

R.M. JONES–JANUARY 2019

Why You Need to Rear More Lambs!

Lowland Spring Lambing (per Ewe) (selling lambs off grass)

| Performance level | Low | Average | High |
|--|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Lambs born per 100 Ewes | 147 | 166 | 184 |
| Total Lamb Losses | 13% | 10% | 9% |
| Average price per lamb | £76 | £80 | £84 |
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Lamb Sales | 98.0 | 120.0 | 142.0 |
| Wool | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Less Ewes & Depreciation. | 21.0 | 21.0 | 21.0 |
| Output per Ewe | £77.0 | £99.0 | £121.0 |
| Variable Costs | | | |
| Concentrates | £13.0 | £13.0 | £12.0 |
| Vet. & Med.. | £ 8.0 | £ 9.0 | £11.0 |
| Miscellaneous & Transport | £15.0 | £15.0 | £15.0 |
| Forage Variable costs (inc bought) | £19.0 | £14.0 | £13.0 |
| Gross Margin per Ewe | £21.0 | £48.0 | £70.0 |
| Stocking rate (ewes, with lambs per forage acre | 3.2 | 4.0 | 4.4 |
| Gross Margin per Forage Acre | £64 | £193 | £311 |

This extract taken from “Farm Management Pocketbook’ by John Nix. 2019 49th Edition
The gap between the high & the low performing flocks is dramatic at **£49 per Ewe** and **£247 per acre**. Care of your pregnant ewes & attention to detail at Lambing is going to be crucial this year and will make the difference between profit and loss. We can help you get the best out of the modern medicines, nutrition & supplements that help boost ewe & lamb vitality & survivability — and also increase your gross margin.



The Annual NROSO Update will take place on the following dates;

4th February 2019 – Hereford Farmcentre

18th February 2019 – Castlefields, Clifford

“Check, Protect, Reflect”

Please book through the Hay Farmcentre

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At R. M. Jones the Farmer comes First

Thanks for your support in 2018- we are here to help you in 2019

Rat Alert

There are high numbers of Rats about at the moment

Rats carry over 45 different diseases

ie. Salmonella / Typhoid / Dysentery etc TO MAN ie. Aujeskys disease / Foot and mouth / Brucellosis TO ANIMALS

50% of rats carry pathogens in their urine ...

One rat leaves 25,000 droppings per year

One pair of rats can produce a colony of 2,000 in a year

A group of rats is called a mischief

Nearly 50% of all farm fires caused by rodents!

Rodents cause over £25 Million damage each year on farms

Arable News

Loss of Active Ingredients

In the last two months the CRD has announced the loss of two more active ingredients, diquat and metaldehyde.

Last sale and supply date for diquat is 4th May 2019 with a final on farm use up date of 4th February 2020. Careful planning is required to ensure you secure enough product to cover your requirements for this period. There is a possibility that product may not be available up to the 4th May sale date.

The outdoor use of metaldehyde will be phased out over 18 months to give growers time to adjust to other methods of slug control. It will be legal to sell and distribute metaldehyde products for outdoor use for the next six months, with the disposal, storage and use of existing stocks permissible for a further 12 months. However it is important to note that there is definitely growing confidence in the ability of the ferric phosphate active ingredient for slug control, so all is not lost!

I-Farm Update

We have an indoor Spring meeting to be held at The Fountain Inn, Tenbury Wells, WR15 8TB on Thursday 17th January from 11.00 finishing at 14.45 including a buffet lunch. It will cover the following;

- Colin Lloyd will discuss our trials results both locally and nationally.
- David Felce will discuss buffer zones and nozzle legislation
- Paul Pickford and Marek Nowowski will discuss Brexit, legislation and the environment.

****IMPORTANT**** there are limited places for this meeting and you must pre-book. Please speak to your agronomist or contact the Hay branch if you wish to attend.

Finally as we enter into a new calendar year we can reflect on what was a really challenging year in 2018, on the whole it turned out fine at harvest with grain prices certainly helping to bolster profits on farm. Without knowing what the weather has in store for us, let alone the political situation, here's wishing everyone a bright and prosperous new year 2019 and we look forward to working with you all again.