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Reduce staggers with High Mag buckets Boost protein to meet demand

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Get the best from your flock this season Vet Focus from Farm Gate Vets

www.nwfagriculture.co.uk

The NWF range of feed and mineral buckets are a popular and convenient way of providing bio-available minerals, trace elements and vitamins to livestock 24 hours a day.

Specially formulated to complement a wide range of on farm feeding systems the buckets are an ideal way of supplementing livestock whilst reducing labour demands. Produced using only the highest quality raw materials, the buckets are palatable and offer superior health and performance benefits to livestock.

All products are weatherproof with no waste, allowing livestock to eat every last drop.

High Mag

Reduce the risk of staggers (Hypomagnesemia) in lactating cattle and sheep



- High magnesium mineral lick containing 3 sources of magnesium to offer protection against staggers during spring and autumn months.
- A combination of quickly available and slow releasing magnesium sources to protect livestock 24 hours a day
- Vitamin D3 to aid in the absorption of calcium, helping to prevent milk fever
- A balanced range of trace elements and vitamins to address the deficiencies often seen in spring and autumn grass

Available in 20kg and 80kg tubs Typical intakes cattle 200g head/day Typical intakes sheep 30g head/day

*Suitable for mixed grazing

Ewe Breeder

For productive ewes from tupping to lambing



- High quality protein and energy feed supplement ideal for ewes, rams and lambs at grass
- Boost ewe body condition and ovulation rates in the pre-tupping period to maximise fertility
- Vitamins, minerals and trace elements included to support the pregnant ewe and growing lamb
- Added fish oil as a source of omega 3, supporting egg development and lamb viability
- High levels of protected Zinc to support the immune system and hoof health
- Contains MOS, to activate the animals immune system and improve colostrum quality to breeding livestock

Available in 20kg and 80kg tubs Typical intakes cattle up to 500g head/day

Get the Best from your Flock this Season



Around 70% of the lamb's growth takes place in the last 2 months of pregnancy. It is therefore essential to ensure that the ewe's nutritional requirements are met during this time. This will ensure ewes are in good condition with sufficient milk to support them.

It is vital to get the most from home-grown forage as it represents over 50% of the ewe's nutritional intake and it's the most costeffective feed on farm. ED&F Man offer a range of liquid products suitable for sheep feeding and specifically getting the most from home grown forage.

It is always important to get the best out of your sheep and the liquid products can help achieve this by providing a balance of readily fermentable energy and protein levels. The base for all the liquid feeds is highly palatable cane molasses and this supplies readily fermentable sucrose, a 6-Carbon sugar, which is an ideal supplement to add to low energy/high fibre forages. 6-Carbon sugars are essential for effective rumen fermentation, as they are rapidly digested and have the effect of stimulating overall rumen function leading to better animal performance.

The Sheepmol Range provides a balance of both sugar and high energy glycerine, which are the best forms of immediate available energy. This is required at times when the ewe is under any metabolic stress and intakes are reduced, making a molasses based liquid feed an essential ingredient in any pre lambing rations.

Molasses based liquid feeds have also been proven to increase fibre digestion allowing pregnant ewes to get more nutritional value from every mouthful of forage consumed. ED&F Man also offer a range of lick feeders and storage tanks as well as full nutritional and feeding advice.

The Challenge	Liquid Feed Can Help Overcome This By:	
Maintaining effective intakes when gut fill is reduced due to lamb growth	Stimulating dry matter intake and having a low substitution value	
All ewes need to be encouraged to eat as much as possible	Improving palatability	
Avoiding costly alternatives and getting the most cost-effective nutrition	Increasing fibre digestion	
Lambs take up feed space, so rumen capacity is reduced	Increasing energy density and intake during this period	
The incidence of 'Twin Lamb' disease	Helping to reduce this by providing cost effective sugar and glycerine, both of which are effective sources of glucose and glucose precursors	

Boost Protein to Meet Demand



The demand for protein, or in a ewes case metabolisable protein, rapidly increases in the last few weeks before lambing. The ewe only derives metabolisable protein from microbial protein produced in the rumen or from by-pass protein also known as digestible undegradable protein (DUP) in the diet.

