Initial silage analysis results show a high quality, well-made first cut silage crop. This Spring saw light frosts through March and April which kept grass growth rates and covers down and has resulted in a fresh spring re-growth with 1st cut silage yields being reasonable but not excessive.

Fermentation quality and hence clamp stability seems generally good with less potential wastage; the average dry matter is at a comfortable 30.2%, pH stable at 3.9 with an average lactic acid of 62.8 mg/kg DM (compared with 66.1 mg/kg DM in 2013). The average ME is higher this year (10.9 vs 10.7 MJ/kg DM), with lower NDF (46.8% vs 48.3%), higher sugars (3.5 vs 3.3%) and protein (14.2 vs 13.7%). When the increase in intake potential seen with this season’s average first cut silages is also taken into account, it is reasonable to expect M+7 litres from grass silage, 0.6 litres above 2014. Regarding milk fat, the lower NDF content should be offset by increased forage intake.

Rumen energy supply is usually the first limiting nutrient when meeting protein demand. Thankfully, 2015 first cut silages will support an increase of microbial protein yield of 4.4% which will assist the already increased intake factor in stimulating dry matter intakes and milk yield potential from forage.

Rumen health is a significant factor when balancing diets. Fibre is an important component of rumen health, and balancing diets to a total NDF of around 35% of DMI depending on milk yield and stage of lactation is still achievable even though this year’s NDF levels have dropped by 1.5% to 46.8%. The 30% dry matter crop should assist with forming a structural rumen mat and therefore stabilising rumen function.

So in summary, this year’s first cut grass silage shows good intake and milk production potential. However, rations should be carefully formulated to maximise rumen activity through rumen energy and protein supply and balance enabling maximum microbial protein yield. Careful attention must be given to maintaining rumen health and the avoidance of rumen acidosi.

To discuss further or to have your diets formulated please give us a ring on 01765 666689.
A WHOLE LOAD OF BULL

Peter Harland

Congratulations to Mr Windress, from Kirby Moorside for winning reserve limousin champion at Driffield show and reserve interbreed pedigree bull at Ryedale show with the 14 month old limousin bull “Faddell Jason”.

Mr Windress bred Jason out of a home bred cow Faddell Charlotte, using the AI bull Wilodge Goldcard. All the bull calves are fed on a special blend from us, containing mixed flakes, rolled barley, sugar beet, and Actisaf yeast. Calves are offered the mix from a young age, those not for breeding, are taken rapidly through to finishing on the same ration at around 13-14 months of age. Luckily for Jason I think Mr Windress has taken a shine to him and thinks he will sell him at the pedigree sales as a stock bull.
Fill them full of arms & legs

Stuart Holmes

There are lots of ways that you can try to maximise the lamb crop for 2016, tupping time is critical:

1. Ewes need to be in improving body condition on the run up to tupping.

2. Embryo survival can be increased by feeding supplements that are high in n3 fatty acids found in fish oil.

3. Cobalt is needed for egg growth and early foetal development. Also, ewes supplemented with cobalt at tupping give birth to more active lambs.

4. Zinc is needed for hoof quality to keep sheep sound.

5. Tups need to be in good body condition too, feeding a 16% cake for 6-8 weeks will improve semen production.

6. Where selenium levels are low around tupping, supplementation will decrease barren ewe numbers and increase lambs born alive.

7. Avoid red clover; it results in oestrogens which cause infertility. Also, avoid brassicas as they prevent iodine uptake.

8. Avoid any kind of stress – it will kill embryos.

Our Feet & Fertility tupping buckets are formulated to maximise numbers of lambs per ewe.

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Top the market

Dr Ruth Lawson

Our own design calf milk has been helping calves get off to a flying start and supports their immune systems to combat bugs. We have chosen ingredients that the calf can digest well and that are not irritable to it. In addition, Jameson IMMU-Surge contains a health pack to support health and performance. Levels of vitamin E are high to help calves fight bugs such as pneumonia. Our Jameson IMMU-Gain feed supplement contains valuable immunoglobulins for rotavirus, E.coli, salmonella, coronavirus & cryptosporidia. A special complex of pre-digested proteins are used which are readily digested and absorbed by the calf. Natural digestibility enhancers help to improve fat utilisation and absorption. Our unique “mother smell” encourages the calf to consume milk. Beta glucans help to support the immune system of the calf. Our calf milk replacer sets the calf up for a flying start.

Please give me a ring on 01765 666689 to talk about calf rearing or visit our website www.wejameson.co.uk.

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Last chance

Graham Jameson

Forage rape can be sown until the end of September. It can be ready between 13-15 weeks from sowing 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. Forage rape has a vigorous growth habitat and is very often used in upland reclamation projects where it’s ability to survive and grow on relatively poor soils and exposed sites is well known.

Please give me a ring on 01765 686666 to discuss the pros and cons of growing forage rape.
Quadrant baled horse haylage £25/bale collected. Northallerton area 01325 378228.

Well grown, registered Aberdeen Angus bull. 18 months old, by Abington Ramrod. Ready to go to work. P. Dawson 07706 010750.

One 25 KVA Single phase generator, ring after 6.00pm 01200 445280.

Clay drainage pipes – 1.8m long, 150mm & 225mm diameter. Large quantities available. Ripon 07860 786683 or 01765 658693.

Single axle bale trailer 18 by 7ft £250. Leeds area 07976871198.

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


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

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

150 KVA John Deere silent generator £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. Also, large haylage bales. Reasonably priced. 01423 864253.

Quadraent bales of wheat, barley & oat straw, 8' x 4' x 2'. Sedgfield area 07715 494378. Wanted: small slurry tanker. Tel. 01748 886412.