

Newsletter JANUARY 2022



Benefits of Wonder Thrive Milk Replacer V Whole Milk

We are acutely aware of the rising expenses this year on farm. With this in mind, we will be highlighting the Return on Investment (ROI) or savings that can be made from making small changes to your practices or by using particular products within the J Grennan & Sons range to maximise production and efficiencies on your farm!

Delivering consistent and cost-effective results – how can you save up to €35/calf this spring!

Wonder Thrive + Lung Booster Milk Replacer

	Wonder Thrive + Lung Booster Plus (900g/day) ¹	Whole Milk (@ 4.5 % Fat and 3.4 % Protein – 0.38c Base) ²
Dry Matter	97 %	13.6 %
Crude Protein (DM Basis)	23.7 %	26.4 %
Fat (DM Basis)	18.6 %	33.1 %
Cost/Value €	€48/20kg bag	€0.43/kg milk
Dry Matter Fed/Calf	0.87 kg (900g/calf, 15 % conc.)	0.84 (6 litres milk/calf)
Cost/Calf	€2.16	€2.67

SAVING: €0.5/calf/day or €35/calf over a 10-week period!

¹Based on **900g/day** (15 % concentration) as recommended by the Life Start program

²Solids based on local co-op average for Feb and March 2021

Other benefits of Wonder Thrive + Lung Booster:

- Consistent supply of milk solids to the calf vs. mixing transition and waste milk.
- Milk replacer provides an ample supply of vitamins and minerals to meet the calf requirements.
- Reduced potential for disease transmission from cow to calves.
- Minimise Anti-microbial resistance associated with drinking 'waste/treated' milk.
- Lung Booster technology to support the respiratory system.

Wonder Thrive
Calf Milk Replacer

Quality Milk Replacer for Superior Calf Health and Lifetime Performance.

LIFESTART
SETS LIFE PERFORMANCE

J GRENNAN & SONS

www.grennans.ie
t: 057 91 33002

NUCKET
Always the best

(Joe Naughton - Calf Specialist, m: 086 1452586)

NEW PRODUCT

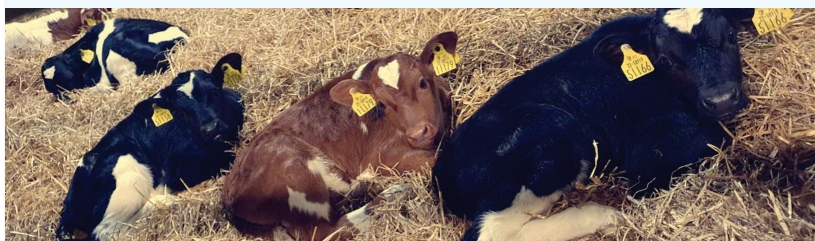
Expansion of the Immuno Range!

Immuno Calf Nuts

Many of you will be familiar with our Immuno range of products and their benefits to animal health by stimulating the motility and strength of white blood cells to ensure they are more pro-active in fighting infection! This range has worked with great success across the transition period (via our **Immuno Pre-Calver Minerals** and **Immuno Pre-Calver nut**) and in early lactation with our **Immuno Mega Milk 16!**

With this in mind, we will be launching our **Immuno Calf Nut** for the coming calf season. This will deliver the same thrive associated with our **Super Grow Calf Nut** but will better support the calf's immune

system! Stress contributes to poor immune function, thereby leaving the calf more exposed or at risk to infection, particularly those associated with pneumonia and scours! If you have had trouble with calf health in recent years, consider introducing our new **Immuno Calf Nuts** from 3-4 days with the aim to strengthen immune function from 3-4 weeks of age! Similarly, if you buy in calves from one or multiple sources, consider discussing the use of this nut with your supplier from 3-4 days. This will set your calves up for the stress associated with transportation and mixing with other stock and will help to maintain thrive during this challenging period!



Tús maith leath na hoibre! (A good start is half the battle!)

By Aisling Claffey - B.Agr.Sc., Ph.D. - Ph: 086 031 7483

We are on the countdown now to the first of the new arrivals for 2022 and the busiest period in the dairy farming calendar! Hopefully you are using this time to get the calving area, calf facilities, milking parlour and most importantly, the cows ready for action again.

Dry matter intake will naturally suppress as they near calving so, ensure cows have adequate feed space over the coming weeks and their adequate supplementation of Grennan's Elite Pre-Calver minerals from 8 weeks.

Look out for early warning signs for sub-clinical milk fever – has it previously been an issue on farm? Has your mineral analysis highlighted high K/DCAB forages which may increase the risk? Reach out now if you have any concerns or if you have any issues with the first few cows to calve on farm (retained cleanings, slow to calve, etc.). Small dietary adaptations can make calcium mobilisation and reabsorption by the cow work more successfully, reducing stress on both the cow and the farmer! Impaired immune and muscle function are side effects of poor Calcium mobilisation which can, in turn, contribute to a host of secondary issues incl. poor rumen function and intake, mastitis, metritis and metabolic diseases such as LDA, ketosis, fatty liver.

The key to healthy calves this spring is colostrum management and good housing facilities! Remember calves need approximately 8.5 % of their body weight in colostrum, which is typically 3-3.5 litres/calf. Antibody levels can be quickly measured on a refractometer, with a Brix value required of at least 22%! It is critical that the calf gets this within two hours of birth, it is the only source of maternal antibodies to the calf



and the guts ability to absorb these declines rapidly. Similarly, it is important to milk the cow shortly after calving, as delaying this will increase milk volume but can contribute to the dilution of antibodies. Ensure calves are housed in clean and well-ventilated facilities but prevent draughts as maintaining body temperature is critical to thrive. See calf jackets below.

