martin Atkinson @ Bishop Thornton **07793 542018**.

10 pedigree Aberdeen Angus bulls. 12 -14 months. Quiet, good conformation. IBR, BVD, Lept. & Johnes free. TB4. Ripon **01765 658646**.

