



NUGGET

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SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2018

Fodder Crop Management:

By Paul Mooney B.Agr.Sc

Remember it is very important to top-dress fodder crops when they're approx. 2 inches high. Redstart after cereals needs at least 70 units of Nitrogen and maybe 50-60 units after grass. Forage rape requires approx. 10 units less than Redstart. These rates are for crops sown up to August 10th, after that date crops have reduced potential so the level of Nitrogen requirement will be reduced.

If fodder crops/cover crops are sown after cereals you may need to eliminate volunteer cereals with a suitable graminicide.

Important: Any fodder crops/short term leys sown in tillage land can qualify for a subsidy from the Department of Agriculture and the form to apply for this must be with the relevant Department section by September 17th.

Grazing Forage Crops:

Forage crops can extend the grazing season when grass is in limited supply. Forage crops such as Brassicas are a highly digestible food source and digestibility remains high over the course of the winter. Livestock should be introduced to forage crops gradually over 7-10 days and shouldn't be let out first when they are hungry as this can lead to digestive disorders. During this transition period roughage in the form of grass, hay or straw should be made available to maintain a healthy rumen and fresh water must always be available.

Strip grazing of forage crops is advised for efficient utilisation of the crop and to minimise waste by poaching. Brassicas shouldn't make up more than 70% of an animal's diet and feeding of grass, hay or straw is advised alongside the crop.

Be aware that forage crops may have poor mineral profiles and supplementation may be required to prevent deficiencies. Nugget 4 Way Copper mineral buckets would be very suitable in this regard.

Harvest 2018

By Paul Mooney B.Agr.Sc

The nice weather has made this one of the most manageable harvests in recent memory. The dry weather meant little or no drying was needed for both grain and straw.

Locally, yields have surprised most and they have been much better than expected. Winter barley ranged from 2.5 to 3.5t/acre. Winter wheat varied from 3.2 to 3.8 t/acre and spring barley saw yields from 1.5 to 3 tonnes /acre. Grain quality has been variable but better yielding crops have produced top quality grain with many barley bushel weights in mid to high 60's. Straw yields have been well back but the increased price per bale will compensate for reduced yield.

Beans have been a bit disappointing to date but better yields may yet come through as there is plenty of the crop yet to be harvested.

Eprecis Injection Cow Wormer Pack

Are your cows coughing?
Now is the time to worm your
COWS



- New to the Market
- Injectable worm dose
- Zero Milk withdrawal.

Cereal Seed

There is a big interest in growing Winter Cereals. Seed availability may be an issue, so please place your orders as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Seed is available in 500kg & 50kg bags.

Varieties available:

- Barley - Infinity and Cassia (unless otherwise stated all barley seed will be dressed with Redigo Deter)
- Wheat - JB Diego, Bennington, Avatar, Costello, Cellule, Conross & Lumos all available.
- Oats – Husky will be the most popular choice again. Southwark, which is a true winter variety will be available in limited quantities.

Thinking of Reseeding?



You have time. The current unusually high soil temperatures should enable a very rapid establishment, so you can most likely continue sowing grass seeds all the way up to late September this year.

Contact us in relation to our range of Acorn Grass seeds which are the highest PPI grass seed mixtures on the market.

Analytical Services

By Shane Gonoude B.Agr.Sc

This is the time of the year to consider Soil, Fodder and Faecal analysis. Accurate analysis helps us all make much more informed decisions & can be very cost effective. Here at J Grennan & Sons, we offer a wide range of analytical services, all carried out in fully accredited, totally independent labs;

- **Soil Analysis:** We offer everything from your standard P,K tests to a comprehensive analysis of soil nutrient reserves and overall soil health. While nutrient levels are obviously important, a look at the overall health of our soils can be extremely revealing & is well worth considering.
- **Silage Analysis:** We offer standard forage analysis which include tests on DM, Protein and Energy values. Full mineral analysis of silage can be very important for formulating dry cow diets & preventing milk fever and it's multitude of associated post calving disorders.
- **Dung Analysis:** Identifying the parasitic burden and cause of all scouring is crucial for achieving optimal animal performance. We offer very quick turnaround & economical rates on faecal screening for all the common parasites including Roundworms, Tapeworms and both Rumen & Liver Fluke. Tests are available for all scour pathogens such as E.coli, Coccidiosis, Salmonella etc.

Contact any member of our technical team for more information on specific tests.

Fertiliser Deadline Extension

The closing period for application of chemical Nitrogen and Phosphorus on land has been extended from September 15th to **September 30th.**

This move is most welcome as soil temperatures are much higher than normal this year, meaning that grass growth potential will be much higher later in the season, provided it has the correct amount of nutrients to support growth.

Management of Lambs for Slaughter

By Damien Conboy B. Agr.Sc

To maintain performance, lambs need access to the best available pasture and to be kept moving ahead of the rest of the flock. Depending on the body condition and weight of your remaining lambs and the available grass supply, it may be necessary to introduce a concentrate supplement. Lamb growth rates achieved from a grass-only diet on commercial farms during early September is typically 150g/day. At this stage of the year it may be wise to introduce concentrates at 0.5kg/lamb/day. Small levels of concentrate supplementation in conjunction with an effective parasite programme will improve live-weight gain, fat cover and carcass confirmation. This is also a critical time to correct any deficiencies or imbalances of minerals, vitamins and trace elements. This can be achieved by using mineral drenches, lick buckets or boluses commonly available on the market. The main Trace elements & Vitamins we are concerned about are; Vitamin E, Cobalt, Selenium, Iodine, Zinc and Copper in some cases.

Finishing lambs this Autumn? Look no further than our range of quality feeds:

- **Intensive Lamb pellets**
- **Ram & Hogget Finisher nuts**
- **Ad-lib Lamb Finisher**
- **Hi-Maize Ram & Hogget Fattener**



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To ensure a timely delivery please place your order 4-5 days in advance.

Thank you!