



NUGGET

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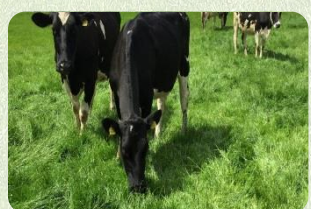
NEWSLETTER JUNE 2018

Rearing Heifer Replacements at Grass

By Conor Condron

Rearing replacement heifers represents a significant cost. This cost is an investment in the future profitability of your herd. It is fact that faster growing heifers get pregnant sooner, produce more milk, lower replacement costs and have a greater lifetime productivity. It is heifer bodyweight (and not age), that drives the onset of puberty and allows for earlier breeding. Targets for heifer growth rates are: 55% of mature bodyweight at breeding & 90% of mature bodyweight at calving.

Nutrition plays a major role in frame development & overall growth of heifers. Aim for lean body growth that takes advantage of high growth efficiency. If heifers are under target, feeding good quality, high energy and protein concentrates will improve growth rates and supply essential mineral and vitamin requirements. **NUGGET** Heifer Developer Nuts or Super Grow Calf Nuts are an ideal concentrate to feed replacement heifers while at grass. For more information, contact us.



Anthelmintic Resistance in Ruminants

By Shane Gonoude

Grazing cattle are naturally exposed to gut worms causing ill-thrift. Worm control is highly dependent on effective worming products. There are three classes of anthelmintic available for the treatment of gut worms in cattle; benzimidazoles (white drenches), levamisole's (yellow drenches) and macrocyclic lactones (clear drenches). Widespread use of wormers has resulted in anthelmintic resistant worms.

Anthelmintic resistance in ruminants is measured using a faecal egg count test. A fully effective anthelmintic dose reduces egg count to 0. If the egg count reduction is less than 95%, anthelmintic resistance is present. New anthelmintic drugs are costly and take years to develop, therefore it's important we use them wisely. Early detection of resistance is required so occurrence can be prevented.

Prevention methods need to be put in place to ensure anthelmintic resistance does not occur. In order to establish if resistance is an issue on your farm, talk to us about getting a faecal egg count carried out on your farm.

Wrap it Pink Campaign

Support the 'Wrap it Pink' campaign by buying pink silage wrap that includes a fixed donation cost to charity. Limited quantities available from J.Grennan & Sons branches.



SILOTITE



Fodder Crops

By Paul Mooney

Fodder crops are a great way of increasing farm profitability. Fodder crops reduce the costs associated with conserving fodder, winter housing and slurry spreading.

Kale

Kale is the best option at the minute, producing up to 13 tonne/DM/hectare. Kale needs a fine seedbed which can be achieved without ploughing. A topdressing of 2 bags/acre of 18-6-12 and up to 2 bags/acre of CAN is required. Kale sown in June, will require a pre-emergence spray (within 48hours of sowing) of Butisan S for weed control. Weed pressure is reduced after June as crops are thick enough to smother out weeds.

Redstart

Redstart is a cross between kale and rape. Redstart has a similar yield potential to kale & the rapid growth of rape. Restart can be sown from July 10th to August 10th. It may not be very practical to take a field from the grazing platform to sow kale. Therefore, sowing redstart mid-July can be a viable option as it fits in perfectly following winter barley. Redstart requires 1 to 2 bags of 18-6-12 and 1 to 2 bags of CAN as a topdressing.

Forage Rape

From August on, Forage Rape is the best option. Forage Rape can produce yields up to 8 tonne/DM/hectare. Sow with 1 bag/acre of 18-6-12 and topdress with 1 bag/acre of CAN. For more information, contact us.

Have you experienced Milk Fat below

3.3%?

By Conor Condron

Milk fat depression (MFD) during grazing continues to be a problem for many Irish herds, mainly during April, May & June. Bulk tank milk fats of 3% and below have been reported. Data recorded from 2004-2014 showed that 10-20% of herds experienced MFD. MFD was defined as bulk tank milk fat <3.3%. In spring calving cows, the highest incidence of MFD occurred 61-90 Days in Milk.

How does Milk Fat Depression occur?

MFD typically occurs when cows are grazing full-time. Lower rumen production of VFAs acetic & butyric acids originating from fibre digestion are essential for butter fat production in milk. Grass can have a Fatty Acid (FA) content of 6%, and can be particularly high in rumen available Poly Unsaturated Fatty Acid (PUFA). Young, fresh, lush, immature grass, coupled with a lack of NDF (Fibre) can greatly increase the risk of MFD. Once MFD occurs, it is very difficult to recover from.

Controlling MFD during grazing

It is difficult to control poly unsaturated FA intake on full time grazing diets. To control rumen pH, increase fibre in the diet by buffer feeding straw or silage. Concentrates with ideal NDF levels such as Elite Breeder 14 & Hi Min Dairy 14 will reduce the risk of MFD. Yeasts, such as the type present in Nugget feeds, will also dramatically reduce the risk of MFD. Rumen buffers help maintain optimum rumen pH levels further reducing the risk of MFD. Protected fats have been used to artificially improve milk fat %, but the economics of this need to be considered carefully.

JUNE SPECIAL OFFERS



**5 X 4 WAY SHEEP BUCKETS
(20kg)**

ONLY €95



**GALLAGHER B20 Paddock
FENCER + 500M GALLAGHER
POLYWIRE**

ONLY €179



**5L ALBEX FLUKE & WORM
DRENCH + 2 CANS STOCK
MARKER SPRAY**

ONLY €79

Special Offer

NUGGET 4 Way Sheep

- 20Kg Molassed Mineral & Vitamin Block.
- A top class mineral bucket for all lamb, hoggets, ewes and rams.
- Contains maximum permitted levels of ZINC to promote harder hooves, healthier feet and reduced lameness.
- Contains high levels of all essential minerals & vitamins, especially cobalt.
- Reduces lameness in grazing sheep.
- Recommended Dose Rate: Ewes: **25-30g/ head/ day** Lambs: **10-12g/head/day**

Special Offer



You may have heard about the new General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”) that comes into effect May 25th 2018.

What Data We Need

At J Grennan and Sons we take your privacy seriously. Unless otherwise agreed with you, we will collect basic information (company/ business name, business contact details, phone numbers, address and email address). Our company registration number is 134586 and it's registered address is Rath, Birr Co. Offaly. R42YA49. J Grennan and Sons will be the “Controller” of your company data.

Why We Need It & What We Do With It

We need to know your company/business information in order to provide you with the services you have engaged us to provide. We will only use this data for the purposes of providing our service to you. Your data may also be provided to third parties where data is backed up remotely, this data is kept on a server within the Republic of Ireland. We take all reasonable steps to ensure your data is processed discretely and kept securely.

Marketing Communication Consent

We correspond with our customers by way of a monthly newsletter and very occasionally by text or email. As part of GDPR compliance we need your permission to continue to communicate with you after the 25th May 2018 deadline. It is important that you know that we **never** share your data with 3rd parties and use it only for sharing information with you. If you no longer wish to receive correspondence from us, please contact us by either email at marketing@grennagri.com, or in writing, stating your name and account number and we will take the necessary action to remove your address from our list.