

R. M. JONES- AUGUST 2019

Boost Lamb Growth with Downland Essential Lamb Bolus

A specially designed mini-bolus designed to give growing lambs all the Cobalt, Selenium and Iodine they need for healthy growth. We have reports of significant weight gains with this bolus this season.

Helps reduce Stress at Weaning

Don't wait until you can see these deficiencies—the set back in growth rate is irreversible

Releases Cobalt, Selenium & Iodine every day for 120 days—just right to balance the deficiencies in our soils Can be administered as soon as the animal is 8 weeks old and 25kg, no need to wait till weaning Good Value at 64 pence per dose = half a pence per day

Trials show a £3.16 return on Investment

The Countryside Productivity Small Grants scheme Round 2

is now available for all farm types including livestock, horticulture and arable businesses, with a total of £15 million available. Round 2 of the scheme commenced on the 9th July 2019 and ends on 3 September 2019. Farmers can apply for funding towards specific items of equipment listed at Annex 3 of the Countryside Productivity Small Grants scheme Round 2 handbook which can be found using the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/countryside-productivity-scheme#small-grants>

Intelligent handling systems such as the Alligator Pro incorporating EID and weighing equipment will help you to manage more sheep. While giving you the advantage of effective monitoring to maximise growth rates, treat with accuracy to reduce drug wastage and cost. The Alligator Pro will help you to target weaning with greater accuracy, manage your movement lists and improve the efficiency and profitability of your flock.



Alligator Pro250

- 250 sheep
- 24 x 5' x 36" hurdles
- Manual 850250PROM RRP £7750
- Electric 850250PROE RRP £7890



Alligator Pro500

- 500 sheep
- 30 x 5' x 36" hurdles
- Manual 850500PROM RRP £9750
- Electric 850500PROE RRP £9900



Alligator Pro750

- 750 sheep
- 36 x 5' x 36" hurdles
- Manual 850750PROM RRP £11750
- Electric 850750PROE RRP £11900

Downland Fresh Start

Rearing calves is always a challenge but providing consistent milk ingredients every day is one of the most effective ways to improve health and performance. Low heat skim milk is the basis of the Downland Fresh Start range of calf milks. It is made in the one factory from milk from the same cows all year round. The ease of mixing ensures the fat and vitamins included are intact when mixed and the flavour ensures calves are primed to drink every feed. Using low heat skim milk allows the calf to digest the milk slowly throughout the day reducing stress on calves. The Downland range has reared more than 400,000 calves over the last 10 years and has been used on some farms for over 30 years.

Flydown Spot-on Solution for Cattle

- For the treatment and prevention of infestations by lice and flies on cattle
- **Easy dosing - no need to weigh - 10ml dose**
- 17 day meat withhold for cattle
- **Zero milk withhold for cattle**
- Pack sizes: 250ml, 500ml, 1L, 2.5L

Farm productivity and animal welfare can be improved by the all-important application of an external parasite treatment in cattle. Early treatment is important; if treatment is delayed until significant numbers of adult flies are visible, it is already too late to adequately control fly numbers. Rapid reproduction of the existing population will already have commenced, and thousands of eggs & larvae will already be present on farm, ready to develop & compound the problem.

Arable Update - August 2019

Market averages

UK LIFFE wheat Nov @ £145.85

MATIF OSR Nov @ £333

Nitram Fertiliser @ £260- 270/t

Key tasks this month

Combines are tentatively pushing into crops. Initial comments are that Barley yields appear to be reasonably decent and moisture levels are making the job relatively straight forward.

- **Cereals** - Done ✓
- **OSR** - Done ✓
- **OSR** - New season crop will be planted from the middle of the month. Flea beetle is the biggest concern. Checking crops from emergence every couple of days through to the 4 - 6 leaf stage is crucial. At the first sign of "shot holing" it is crucial to get some form of flea beetle control under way. Talk to your agronomist about higher seed rates, companion cropping and other methods to reduce flea beetle pressure
- **Pulses** - Done ✓
- **Maize** - Done ✓
- **Beet** - 2nd fungicide applications at the end of the month are required where crops will be in the ground after the New Year. Protecting the leaf cover will make your beet more frost tolerant and protect your quality

Autumn Seeds

Please give us a call for your Autumn seed requirements. The preferred varieties will be selling out quickly.

Stale seedbeds

Many of you will create stale seedbeds to achieve a good weed germination pre-planting. Please ensure you destroy the weed cover with glyphosate prior to any further cultivations and drilling. It is crucial to ensure that any green pest bridge and weed pressure is minimised pre planting. Speak to your agronomist on advice on rates and the most effective products

Grassland

Dock infestation, thistles creeping everywhere, grassland looking tired... All farms face this challenge at various times. Weed wiping, spot spraying and boom spraying all have their place but eventually the grass productivity declines enough to justify replacement. A full re-seed is costly, wireworm risky and takes land of production for a long period. **R.M.Jones** have a solution - **GRASSMAX** coated seed. It's a simple, reliable, robust and low cost process.

1. Spray out weed species mid summer (don't worry about the clovers)
2. Soil test and rectify lime issues (target pH6.5+)
3. Graze off or cut the existing sward as short as possible
4. Direct drill with 10-12kg/acre GRASSMAX fertiliser coated seed in August /September
5. Roll

The benefits are; significantly improved grassland, comprehensive weed control, reduced wireworm risk, no cultivation and trying to keep soil firm and the confidence that you have grass whatever happens.

Please talk to one of fieldsmen for more information and grass solutions.

Reduce Feeding Costs this Winter

Home grown forage is the best value feed—here are some suggestions

Sow Fodder Crops - these can provide some valuable feed over the Autumn & Winter for your Stock. We have specific mixtures of Forage Rape, Stubble Turnip & Kale designed to produce autumn or winter keep for minimal effort

Overseeding your existing swards with Downland Grassmax seed can increase production by up to 30% - providing Yield & Forage Quality benefits worth £80 per acre each year, without the expense & disruption of a full reseed

Overseeding is also a good time to increase clover levels in your swards to improve overall feed value and reduce the need for purchased fertiliser.