In late pregnancy lamb growth reduces the ewes rumen capacity and therefore intake. Ewes carrying multiple lambs cannot produce enough microbial protein in late pregnancy from forage alone. Supplementary feed is required to bridge the gap in requirements. Often only energy density is taken into consideration, however, DUP levels of the raw materials are just as crucial for a successful lambing.

Maize Distillers and Rapeseed Meal have reasonable levels of DUP, Hi Pro Soya has a higher level of DUP with Rumen protected Rapeseed Meal and Hi Pro Soya such as Ultra Pro R and Ultra Soy have levels up to 80% DUP, nearly double that of non-treated Hi Pro Soya.

If the ewes diet is inadequate in DUP in the last few weeks of pregnancy it could increase the chances of:

- Lower lamb birth weights
- Less viable lambs
- Reduced colostrum quantity
- Reduced colostrum quality
- Reduced milk yield
- The ewes immunity to worms is compromised

NWF Ewe feeds are carefully formulated to ensure they meet the DUP requirements of the ewe.

NWF Ultra Life Milk Replacer

Whether it is mother's milk or milk replacer, milk intake is crucial for the first 6 weeks of a lamb's life, after this their reliance on grass increases.

NWF Ultra Lamb is a top-quality milk replacer designed to suit most rearing systems. This highly digestible product supports optimal growth and development through its specifically developed formulation using carefully selected milk solids, a balanced blend of vegetable fats and oils; homogenized and emulsified for maximum digestibility, and has full supplement of vitamins, minerals and trace elements.

NWF Ultra Lambs key features include; an active ß-glucan that supports a lamb's innate immunity (a form of defence mechanism) to combat challenging conditions whilst safeguarding performance. The milk replacer is acidified, which lowers milk replacer pH which in turn reduces the risk of harmful bacteria proliferation in the milk. It can be fed to support an ideal intestinal pH to encourage 'good' bacteria to proliferate in the Gastrointestinal Tract. It also contains flavours and sweeteners to encourage intakes.

The feeding guidelines for NWF Ultra Lamb are 200g of milk replacer to 800ml of water (to make 1 litre).

To give newborn lambs the best start in life colostrum quantity, quality and timing are key. Newborn lambs should receive a minimum of 50ml/kg of body weight of colostrum within the first 6 hours of life, within 24hrs of life, a newborn should have received the equivalent of 200ml/kg bodyweight in colostrum, for example 4kg lamb (typical birthweight for upland ewes) should receive 0.8L of colostrum.



Sheep Feeds for a Better Future

To support feeding of your flock, the sheep feeding charts below provide guidance. All diets are based on housed ewes with access to ad-lib forage and correct body condition score

75kg Ewe: Average 10ME Silage

75kg	Ewe:	On	Straw
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Weeks	Concentrates/day	
before Lambing	Twins	Singles
10	-	-
8	-	-
6	0.2	-
4	0.35	0.2
2	0.5	0.25
1	0.7	0.35

Weeks	Concentrates/day	
before Lambing	Twins	Singles
10		-
8	0.5	0.4
6	0.65	0.5
4	0.8	0.55
2	1.0	0.65
1	1.2	0.75

75kg Ewe: Good Hay

Weeks	Concentrates/day	
before Lambing	Twins	Singles
10	-	-
8	0.2	-
6	0.4	0.2
4	0.55	0.3
2	0.7	0.4
1	0.9	0.5

75kg Ewe: On 11.2 ME silage & Fed on NWF Ultra Soy + mins

Weeks	Concentrates/day	
before Lambing	Twins	Singles
10		
8		
6		
4	0.1	0.05
2	0.1	0.05
1	0.1	0.05

75kg Ewe: Top Quality 11 ME silage

Weeks	Concentrates/day	
before Lambing	Twins	Singles
10	-	-
8	-	-
6	-	-
4	0.2	-
2	0.35	0.2
1	0.55	0.25

To ensure the correct level of feeding, forage analysis is vital to support the diets formulated by your local NWF Ruminant Specialist, especially when TMR feeding. ** For triplets increase concentrate feeding above twins by 33%

When ewes are turned out to grass post lambing it is important to monitor grass growth and sward height. Ewes with twins will need continued concentrate feeding when grass growth is poor and sward height is below 4 cm. Where grazing & growth is very poor i.e. below 3cm up to 0.75Kg a day of concentrate plus extra forage such as silage and roots may be required. Where grass height is 3-4 cm around 0.5kg of concentrate will be sufficient until grass growth is plentiful.



