

ANIMAL FEEDS • FERTILISERS • SEEDS • COUNTRY STORE

Focused on Farming



MARCH 2014 ISSUE

Native bred beef cattle

Graham Jameson

With support from retailers like Marks & Spencer and food outlets such as Burger King, demand for native bred cattle is strong. This presents opportunities for farmers to produce a high demand product with a premium on the price. Native cattle like Aberdeen Angus & Herefords thrive on forage based systems and are hardy & hold condition in winter. However, they have specific nutritional requirements.

Native breeds usually require a longer growing, but shorter finishing period than continental cattle. Growing rations should be high in fibre and forage based. High protein is needed so that cattle grow frame which is particularly important in this type of cattle. A high starch ration is not suitable during the growing stage as cattle will get fat too quickly. However, forage based growing rations will need to be supplemented with a blend or nut to achieve good levels of live weight gain. The amount of concentrate feed and the spec will depend on the analysis of the silage.

Farmers should aim to finish native bred cattle at 18-24 months of age, with an overall lifetime gain of 0.7kg/day and achieve fat class 3 or 4L (carcass weight of 270kg or more). Growth rates of between 0.7 and 0.9 kg/day at grass through good grazing management should be achievable with concentrate feeding when grass growth declines in mid-summer. Growth rates should be monitored against targets by weighing cattle at regular intervals.



Performance targets for suckler bred native cattle

	Heifers	Steers
Liveweight at weaning (8 months)	205	220
at turnout (14 months)	355	335
at housing (20 months)	460	490
at sale (23 months)	525	540

Adapted from EBLEX data

Ask us about our Primestock pencils or our specially formulated blend for Angus suckler calves.

A belated congratulations to Jameson Customer, Christine Slee, for winning the Mule section of the 2013 Leyburn Christmas show and Champion fat lambs at Wensleydale Show. All Christines stock are fed on Jamesons.

Monthly offers

Country Store

Bernex body warmer now
just £18.33 + VAT

Selected lines on Electric Fencing and
Hardware **Reduced to clear**

Offers available on Lamb Colostrum and
marker sprays see in store for details

8' Double sided lamb creep feeders
£250 + Vat



Gelert Country Choice Chicken or
Lamb **buy 15kg, get 2kg worth £5.40 free.**

Ring us for a special price on
full pallets of dog food

Quiltknitt medium/heavy weight
jumpers, **save up to £30.00, mediums just £34.99 and heavy £39.99**

Champion "Military" style Sweater
just £15.99

Global Herbs equine supplements
now in stock.

Dunlop Pricemaster Wellingtons
just £10.49

While stocks last!



The Silent Killer

Kathryn Lawson

Clostridial diseases are a serious threat to unvaccinated sheep. There are established vaccination protocols using vaccines such as Heptavac P Plus which prevent all common clostridial diseases. Initially, two vaccinations are given four to six weeks apart followed by annual vaccination four to six weeks before the expected lambing date to ensure adequate



protection is passed onto the new born lambs through the colostrum. All cases of clostridial disease are fatal despite treatment unless you are very lucky!

The more common clostridial diseases are

lamb dysentery, tetanus, pulpy kidney, black disease, blackleg, struck and braxy. Large losses can be experienced when sheep are not correctly vaccinated therefore it is surprising that a recent UK survey revealed that almost 20 per cent of sheep farmers did not vaccinate their sheep on a regular basis.

Sporadic cases of clostridial disease may occur in the flock in those lambs which have received nil or inadequate specific antibodies in colostrum due to various factors including individual ewes not being correctly vaccinated or a lack of colostrum in the crucial hours after birth.

See Kathryn in the trade counter for more information.

Feeding late lactation dairy cows

David Lewis

Cows in late lactation can get forgotten about, resulting in them not milking to their potential and also not getting into the correct body condition for the dry period. Feeding correctly in late lactation will help to reduce metabolic problems like fatty liver, ketosis and displaced abomasums and will also improve reproductive results in the subsequent lactation. In addition, during late lactation more milk yield will be achieved.

