



Boost Lamb Growth with Optigain Lamb

Optigain Lamb is a highly concentrated liquid supplement specifically formulated with key ingredients known to support growth & development in young & growing lambs.

Increased Vitamins A, D3 & E— higher levels of key vitamins to support lamb growth

Increased Cobalt— essential for Rumen development

Added Amino Acids—aids growth & development in young lambs

Higher levels of Vitamin E, Selenium & Natural antioxidants—to support the natural immune function

Optigain Lamb helps maintain Vigour, Performance & balance pasture deficiencies

Dose at around 6 weeks of age

Lamb Boost

- It's got Energy
- It's got Egg Protein to support it's immune system
- It's got prebiotics to help gut flora & support the good rumen microbes.

All to give a baby lamb that extra help providing protection when lambs need it most.

Downland Colostrum -"Best on Test" at Cambridge University analysis leading Colostrums

Downland Lamb Force Ewe Milk Replacer is made with ewe milk to maximise the digestibility of the protein and protect the antibodies in the milk. It is easy to mix, simple to feed, highly palatable and optimises the early weaning growth potential and development of the young lamb.

A new feature to the Downland Lamb Force Ewe Milk Replacer this season is the addition of ProZest, a natural gut conditioning package to support performance and health. ProZest is comprised of the following components working synergistically to promote a healthy population of microbes in the digestive tract:

- **Antioxidant** to boost immunity
- **Essential Oils** to manage the microflora
- **Prebiotic** to provide nutrients for beneficial bacteria
- **Vitamin and mineral** to increase growth rates
- **Flavour** to maximise intake

Trials have demonstrated that this natural gut conditioning package can improve lamb growth rates by 15 %. It prepares the lamb's nutritional system for weaning and helps prevent growth checks leading to less digestive upsets and healthier, stronger lambs.

New Agronomist — Jack Williams

Jack Williams comes from a diverse farming background near Allensmore. His interest in maximising crop performance led to a BASIS qualification and a move into Agronomy. Jack appears to dream about potatoes and big yields and plays golf badly outside work.

Should I bolus my Cattle at Turnout?

Our area is deficient in Selenium, Cobalt & Iodine, and also Copper in places.

Downland Essential Growing Cattle Plus releases these Four trace elements.

All Day, Every Day for a full 6 months— at a cost of 2.6 pence per day.

It is a one bolus dose.

Improve Grass & Livestock Profitability with Downland Forager Grass Seed

Are you using the latest grass genetics to boost production?

We all know that having good grass is the cornerstone for profitable livestock farming. And yet it is surprising how often these production swards are not up to the job. Most 7-8 year old grass will have 40 – 50% bare ground & weed grass content. These weed grasses have less than half the response of perennial ryegrass to fertiliser

More than a quarter of applied fertiliser can be wasted on these fields

To improve the productivity of your grassland sow **Downland Forager**

Downland Forager is a 4 – 6 year ley for Intensive Cutting with Autumn grazing

Downland Forager is one of our most successful leys ever. It grows really well in Herefordshire & the Welsh border counties and we have many farmers singing its praises. **Remember to do a soil analysis before sowing**

Arable News

I won't mention the weather, apart from it will get better now spring is here... I will concentrate on cereals this month although OSR will need attention on farm.

The window for winter wheat drilling has pretty well come to an end whatever variety you have available to plant. The degree of vernalisation required for new plantings is unlikely to be sufficient from now on in this region. Along with this there is minimal time from crop emergence for new plantings to tiller to a desired level. Seed rates would need to be approx. 600 seed/m² (300kg/ha) to compensate and hit a decent plant population. Spring crops including grass, beet, maize, cereals, pulses and for some, cover crops, are the real options from now.

The main focus for viable Winter crops in the ground now is nutrition, *nutrition* and **NUTRITION**. The key points are;

Nitrogen only protects tillers in place, insufficient early N will lead to tiller death

- **apply a minimum of 50kgN/ha as soon as your crops will travel**

Sulphur is important for Chlorophyll production and is universally low everywhere, this is exacerbated by cold, wet conditions

- **application along with early Nitrogen is important**

Phosphate is important for root development, availability drops when it is cold and wet

- **rapidly available foliar Phosphate is crucial this year so needs to go in an early spray pass**

Zinc is important for cell division, it is also affected negatively by wet and cold soils

- **as with Phosphate an early foliar pass is crucial to keep the plant growing**

Manganese is important for tillering and maintaining plant health, it is affected by both dry and wet conditions

- **apply as a foliar spray early**

There is a lot of evidence, both in trials and on farm, that Nutriphite PGA is an exceptionally effective bio-stimulant that will have a positive effect on plant growth and development. Mixed with a trace element product will give crops a definite boost.

Most, if not all cereal crops will need an early Plant Growth Regulator (PGR) to manipulate growth. Contrary to the view that PGRs only shorten stems (which late applications can do if it is required) most early PGRs will cause the plant to partition more nutrient away from the main shoot towards tiller survival. Reducing "Apical Dominance" is a very effective way of increasing tiller numbers and survival – something desperately needed this season.