



# R.M. JONES Newsletter

## November

FARMCENTRES

[www.rmjones.com](http://www.rmjones.com)

### New Rules for Animal Medicines: What You Need to Know

We wanted to give you a quick heads-up on some changes to the rules around animal medicines. The new Veterinary Medicines Regulations (VMR) are coming into effect from the 17th November,

#### What's Changing?

##### 1. Prescriptions:

- For certain medicines—like specific wormers and vaccines—we will now need to keep a written record “Reason for Prescribing” from one of our SQPs (Suitably Qualified Person). These are the same questions we have always asked, but now we will need to write them down. This won't change what we can supply, just helps us keep a record in line with new legislation.
- We'll be recording:
  - ⇒ The condition being treated
  - ⇒ Animal/Class of Stock being treated
  - ⇒ Weight Range of Animals being Treated (if applicable)

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us! We're here to keep things simple and ensure your animals stay healthy and well cared for. Thanks for helping us meet the new legislation, and we'll keep you updated on any further changes!

#### Don't Fluke it up! - High Fluke risk this season

*Did you know as little as 50 Fluke per animal can reduce weight gain by 10%*

If you need to control fluke in your sheep then you should control fluke in your cattle too - because this parasite affects both sheep and cattle. Otherwise the fluke infestation on your farm will be prolonged, leaving losses from this disease to continue unchecked. Integrating cattle and sheep treatments can break this cycle. **Talk to us about what is best for YOUR farm now we have specific flukicide pour-on available.**

#### Winter Feeding Critical To Lambing Returns

We always talk about feeding management of Ewes at **Flushing & Pre-tupping**, but **Ewe Nutrition** is needed in **Mid Pregnancy** for the placenta to **Grow & Develop**.

The placenta provides all the nutrients for the unborn lamb in late pregnancy. Poor Placenta development results in small lambs - Irrespective of late pregnancy feeding. SAC trials show that **Cobalt** deficiency in first half of pregnancy produces lambs that are slower to stand & suckle, and more prone to neonatal disease.

*"Inadequate nutrition in early/mid-pregnancy cannot be compensated for later on in pregnancy and can result in the production of smaller and weaker lambs with higher mortality."*  
**Opti-Lix High Energy** provides a very palatable and available source of **Minerals, Trace Elements** and **Vitamins** and is ideal for feeding **Ewes**.

# Arable Update – November

## Comments

Given the volume of rain we have had during the last month, 2 months, 3 months... etc, it is surprising how much planting has occurred. This is testament to the effort and hard work carried out when the weather has dried out long enough. The plough and combi drill definitely have a place. Some crops have suffered due to overly wet conditions but where they are established they look well set up.

## Tasks:

### OSR:

Light Leaf Spot and Phoma are the two main disease concerns in rape currently. Varietal resistance is far better than it has been in the past but treatment is still required in most cases. If crops are strong then growth regulation to reduce canopy height and to increase branching will be required. **Architect** is our go to product which will resolve both issues cost effectively. Remember that crops may need Boron and Magnesium at the same time.

Late residual weed control with **Kerb/Astrokerb** will start when soil temperatures have declined sufficiently.

### Cereals:

As with last month keep seed rates up as soil conditions aren't ideal (400+ seeds/m or 200kg/ha). If conditions aren't conducive to good establishment either wait or add 20% to your seed rate.

Very little autumn herbicide has been applied to date, when conditions allow these will need to be applied especially where Blackgrass is an issue

### Slugs

Keep using traps and keep checking

<b>UK LIFFE Wheat Nov24</b>	£184- £188/t
<b>MATIF OSR Nov24</b>	£415 - £425/t
<b>AN34.5% Fertiliser</b>	£335- £340/t

<b>Current wheat GS</b>	GS12
<b>Current OSR GS</b>	GS20-25

## Technical Corner: Phoma

Oilseed rape is generally struggling with the wet weather we've had since planting and most crops will need monitoring for diseases such as Phoma and Light Leaf Spot.

Phoma can be a serious autumn disease problem, with yield losses of more susceptible varieties in the region of 0.5- 0.7 T/ha in untreated crops.

Crops will need to be monitored on a regular basis as infection can start in September, look out for white to fawn circular lesions with black spots.

Treat varieties with a Phoma/Stem Canker rating of 7 or below when 10-20% of the plants have the disease.

Varieties with a high resistance rating of 8-9 will only need treatment if 20% of the plants are infected.

There are a number of fungicide options available and product choice will also depend on whether the crop would need a growth regulator.

## Events:

We will be running a couple of arable events this autumn including

- Trip out to the Croptec Show (27th Nov)
- Fertiliser planning and Crop Marketing talk (Mid Dec)
- Farm field walk (TBC)

If you are interested in any of these events please let us know. If there are other event topics that would be useful then, again, let us know.