



## Wonder Thrive Calf Milk Replacers

### SAME PRODUCT, NEW BAGS

By Joe Naughton - (B.Agr.Sc) Tel: 086 145 2586

We are delighted to announce that this coming calf rearing season will see our Wonder Thrive range of calf milk replacers in new & improved bags. Each product in the range will now have its own separate bag for the first time. This is in response to the continued growth in popularity of the Wonder Thrive range and is also an effort on our part to minimise the risk of mix-ups that occurred from time to time when all four products were in the same bag design.

It's important to point out that while the packaging will be changing, the formulation and nutrient spec of each product in the range will remain exactly as they have been over the last number of years.

**Wonder Thrive Original** Calf Milk Replacer. This was the first product added to the range over 10 years ago and remains very popular to this day. Formulated to 23% Cr. Protein and 17% Oil, it's a whey based powder with carefully selected dairy and oil constituents to match the properties of whole milk. It also contains a powerful probiotic that aids overall gut health.

**Wonder Thrive with Lungbooster Plus** This powder is nutritionally the same as Wonder Thrive Original but contains the additional health package we call LungBooster Plus. This package is added to enhance the health of both the calf's

respiratory & digestive systems, thereby greatly reducing the incidence of Pneumonia & other respiratory challenges. It is also quiet effective at helping reduce the incidence of Cryptosporidium and Coccidiosis.

**Wonder Thrive with Gut Guard** is the same again nutritionally as Wonder Thrive Original with the added health package of Gut Guard. Gut Guard is a completely natural feed additive that has been found to deliver dramatic gut health benefits to calves as it prevents pathogens such as Cryptosporidium, Clostridia, E. coli and Coccidiosis from attaching to the gut wall. Where infection occurs, Gut Guard reduces the duration and severity of these scours.

**Wonder Thrive Hi - Skim with Gut Guard** contains a high level of skim powder and whey powder with the added health package of Gut Guard. Suitable for all calves, but particularly suitable for replacement dairy heifer calves &/or Once-A-Day feeding regimes from 4 weeks of age.

**Grennan's Easi Rear** is a whey based calf milk and also contains skim powder. Also, a 23% crude protein milk replacer with 17% oil. Easi Rear contains a probiotic for optimum gut health and can be used for Once-A-Day feeding.

Wonder Thrive



Wonder Thrive with LungBooster+



Wonder Thrive with Gut Guard



Wonder Thrive Hi-Skim with Gut Guard



# Fluke & Worm options for Cows at drying off time

By *Shane Gonoude* - (B.Agr.Sc) Tel: 087 646 6707

Post drying-off represents an opportunity for dairy farmers to treat cows for parasites such as fluke, lungworms, and stomach worms and eradicate these parasites that could be causing clinical, or subclinical losses to the herd.

Treating a cow after drying off and before calving allows her to start lactation without the pressure of a worm or fluke burden. This allows the cow to optimise her feed conversion efficiency in early lactation and therefore increasing peak production and subsequent lactation yield.

At the end of the lactation, the options for treatment widens because most wormers have milk withdrawal periods. We can also look at treating potential liver fluke problems at this time. When designing a dosing plan for cows at drying off, it's important to have a handle on your farm's fluke history because this will help us with product selection.

Faecal egg sample counts will also be a big help in this regard. We will be launching a new ultra quick faecal egg count & parasite diagnostics service very soon. This will allow customers bring us in dung samples from cattle, sheep & horses & have highly accurate faecal egg counts for same, in a matter of minutes.

If your farm is high risk for fluke, there is a chance that young immature fluke will be damaging livers at drying off time. In these cases its best to use a Triclabendazole type product such as **EndoFluke** because it is active against all stages of fluke. It's important to adhere to milk withdrawal periods.

To cover worms and external parasites on high risk farms, use an Ivermectin pour on such as **Acomec**. Ivermectin pour-ons have up to a 60 day milk withdrawal period so it's important they are used at the beginning of the dry period.

On farms with lower risk of Fluke, **Albex 10%/Tramazole 10%** will cover all the important internal worms as well as adult fluke. This is a good dose where you are not worried about active young fluke. After using Albex/Tramazole at drying off, it's good practice to take a faecal egg sample in the weeks prior to calving to see if mature fluke are still present.