It is more efficient to manage body condition in late lactation rather than in the dry period. This is because, while lactating, cows use energy more efficiently for weight gain or loss (75% compared with 59%) than during the dry period. So during late lactation, diets can be formulated to adjust body condition. Energy should always be formulated to supply 100% of milk yield requirements. Depending on body condition, metabolizable protein (MP) can be supplied to meet requirements if body condition needs to be improved or where body condition needs to be decreased, MP can be supplied in excess, thus promoting milk production and reducing body condition.

For late lactation cows, more forage should be fed rather than using starchy high energy feeds.

From a financial point of view, it's worth thinking about having separate high and low diets. This can be achieved by the trough ration being formulated to suit late lactation cows with a parlour cake fed to the high yielders which can be specifically selected for early lactation cows.

Late lactation feeding is certainly worth thinking about as cows going into the dry period in too high body condition will mobilize body fat to a greater extent in early lactation, which can lead to metabolic issues. This greater mobilization of body fat causes excessive fat to accumulate in the liver of these cows, which further compromises the liver's ability to make glucose to support milk production. Thus, these cows have a higher likelihood of developing fatty liver and then subclinical or clinical ketosis in addition to other metabolic disorders.

Ask us about formulating late lactation diets.



CalciPrill pelleted lime

CalciPrill is a granulated lime product that can be spread using a standard fertiliser spreader. The pellets are made up from very fine particles which, when dissolved on the field after application, give a very quick response from the crop. A faster change to pH also gives a better uptake of other applied fertiliser.

Application rates are much lower than traditional lime although a further application may be needed sooner than if a large amount of traditional lime was spread.

This little and often application leads to a much more stable pH over several seasons. In addition to raising the pH, the ratio of Calcium to Magnesium in the soil is a big influence on soil structure with the correct ratio giving less compaction and a more productive soil.

CalciPrill is supplied in 600kg bags so there is more flexibility in the order size than the full wagon loads needed for traditional lime. Also, small orders for patching small acidic areas are possible.

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)

Maximizing digestive function in calves - Rumen drinkers

Dr Ruth Lawson

You will sometimes have noticed poor performing calves - unthrifty, rough coat hair, poor growth, often sticky clay-like white muck and always needing to be treated. It may be that they are suffering from rumen acidosis caused by "rumen drinking". In these calves milk enters the rumen resulting in bacterial fermentation of liquid within the rumen. So how does milk get into the rumen? There are two ways, firstly, failure of closure of the oesophageal groove, resulting in milk flowing into the rumen instead of the abomasum. Secondly, if calves drink large milk meals, abomasal reflux can happen whereby milk overflows into the rumen.

In the case of rumen drinkers, rumen pH falls from normal levels of about 6.5 to 7.0 to less than 5.0. Lactic acid build up in the blood may even ultimately kill the calf. Alternatively, the rumen can become a perfect breeding ground for pathogens resulting in scour in the calf.

Failure of the oesophageal groove to close completely can be a result of a secondary problem. There are a number of conditions that make calves susceptible to rumen drinking:

- **Irregular feeding times**
- **Low quality calf milk replacer**
- **Too cold milk temperature**
- **Drinking from buckets rather than teats**
- **Tube feeding**
- **Stressors such as long distance transport**

Calves that develop rumen drinking end up with damage to their guts, including inflammation of the tissues lining the stomach, impaired absorption of volatile fatty acids (VFA) from the rumen into the bloodstream, which can further depress pH and impaired rumen motility.



So what can be done to avoid this problem? It is important that management issues are first corrected. For example, prevent variation in feeding temperature and check the concentration of milk replacer used (always re-weigh for each new batch of powder). The oesophageal groove closes when calves are excited about drinking a meal of milk. If they are timid, stressed or weak, this stimulation may not occur. If calves are group housed ensure they have equal access to milk and use teats instead of buckets. In the case of chronic rumen drinkers, an effective treatment is to wean the calf as early as possible so that normal rumen function can be established. In the case of rumen drinkers weaning can take place when calf starter intake reaches 600-700g per day. Feeding good quality calf milk replacer such as Jameson IMMU-Surge (skim powder) and Jameson IMMU-Power (whey powder) will also prevent this issue.

Ask us about our Jameson IMMU-Surge (skim milk powder) and Jameson IMMU-Power (whey milk powder).

