

 **Grass Seed**

It's been a bumper year so far for grass growth. 1st cut silage may have yielded a little less than normal but strong paddocks on most farms appear to have made up the balance. On a good grass growing year, the chance to reseed should be fully exploited. Tackle the oldest and most worn areas. On average old pastures only contain 55% perennial ryegrass. Teagasc estimate that the old worn swards are losing up to €300/ha per year. Fodder saved from old pastures is always low in quality due to earlier heading grasses and weed species.

The benefits of reseeding are well known at this stage and they far outweigh the cost.

Please see back page for details on varieties & mixes.

Einbock Pneumatic seeder



Along with supplying the reseeding inputs we also supply the service of sowing your grass seed with our Einbock sower. While you can direct drill with this machine it is the best available for sowing into tilled ground. This machine was purchased in 2011 and has been very popular since due to its accuracy and cost of sowing. Its 6metres wide and seed is dispersed off a splash plate followed by a light covering with tines. To book this machine please call your local branch.

Roundup

Thankfully the EU has been given approval to use roundup for another 18months. What happens in 18months time, who knows, but **the benefits of roundup in agriculture must be fully exploited from now until January 2018. Eliminate all grass weeds in cereals and do as much reseeding as you can justify.** Grass weeds like sterile broom and scutch should get special attention because we have no other method of control.

Pre-Harvest Round-up:

- Ripens grain in even.
 - Facilitates easier harvesting & straw baling
- As little as 0.5lt per acre of the generic brand called Gallup pre-harvest works well, but where scutch grass is a problem rates need to be risen to 2.3lt per acre.**

Blow Fly Strike Risk

Blowfly strike can be a devastating and deadly disease of sheep flocks. 80% of Irish flocks will have one or more cases of fly strike per year.

Practical Management Solutions

Prevention of blowfly strike is the best form of control. Using targeted blowfly treatments of narrow spectrum products is recommended. Pour Ons containing Insect Growth Regulators (IGR) *dicyclanil* such as CLIK and CLIKZIN can be used to stop the harmless first stage larvae developing into the harmful second and third stage larvae.

Early use of CLIK and CLIKZIN has been shown to decrease the number of flies later in the season. Blowfly prevention products such as CLIK and CLIKZIN are the only blowfly products with FleeceBind technology which ensures the Formulation spreads and binds to the fleece offering full fleece protection. These products are preventative only and not protective!

CLIK gives 16 weeks cover & has a 40 day meat withhold period. CLIKZIN gives 8 weeks cover & has a 7 day meat withhold period.



Calves



A good worm control plan is critical in making sure your animals meet their targets as efficiently as possible. Unlike most other worm doses which have to be repeated a number of times throughout the grazing season, CYDECTIN 10% LA Injection will give continuous protection against worms for 120 days, from a single injection. This is the ideal wormer for young-stock and stock grazed on out farms where handling facilities might be limited.

One shot offers season long protection against lungworms and stomach + gut worms.

Interesting Fact on Docks quoted in this months Irish Farmers Monthly
(1 large dock in 35 square metres represents a 1% loss in grass yield which equates to a loss of between €7 to €13/acre!!)