

R. M. JONES—MAY 2018

It all happens in May! This month's Action List

Keep Lambs Thriving

- The bad weather will have made them more susceptible to Disease & Trace element deficiencies
- Boost Growth with Cobalt
 - Superstock Ewe & Lamb buckets
 - Ovigain Liquid supplements
- Reduce reliance on expensive feeds — use Superstock Lamb Finisher buckets
- Watch out for Nematodirus—high risk this season
- Protect against Fly Strike with Vetrazin for peace of mind & great value
- Downland Essential Lamb bolus will boost growth—with Cobalt, Selenium & Iodine



Look after the Cattle

- Prevent staggers with Downland Extra Magnesium Buckets
- Treat at Turnout with Zermex Pour On for stomach & Lungworm & maximise growth rates— don't feed the Worms!
- Clear out Fluke in the Summer with Pour ons
- Use Downland Essential Cattle Plus Cattle bolus—6 months continuous supply of Cobalt, Selenium, Iodine & Copper.
- Remember to vaccinate against Clostridial diseases, Blackleg is a killer

Produce more home grown Forage to reduce feeding costs

- Quality grass seed is the foundation of a good sward
- Downland seed is very high quality with germination specs much higher than the UK minimum requirement
- In trials Overseeding has increased the feed value per acre of grass by the equivalent of 1.5 tonnes of dried Barley!
- Order Root & Forage crops now, to produce much needed keep during the Winter

Make your Cereals “Stand & Deliver”

- Septoria - Very high risk May 2018
- Apply Foliar trace elements to maximise yield
 - just think what you are taking out of the soil by growing cereals year after year!

Summer Trials Day & Hog Roast

Gatley Farms, Leominster - Monday 25 June 2018

Please phone to book a place

Farming talks at Hay Festival

Minette Batters - **THE UK'S FUTURE FOOD AND NATURE POST-BREXIT**

Thursday 24 May 2018, 5.30pm Venue: Llwyfan Cymru - Wales Stage

Minette Batters, elected in 2018, is the first female NFU President in its 110-year history. *R M Jones is sponsoring this event—so we may see you there*

Michael Gove - **THE FUTURE OF FARMING AND FOOD**

Friday 25 May 2018, 7pm Venue: Baillie Gifford Stage

Do you have any questions for him? Now is your chance

Cattle Turn Out - Pile on the Pounds £££

Over half your Cattle liveweight gain is achieved in the first 3 months after turnout.

Don't allow Worms to steady the growth!!

Using **Zermex Pour On** at turnout cleans pastures of worms because it works longer: - for 10 weeks. So your cattle are protected and able to "do" for only 2.5 pence per day (300kg). And the withdrawal time is only 14 days.

Downland Essential Plus Cattle Bolus contains Cobalt, Iodine, Selenium & Copper in one bolus application. This is tailor made for our area with its inherent deficiencies in these Trace Elements. Much better value than other boluses. Release these elements every day, for 180 days

£4.66/ Bolus for 200kg - 400kg - only 2.6 pence per day

£5.92/ Bolus for 400kg upwards - only 3.3 pence per day

Quantity Discounts available

Arable News

With such an unusually wet year it is difficult to know where to begin to write this news letter. Hereford at the time of writing (27th April) has recorded over 290mm of rain with no let up in the ongoing forecast throughout May with the Met Office summary stating 'changeable + unsettled + some sun'!

Winter Wheat - Septoria tritici

ADAS have released the following statement; "Septoria tritici is the main disease present and active within crops, and is likely to be favoured by the recent spell of frequent rain events and relatively mild weather". We had high Septoria years in 2012 and 2014 and conditions this year are even more favourable for the disease. The key notes that we can learn from these years are T0 responses were very high (this has already been missed in some cases), SDHI (Boogie, Imtrex, Ceratavo) responses at T1 were high compared to straight triazole multisite applications. If control at T0 and or T1 was poor it was very hard if not impossible to get on top of the disease. Intervals between applications need to be maintained at three weeks where possible. This for forward crops that received T1 applications earlier is likely to result in the need for a T1.5 to top up and maintain cover through to the critical flag leaf T2 timing. In 2014 at the Agrii I-Farm in South Wales the response to a T1.5 application was up to 0.9t/ha. The MAP benchmarking group results from 2014 showed that the upper 25% performing farms spent an average £15/ha more on fungicides and £3/ha growth regulators, produced an extra 1.7t/ha, increased gross margin by £400/ha and cost/tonne of production was £9/tonne lower. This is not the year to rest upon your laurels!

Late Planted Spring Barley

It still can yield, if they are managed carefully. Waterlogged 'sad' soils means that it is important to maximise root and tiller development. Barley yield is closely related to tiller numbers, so increase seed rates and apply all of the nitrogen to the seedbed. Use Nutriphite pga and Adjust at the three leaf stage this maximises tiller production and survival. Early weed control is essential, with the current damp conditions pre emergence options will work well. Use micronutrition to maximise chlorophyll and address any deficiencies.

Agrii - I-Farm

Date for the Diary **Monday 25th June** at Gatley Farms (HR6 9TR) by kind permission of Stuart Hutchings. Please come along between 10am and 2.30pm for tours of the trial plots, market updates and a hog roast lunch. We'll also have an array of exhibitor stands and demonstrations. This year our winter wheat variety trial at the site is fully replicated for the first time, which means we'll be able to provide you with locally relevant, fully representative and scientifically valid results when the plots are harvested. We've also got 200 replicated fungicide and foliar nutrition trials on the variety Dickens at the site, for the first time this year. Syed Shah and David Smith will be present to talk through the replicated wheat plots, and David Leaper will discuss OSR varieties.