

R. M. JONES - MAY 2019

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

Keep Lambs Thriving

- Boost Growth with Cobalt
 - Superstock Ewe & Lamb buckets
 - Optigain Lamb Liquid supplements
- Downland Essential Lamb bolus will boost growth—with Cobalt, Selenium & Iodine
- Use with New Downland Bolus balancer bucket which is designed to complement
- Reduce reliance on expensive feeds — use Superstock Lamb Finisher buckets
- Watch out for Nematodirus—high risk forecast
- Protect against Fly Strike



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 - high risk May 2019
- 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 24 June 2019

Please phone to book a place



FECPAK^{G2} Nematodirus & Worm Egg Counting

Nematodirus can be hard to detect with worm egg counting because damage is being done before eggs are produced.

It may be still worth doing an egg count as there can be other worms present, this could affect the choice of wormer for this job.

We now have the FECPAK worm egg counting system, which gives quick accurate results, differentiating between Nematodirus and other worms.

It is also worth doing a post worming check- a quick and easy way to find out if the wormers used are still working on your farm.

Ask your Rep or Farmcentre for details on how to go about collecting samples.

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 8- 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

£4.75/ Bolus for 200kg - 400kg - only 2.6 pence per day
£6.04/ Bolus for 400kg upwards - only 3.4 pence per day
Quantity Discounts available

Arable Update -May 2019

Market averages

UK LIFFE wheat July @ £165.30—Negative outlook

MATIF OSR May @ £315 -Negative outlook

Nitram Fertiliser @ £265 - 270/t stable

Key tasks this month

With beet, maize, potatoes and later drilled spring cereals going into the ground a lot of fieldwork, fertiliser and pre-emergence sprays are taking place.

- **Cereals** - Disease control. Flag leaf sprays will need to be applied around the middle of the month in Winter Wheat and earlier in the month in Winter Barley. Flag leaves contribute over 40% of yield in Wheat so protecting them and prolonging their photosynthetic capacity is crucial to crop performance. Key diseases to target in Wheat are Septoria, Yellow and Brown Rust and in Barley are Ramularia and Rhynchosporium.
- **Cereals** - Disease control. Spring cereals will shortly, if not already, require a fungicide spray. The short growing period of spring crops often means disease control is even more important to protect yields.
- **Beet** - Weed control. Where beet crops are planted it is important to ensure that effective early weed control starts as soon as possible.
- **Beet** - Nutrition. Salt (Na) application to seedbeds is required for most beet crops, beet requires 50kg Na/ha for good leaf growth and where K levels are low higher Na application rates can be justified.
- **Maize** - Weed control. Most of our maize crops have, historically, only received post emergence herbicides as these have worked effectively and saved costs. One of the key maize herbicides (Calaris) has now been withdrawn from sale meaning that in some cases more Pre-Emergence products will be needed.
- **Maize** - Nutrition. Early nutrition in maize is important to allow it to germinate and emerge quicker. Products such as DAP+P Reserve and Maize Kicka show early biomass increase which can increase yield by up to 3t/ha as well bringing harvest date forward by several days.

Arable Field Day - Gatley I-Farm

This will be held on Monday 24th June 2019 at Gatley Farms (HR6 9TR) by kind permission of Stuart Hutchings. It is a good opportunity to see a wide range of cereal varieties and disease treatments in field trials, enjoy a hog roast, a couple of beers and peruse the fantastically shiny new equipment on the stands.