

Focused on Farming



SEPTEMBER 2014 ISSUE

The hidden menace

Cows and sheep are unable to store magnesium internally, so must be provided with sufficient levels in the diet. However, when grass is low in mag, they are not able to get sufficient levels from grazing alone. When animals go through stressful conditions such as poor weather they are more likely to succumb to hypomagnesemia. Also, when grass becomes lush following a sudden period of warm weather, cows may scour, preventing adequate absorption of magnesium. When this is the case, cows may develop hypomagnesemia or grass staggers. Grass staggers can also be a problem when cows or sheep are forced to clean up grazing when weather is changeable. Another factor which will increase the risk is the increase in the use of potassium fertilizer.

However, subclinical hypomagnesemia can be present on farms. In fact, studies have shown that although clinical

hypomagnesemia occurred in 1% of dairy cows, subclinical was present in 7% of milking cows and 15% of dry cows.

Stress conditions can push cows into subclinical hypomagnesemia. For example, poor quality feed coupled with cold, wet, windy weather.

So although there are no obvious signs of this issue, some studies supplementing cows with calcium and magnesium have led to increased conception rates. Also, the interval from calving to conception was correlated with blood magnesium. Other studies show a correlation between retained foetal membranes and subclinical hypomagnesemia.

Ask us about Tri Mag buckets for cows and ewes.



Monthly offers

Tupping (feet & fertility) buckets
buy 10 and get 2 free.

Biolime H90 (cow friendly hydrated lime) only £225 + VAT delivered, or £200 + VAT ex Masham.

Animal health

Sheep Conditioning Drench only £50.

Last two remaining Clikzin 5L
reduced to £122 + VAT.

Animec Cattle Pour (Noromectin equivalent)

1 litre £25 + VAT (was £29.99)
2.5 litres £45 + VAT (was £49.99)
5 litres £77 + VAT (was £83)

Country store

Sleeper dog beds:

large was £42.19, now £33.75;
medium was £28.99, now £23.19;
small was £19.99, now £15.99.

Cobbydog supreme chunks reduced from £18.99 to £15.19.

Hoggs Boots reduced to £39.

Hoggs Farm Pro Wellies
reduced to £23.99.

New in Hoggs mens Tattersall shirts
pure cotton £18.99.

All ex Masham.

Please mention the newsletter when ordering.

While stocks last





Oh là là!

Jenny Clayton produces top end pedigree Charolais bulls at Wrinklewood Farm, near Leeds as well as being the area's most glamorous granny!

Jenny has farmed at Wrinklewood since 1973 starting with Hereford stores. But it was when she bought some Angus cross cows that were in-calf to the Charolais that the Charry bug first took hold. A trip to Carlisle auction back in 1985 saw her buy her first pedigree Charolais cows and these build up to herd of 54. Jenny has always been careful to breed for fleshy animals and she says temperament is especially important as often the grand kids and even the great grandchild come to help out. Daily liveweight gain is running at 1.5 kg/d with some achieving 1.68 kg, not bad when you consider these bulls are not fed concentrates to appetite.

Jenny feeds Jamesons calf blend layered with primestock pencils and likes to feed a small amount of hay to keep the rumen right. Historically charolais cattle have had a bad press for calving issues, but through nearly 30 years of selecting for calving ease Jenny says most of her cows

calve unaided. In her time showing charolais cattle Jenny has achieved some of the finest accolades in showing including res sup champion at Carlisle bull sales.

Back in the seventies farming was a tough environment for a young woman, yet it wasn't the physical work that was most challenging. As a woman farming on her own she found it hard to be accepted in a largely male dominated world. But as her confidence grew she learned to deal with the calf dealers who tried to run her up and the buyer who knocked her down so much on price that she had to add a considerable sum to the price before he came just so he thought he was getting a bargain!

These days Jenny splits her time between her cattle and the grandchildren. Although all of the children enjoy helping out on the farm, not one of them has shown any interest in farming for themselves. Pictured here with a young bull, that Jenny tells me is a super star, it's easy to see the passion she still has for the job. "I think a lot about this one" she tells me. And with a twinkle in her eye, Jenny says "don't forget to tell 'em I might just have a nice bull to sell!"



Milk it for all its worth David Lewis

Jameson IMMU-Surge calf milk replacer is currently the most competitively priced good quality skim calf milk replacer. As commodity price falls the price of milk has fallen too and it was only a matter of time before skimmed milk based calf milk powders would also drop. Our own design IMMU-Surge calf milk has been well received since we launched it last year. Calves have grown well with fewer health issues and this has continued into the post weaning stage.



For more information visit our website www.wejameson.co.uk or ring to discuss.

Baby boom time Jake Lakin

Careful management of sheep before tupping can considerably increase lamb numbers in Spring. Topping time is arguably the most important time in the sheep farmer's calendar. If the embryos aren't in the ewes to start with, there can't possibly be the lambing percentage in the spring.