Sheep Nutrition

by Sarah Harker, BVM&S MRCVS, Farm Gate Vets

Nutrition is arguably the single most important factor in successful and profitable sheep farming. Energy should be provided largely by cereals rather than their cheaper by-products. Good quality protein sources such as soya bean meal, rapeseed meal and peas/beans ensure maximal benefit. Quality ingredients are expensive but it's more cost-effective to feed less of a quality compound rather than more of a cheaper product.

Forage analysis is a useful and under-used tool, allowing feeding to be tailored specifically and money spent where appropriate. With good forage, single-baring ewes may need no more than a small amount of high-protein straights such as soya to balance the diet. Homemade diets, feeding of straights to complement analysed forage or TMR can work well and be cost-effective.

70% of foetal growth takes place in the last 6 weeks of pregnancy with large increases in nutritional demands with respect to both energy and protein. Addressing these requirements helps to ensure good lamb birthweights and vigour, good udder development, colostrum production and lactation and good mothering ability. Ewes in late pregnancy can be grouped according to due date, body condition, breed, foetal numbers etc to allow appropriate nutrition. For ewes with high concentrate requirements, it is preferable to feed no more than 0.5kg at a single feed to avoid ruminal acidosis. In these ewes, twice daily feeding is preferable.



The adequacy of nutrition in late pregnancy can be checked with blood sampling for metabolic profiling. If done approximately 4 weeks before lambing, there is time to implement necessary changes.

Sarah Harker, BVM&S MRCVS, is a Veterinary Surgeon at Farm Gate Vets. She graduated from Edinburgh University in 1996 and has worked mostly in mixed practice since graduation. Having being brought up on a beef and sheep farm in Yorkshire, she now works full time at Farm Gate Vets.



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Hear what our customers have to say;

"Livestock shows are a passion for us both and this winter we enjoyed another successful show season."

We entered four national events this winter where we picked up trophies for presenting pairs of Continental lambs with our Beltex crosses.

The sheep enterprise consists of 60 Beltex and Texel ewes, along with 40 other commercial ewes and 60 Cheviot ewes.

NWF formulated a specific ration for our show lambs providing a good blend of straights and minerals. When lambs were getting fat and close to show, protein levels were decreased and lambs were weighed regularly to help us determine how much to feed them to reach the weight for the show. We were really pleased with how the lambs finished on NWF feed, in particular giving a good covering of fat which left lambs hard fleshed and not too fat being ideal for the market today. Lambs also got JG Animal Health multi-vitamins."

Robert Garth and Sarah Priestley Bentham, Lancashire

2019 successes for Robert Garth and Sarah Priestley:

- English Winter Fair: The Royal Smithfield RABI Champion Single Lamb Reserve champion untrimmed lambs
- Welsh Winter Fair: Reserve Champion Butchers' lambs.
- The East of England Winter Stock Festival: Champion Untrimmed Pair of Lambs Champion and Reserve Champion Continental Pure Bred Lambs Champion and Reserve Champion Pure-Bred Lambs Champion RABI Lamb Champion and Reserve Champion Butchers Lambs Supreme Champion and Reserve Supreme Champion Pair of Lambs



"We reared over 300 Texel cross lambs on a milk machine last year changed to using feed supplied by JPA, part of NWF Agriculture. The lambs were finished in Tasty Lamb and Kickstart feeds and as a result of the excellent formulations our lambs were finished three weeks earlier than previous years." Callum, Farm Manager Hornby Hall Estate.

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