If you are experiencing any issues on farm this spring, don't forget that we, like your vet are part of your team and will be happy to support you through this challenging period in any way we can, we can help you ensure your cows and calves get off to the best start and are set up for a successful and productive 2022!

Cost Analysis of Using Easy Calver Nuts V's Soya Depending on Cow Condition.

By Brian Delaney - B.Agr.Sc - Ph: 086 044 9592

There are a lot of options on farm to optimize feeding of dry cows, but it is important to adapt diets depending on cow condition.

Where cow condition is good:

125g Elite pre-calver mineral/hd/day and ad-lib Silage that has a test result of 68 DMD will maintain cow condition. The addition of 250g of Hi-pro soya/hd/day for the last 3 weeks is well worthwhile for a boost in colostrum quality and quantity. Average cost for the total diet is €1.35/hd/day.

Alternatively, if using a straw-based diet, 2.5kg straw + 25kg 68 DMD silage + 2kg Easy calver nuts will supply all minerals, protein and energy to maintain body condition. Average cost €1.80/hd/day

Where cow condition is below target:

Supplementation with 2kg Easy calver nuts + ad-lib silage will deliver full amount pre-calver minerals and will allow the cow to strengthen and gain condition before calving. Formulated with oats, it will also help deliver a healthy calf with more vigour. Easy calver contains 18% protein which will help heifers to continue growing and develop a strong frame before calving. Average cost €1.95/hd/day.



CALF JACKETS

There have been a number of studies completed across Irish and UK farms in recent years which suggest that calf jackets can contribute to better health and performance, particularly with young calves.

Calf Jackets here at
J Grennan & Sons

Limited Stock
Available

Can be purchased
both online and in
our stores.



Understanding the Importance of Good Colostrum and Subsequent Milk Yield of Ewes in Early Lactation and its Relationship with Lamb Performance

By *Damien Conboy* - B.Agr.Sc – Ph: 087 2124036

- Ewe milk production is the key factor influencing lamb performance in the first seven weeks of life. Ewe milk contains approximately 20% dry matter (much higher than a dairy cow) and the young lamb can convert this to liveweight gain in a 1:1 ratio.
- This means that for every kilo of milk dry matter the lamb consumes, it will increase its liveweight by 1kg. A total of 5kg of milk is required to give 1kg of dry matter.
- Milk production is influenced by a multitude of factors, including nutrient intake, body condition score, litter size and age of the ewe.
- The average milk production of a twin-bearing ewe during the first month of lactation will be between 2.5 and 3.0 litres per day. This is equivalent to a dairy cow producing 25 to 30 litres of milk per day.
- The peak milk production for a twin-bearing ewe is approximately 21 days after lambing and 28 days after birth for a single-bearing ewe. This can vary, depending on the nutrition of the ewe.

Supplementation of the Pregnant Ewe

In terms of supplementing the ewe, this is easier to do in late pregnancy than in early lactation. Energy reserves should be used in early lactation rather than late pregnancy. Protein plays a significant role to maximise colostrum production and milk yield. Insufficient supplementation of protein or the use of inferior quality proteins used to supplement ewes in late pregnancy have the potential to reduce colostrum and milk production by more than 50%. In late pregnancy UDP (Undegradable Protein) sources such as Soya bean meal are a must have in any diet.

J Grennan & Sons believe that Soya bean meal should be the primary source of protein in any of our high spec 18% and 20% Ewe & Lamb diets. Meanwhile, the diet must be balanced with quality energy and fibre sources such as Maize, Barley, Oats and Beet Pulp, this ensures good feed intakes and supply the pregnant ewe with sufficient blood glucose levels which in turn reduce cases of twin lamb disease. Adequate protein, energy, vitamins & minerals are all key components in Nugget Ewe & Lamb diets.

For further information contact us today



J GRENNAN
& SONS

NUGGET

Always the best

Wonder Lamb MILK REPLACER

Improved Health | Better Weight Gains | Maximum Returns



Delivers high liveweight gain and excellent health status in lambs and kid goats. Suitable for bottle, automatic systems and ad-lib feeding. Contains a health package to boost overall immunity and improve feed conversion efficiency (FCR) by reducing the incidence of diarrhoea and respiratory disease.

J Grennan & Sons, Rath, Birr, Co Offaly.

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TERRA FERTILISER RANGE

Terra Fertiliser Range from Target Fertiliser contains a unique and natural bio-stimulant coating called PSI362.

Applied to fertiliser to increase nitrogen uptake by the plant improving nitrogen use efficiency.

Reduce Nitrogen applications rates by up to 25% without sacrificing on yield and quality.

Trialled extensively on grassland and tillage farms in recent years.

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100,000
GALLONS**

DO YOU NEED MORE FROM YOUR SLURRY?

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Easy Once Off Application

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3:1 Return on Investment

For more information contact any of our Nugget Stockists
Tel: 057 9133002 | www.grennans.ie

Target Fertilisers Terra Product Range

Adjust application rates based on slurry application	N	P	K	S	Recommended Rate
TerraCAN + S	22	0	0	3	1 - 1.5 bags/acre per grazing
TerraGRAZE + S	22	0	5	3.5	1 - 1.5 bags/acre per grazing
TerraCUT + S	20	2	12	2	4 bags/acre on 1st cut silage

Limited quantity available in 500kg bags

Ph: 057 91 33002 E: sales@grennans.ie www.grennans.ie

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