Three of the best

Stuart Holmes

Our Ewedale range of sheep pencils & rolls include our top of the range Ease, closely followed by Gold and Green. All of our sheep nuts contain a good supply of vitamin E at 150 mg/kg which is needed for the immune system and so essential for lamb vigour.

High levels of energy will ensure good milk production and strong lambs. There are no filler ingredients in these as they would reduce energy levels. Our Gold & Ease pencils / rolls are 13MJ and our Green rolls / pencils are still high in energy at 12.6MJ.

All of our Ewedale range are 18% crude protein with good levels of DUP (by pass protein). This will ensure good lamb birth

weights and high levels of immunity, especially to parasites.

Our Ease pencils and rolls are specially treated to protect more of the protein and hence increase DUP further. This treatment also protects the starch making it more rumen friendly ensuring good intakes and reducing the likelihood of acidosis.

Selenium is provided in a protected form to ensure optimal functioning of the immune system. Calcium, Phosphorus & Magnesium are included at correct levels to reduce the risk of hypocalcaemia. Salt is included to help buffer the rumen and avoid acidosis.

Congratulations to Jameson customer Gerald Turton and Ian & Aimie for reserve senior champion and 1st & 2nd in the Senior Shorthorn class at Stirling bull sales.

It's March already – think about reseeding

Now is the time to consider your future grass requirements, whether it is some over seeding that is required or a new ley. The new Jameson's seed catalogue should help you form a considered opinion. If you have not yet received your copy please talk to one of our sales team or ring the office, we will be pleased to send you a 2014 copy.

The catalogue contains what we consider to be a comprehensive list of mixtures that should cover most, if not all your requirements. We are once again only using NIAB listed varieties and certified seed and all the varieties have achieved rigorous quality standards for:

Varietal Identity

Varietal Purity

Analytical Purity

Germination Capacity

Moisture Content

Health/Level of Seed Born Diseases

Minimum Level of Weeds and Seeds from other Crops

Not all grass seed on the market has all these standards. We have also taken into account optimum sowing rates that will give you the return in a cost effective way.

All of these are important when recommending the right mixture for any given situation. We can be confident that our mixtures will do what it says on the label and will develop as expected in its overall growth habit and heading date, so you can harvest this very important crop at the optimum yield and quality stage.

We have this years seed mixtures freshly prepared and available for immediate collection or delivery. We aim to maintain a rolling stock of grass seed and our efficient turn round from order to delivery will make sure you have your seed the day you want it.

Please do not hesitate to ring for any further information.

Neil Edminson
SEED SALES SUPPORT

Accounting and Taxation Services - The Barker Partnership

Come and visit Fiona Wilkinson in Masham Town Hall, Wednesdays 2-5pm or call 01969 623137



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.

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 07791335602 for a competitive quote.

Fodder beet cleaner to hire. Mike Swainston 01765 689039

Cattle Freeze Branding (Steve 01347 810980 / 07940 064991) and Scanning (Adrian 01347 888665 / 07702 000760)

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.

24 Galvanised Farrowing Crates. Very Good Condition. Offers. Contact Norman Shepherd on 01423 711264

WOPA box. Very Good Condtn. Offers. Contact Norman Shepherd on 01423 711264.

Marshal 10 cube barrel spreader v.g.c. £2750 Tel: 07971776671

Blakewell Simmentals; bulls and females for sale. Contact Ian Steele on 07931 358286

Wanted Farm Plastic, Delivered or Collected, Ring for quote. Selby 01757 288112 or 07761 248174 martinbirdsall20@gmail.com.

Pedigree Beef Shorthorn Bull (20 months), easy calving & high index. EBV's. High Health. Haltered. Already successfully used. Dam can be seen. (01347 810980/07940 064991). Steve Johnson

2700 litre Bunded Fuel Dispensing Tank. c/w 230V electric pump, delivery hose, auto shut off nozzle, steel cabinet with locking door.

Flow meter, stand and adjustable legs. As new condition, offers. 01765 658693 / 07860 786683

A quantity of 5.5 inch hollow building blocks, 8 inch curved steel roof sheets, sheep netting various sizes. 01677 422169

Free Pig Slurry available all year round at Crakehall. Phone: 01677 422196

Point of lay chickens, Warrens, Cream Legbar, Road Rock, Blue Bells, Light Sussex, copper Black, for sale Bedale 07746 940791.

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