An oxyclozanide type product such as **Rumenil** can be administered at the point of calving to treat adult Liver Fluke and Rumen Fluke. Just be careful because this can cause some loosening of the dung and stress on the cow. Rumenil has 4.5 day milk withdrawal period.

*All the above products & access to our new faecal egg count diagnostics service are available in all our stores.*



\* NEW SERVICE \*

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# Major Shortage of Spring Cereal Seed Possible

By Paul Mooney - (B. Agr. Sc.) - 086 353 2342

The negative effects of harvest 2023 are already rolling into next year in that it seems we have been left well short of Spring cereal seed for 2024.

## THE SITUATION:

There was 131,000ha of spring barley sown in 2023 & 131,000ha of winter cereals sown in Autumn 2022. Is there half of that figure sown this Autumn? If there is only half sown, how much is destroyed by water logged soils & the higher than usual prevalence of slugs in many fields?

It all means that in a year when we possibly need 200,000ha of spring barley seed we rarely had as little seed available. Historically when we ran short we always relied on imports from Denmark and the UK. Unfortunately this year they are in a similar situation to ourselves, so seed importers will have to go further into Europe to source seed. This will be expensive and the varieties sourced will not necessarily be ones we are familiar with.

***So we are asking all our grain suppliers to please talk to us A.S.A.P, but definitely before the end of year regarding your seed requirements. This will give us a chance to do the best we can and try source enough seed.***

On a positive note, there is lots of winter wheat & bean seed available. Winter wheat sowings could continue throughout December and possibly January, soil conditions allowing. Traditionally, there was always an unwritten rule in tillage circles that you avoided sowing anything in December and January. This has possibly changed a little with the way our seasons have changed recently. If very good weather arrives before Christmas, the opportunity to sow winter wheat or beans should be considered but you must be extremely vigilant for bird and slug attack because crops will be slow to emerge.



## Up to date soil samples - Never more critical

By Brian Delaney - (B.Agr.Sc)

Tel: 086 044 9592

A recent change in the nitrate's directive stipulates that if you have no soil samples taken in the last 4 years, the department will assume that your soils are index 4 (very high) for Phosphorus. This reduces your allowance of chemical phosphorous to zero and rules out the use of any compound fertiliser with phosphorous (P) in it.

Soil sample results can be a great tool to help keep fertiliser costs down and maximise grass growth on your farm, but it is critical to take these soil samples now so that you have results back before you begin applying slurry/farmyard manure.

Results can be used to target fields that are low in P & K with these organic manures and also give you more opportunities to apply lime where needed. Addressing low lime/P/K issues early in the year will mean that any fertiliser you apply will work more efficiently in building silage and grazing yields.

A soil sample is valid for 4 years, and a minimum of 1 sample for every 12 acres is needed. Please call into your local Greennans branch to organise sampling &/or to interpret existing soil analysis results if needs be.



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## CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS - 2023 -

Sat 23rd – Half Day in Rath  
and all branches.

Sun 24th to Wed 27th – Closed.

Thurs 28th, Fri 29th & Sat 30th  
– Business as usual.

Monday 1st – Closed.

Tuesday 2nd – Business as usual.

*Season's Greetings.* “As we approach the festive season, we want to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude for the trust and support you've generously given us throughout the year. Your business is much appreciated, and we are deeply thankful for the privilege of serving you. In reflecting on the past year, we're delighted to share some exciting news that wouldn't have been possible without your continued support. Because of your business, we found ourselves in a position to be nominated for the Family Business Awards. We're pleased to share that we secured second place in the Agri Family Business of the Year category, as well as clinching first place in the Best Agri Supplier of the Year at the Midlands 103 Awards. These achievements are not just accolades for our team in Grennans – they are a testament to the strength of the partnerships we've built, including the one we share with you. Your trust and loyalty have played an instrumental role in our success, and we are extremely grateful for it. Looking ahead in the coming year, please know that we are committed to continuously improving our products and services. As the holiday season unfolds, we wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, filled with warmth and happiness. Warm Regards, From all the team at J. Grennan and Sons.”

*Mark Grennan*