Ewes need to be in the correct body condition before the tups go in. In fact, they need to be in improving condition on the run up to tupping not static. Improved nutrition is needed for at least one cycle for the ovaries to produce more eggs. So ewes need to be flushed for 3 weeks prior to introduction of the tups. Embryo survival can be increased by including fatty acids which can be found in fish oil. This boosts levels of n3 found in grass.

There are also a number of trace elements which can help to get more lambs. Cobalt is often deficient in sheep pastures and is needed for egg growth and early foetal development. Interestingly, cobalt also has a role in lamb survival because

ewes supplemented with cobalt at tupping give birth to more active lambs. Zinc supplementation is needed for both tups and ewes as it improves hoof quality helping sheep to stay sound.

Tups will benefit from some TLC too. You'll need to check body condition well before you need to use them. Feeding a 16% cake for 6-8 weeks will improve semen production.

Ask your rep or ring the office at Jamesons to find out more. Our tupping (feet & fertility) buckets are on offer now, buy 10 and get 2 free.



It's not too late Neil Edminson

Just about the only crop left that can be sown this year is forage rape. With a relatively low seed rate and low inputs, forage rape is a popular choice. It provides excellent winter keep for finishing lambs, with a good ME and high protein level. However, stock will need some long fibre available such as hay, straw or haylage; and a mineral supplement.

Our most popular variety, Interval, boasts good powdery mildew resistance - an important factor as it means higher intakes and better palatability.

Interval will be ready to graze in 12-14 weeks after sowing and because the variety is a rape/kale cross it has superb winter hardiness. You can expect Interval to provide an average fresh yield of 24-35 tonnes per hectare. The crude protein figure will be in the order of 19-20% and you can expect an ME of approximately 10.5 MJ/kg DM.

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Blends for winter Peter Harland

Milk yields in early winter can be lower than expected with cows not reaching their expected yield until early in the new year. Partly this is due to cows replacing their body condition once peak lactation has been achieved, which was lost whilst out at grass in late summer. For example, a high yielding cow calving down in August and, due to lower dry matter intake during grazing, has lost 0.75 body condition score. She will utilise feed energy to the value of 2.9 lost litres per head per day over a 3 month period whilst body condition is built back up. Over the past 3

years the average reduction of grazing dry matter intake has been 0.3 kg/head/week from August through until the end of the grazing season. This must be balanced with effective buffer feeding to ensure cows enter the winter period in optimum body condition to avoid costly milk yield loss in early winter.

For more information visit our website www.wejameson.co.uk or ring us to discuss your options.

A better balance Dr Ruth Lawson

This autumn we will launch a bolt on to our Dietcheck rationing software. Developed by Nutreco, Rumenac will work alongside Feed into Milk and is based on high yielding cows. One of the key benefits of Rumenac is better rumen health parameters and also the ability to formulate to lower ME and CP. In addition, the formulation aims for a better balance of carbohydrates and protein fermentation in the rumen. We are also optimistic that we will be able to get a handle on the end products of digestion (glucogenic, ketogenic & aminogenic).

Rumenac only looks at what's going on in the rumen and all bypass parameters remain the same.

Rumenac will help us to get a better handle on rumen stability. Also, we think we will be able to push the limits of starch & sugar inclusion for high yielders because we have a better understanding of the end products of digestion.

For more information visit our website www.wejameson.co.uk or ring us to discuss your options.

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 07791335602 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

Charolais bulls. Well bred & ready for work. Tel. Jenny Clayton 0113 2672921 or 07961 918027.

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

Pedigree limousin bulls. Well bred & grown. Ready for work. Good types & quiet. 16 months. Members of Cattle Health Scheme. Tel. Kirby Moorside 01751 431702.

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.

Blonde pedigree bulls. Super conformation & nice temperaments. Easy calving sire. Also some pedigree heifers. I & WA Todd 01751 460203 or 077650 35582.

Silent generator 60 KVA good working order. I & WA Todd 01751 460203 or 077650 35582.

3 pedigree Aberdeen Angus bulls. 14 -18 months. Quiet, good conformation. IBR, BVD, Lept. & Johnes free. TB4. Ripon 01765 658646.

5 in calf Aberdeen angus heifers due now onwards, by pedigree bull, in calf by a pedigree bull, also 1 young pedigree Aberdeen angus bull 07515 510131.

Small bales of haylage. Good quality. Bedale 07715 002908.

Alvan Blanch RV140 roller mill. 7 years old. £450 ONO. Masham area. Tel: 07753 772470

Ifor Williams TA510 Cattle Trailer for sale. Excellent condition, almost new. Double axle 6ft x 12ft, 7ft headroom, so suitable for sheep deck. Tel: 01765 620085 or jennytonygarmar@gmail.com

Plastic and metal poultry crates. Good condition. Richmond 01748 811576

Wanted ad-lib barley beef hoppers. Tel. 07801 143304.

