

R. M. JONES—MAY 2017

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

Keep Lambs Thriving

- 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 Superstock 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”

- Keep on top of disease: - response to fungicides can be 2 tonnes per acre
- Apply Foliar trace elements to maximise yield
 - just think what you are taking out of the soil by growing cereals year after year!

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

£4.56/ Bolus for 200kg - 400kg - only 2.5 pence per day
£5.69/ Bolus for 400kg upwards - only 3.2 pence per day
Quantity Discounts available

DOWNLAND FORAGER LEY

- A mixture specifically formulated for high sugar forage
- Tetraploid content provides high sugar levels for rapid silage fermentation & grazing palatability
- High Silage Yields & Good Aftermath Grazing

Will my Wormers still work?

Anthelmintic resistance in sheep is becoming more and more of a problem.

It is very easy to take Wormers for granted but they are vital to control worm infections & protect against productivity losses. Worms can reduce growth rates in Lambs by 50% - without showing any signs of infection. If young lambs have an "early hit" they never recover and make up for the loss in growth rate.

We will soon have Zolvix wormer, which will help us reduce the risk of resistance

Talk to us about doing a simple, inexpensive worm egg count "Drench Test"

Arable News - Nutrition Special

At the time of writing we are currently experiencing very dry conditions, along with widely fluctuating temperatures. Crops are coming under increasing stress and this is showing up as stunted growth, yellowing and tipping. Furthermore, later applications of nitrogen may not have had sufficient rainfall to enable uptake, placing further pressure on crop health, and reducing biomass on which to build yield.

Under these conditions, foliar nutrients can help to feed the crop with an available supply of essential elements, both to help sustain growth as well as help plant health, making it better able to withstand disease and effects from other applications, particularly herbicides.

At our local I-Farm at Gatley I am taking taking leaf tissue samples fortnightly from both the Oilseed Rape and Wheat plots to monitor for any deficiencies as part of a national trial being run by Agrii. The results showing both locally and nationally that the main nutrients that are deficient in wheat this spring are Magnesium, Zinc and Boron. We have responded with foliar feeds to these results and subsequent tests have shown positive results.

Taking this into consideration a product such as Nortrace Nurture which contains, Boron, and Zinc as well as other essential trace elements such as copper and manganese, could be applied with a magnesium product as a tonic to stressed plants looking for these nutrients. In dry conditions yield response to foliar nutrients can be considerable!

Oilseed Rape

Oilseed rape crops raced away this spring and some crops were unable to receive their final dose of Nitrogen as crops were too tall for application equipment. There is however a liquid option that can be applied after petal fall.

'Oilseed Extra' is a specialised product containing 20% w/v urea as well as magnesium, sulphur, copper & molybdenum which can all benefit the crop during flowering & pod fill. OSR like WW requires high levels of Mg during its life and if not available in the pods can lead to reduced yield. Oilseed Extra has shown to increase both yield and oil content of the crop. It should be applied after the flowers have dropped and at early pod set to get as much of the N into the pod walls.

Sclerotinia

Sclerotinia infection risk depends on a number of factors: crops at flowering stage, sclerotial germination, air-borne spore levels and weather conditions conducive for infection. BASF have issued a press release that shows high petal infection in our area this means crops are still at risk particularly if night time temperatures start to increase. A second flowering spray may be required to mitigate risk.

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