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Tarff Valley Ltd

Trading Together, Growing Together, Since 1903

Ten Steps To Trouble-Free Lamlac Feeding

Each year every flock will have surplus lambs to rear. According to Alan Smith from Volac, these can be successfully reared on ewe milk replacer.

quality lambs, as well as save hours of effort and hassle," he says.

"Lambs can be reared very successfully artificially and without all the inherent practical problems of fostering onto an unwilling ewe. With good husbandry, organisation and the right milk replacer such as Lamlac, there's no doubt you can produce good

He points out that Lamlac ewe milk replacer can be fed whenever it is necessary to rear a lamb away from the ewe, but it is important to follow these ten fundamentals for best results.

1. Ideally, any lambs that are to be artificially reared should be removed from the ewe within 48 hours of birth
2. As with all newborn lambs, the first priority is to disinfect their navels and ensure every surplus lamb receives sufficient colostrum (50ml/kg liveweight per feed and a minimum of 210ml/kg liveweight within the first 24 hours). This feed provides essential nutrition, as well as the important antibodies to help newborns fight off infections.
3. Whenever you start on a new batch of Lamlac ALWAYS re-check the weight of a scoop of milk powder and or re-calibrate your machine to ensure that the right concentration of milk is being fed.
4. Lamlac is designed to be a complete diet providing the lamb with all the energy and nutrients it needs. Mix 200g of Lamlac with water to make up one litre of mixed milk (20% concentration). i.e. 200g Lamlac + 800ml water = 1 litre of milk. Add Lamlac to one third of the required volume warm or cold water and mix thoroughly. Top up with fresh warm or cold water to give the final dilution and whisk lightly. Always re-close the Lamlac bag securely after use.
5. If feeding lambs via a thermostatically controlled bucket feeder or an automatic feeder, start them on warm milk (39°C) until trained. Training usually takes 1-3 days. Once lambs are trained allow ad lib access to milk. Once lambs are sucking and drinking well the temperature can be reduced to 18-20°C. Bucket feeders and automatic machines should be cleaned daily and calibrated at least once a week, and between batches of milk powder.
6. Lambs reared artificially will also need constant access to fresh, clean water at a height that is accessible at all times. Top quality creep feed should also be readily available to lambs and be offered fresh at least once a day, with refusals being fed to older stock (e.g. ewes). Do not feed ad lib roughage (e.g. hay) during milk feeding as this can depress creep feed intake and will delay weaning.
7. For optimum rearing results, don't keep more than 25 lambs in a pen and keep similar ages and sizes together. Lambs must also have access to a clean, dry straw-bedded lying area which is well ventilated but draught-free. Check your lambs at least twice a day.
8. Maintain scrupulous hygiene protocols. For example, all feeding equipment should be thoroughly cleaned each day and disinfected twice weekly.
9. Weaning is accomplished most successfully when Lamlac is withdrawn abruptly, provided lambs are old enough and the intake of solid food is adequate. The lamb should have been eating solid food for at least 10 days and be making use of the drinking water supply. Weaning from restricted feeding can also be done by gradually reducing the milk given over the last week. As a guide, lambs should be at least 2.5 times birth weight (9-10kg), consuming 250g per day solid feed and at least 35 days old for weaning to be successful.
10. Lamlac is also suitable for feeding to goats at a mixing rate of 150g per litre of mixed milk.

Newsletter

We hope our customers had a great Christmas and New Year!

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY!
On Friday 15th December the staff throughout all Tarff stores wore their Christmas jumpers to help raise money for Save the Children. We're very pleased to say we raised £110.01 for the charity.



Country UF Lambing Essentials

Under the banner of Country UF, United Farmers, (of which Tarff was a founding member), offers a diverse product portfolio. The Country UF range of products has been researched and developed with key manufacturers. If you are not already benefitting from these products, why not check out the performance compared to your usual brand? Pricing is competitive and quality strictly monitored.

Newborn Lamb 5 in 1

For use at birth, following digestive upsets and at times of stress	To kickstart and aid new-born lambs
Convenient size bottle and easy-to-use dispenser	High levels of available energy
Added vitamins to aid thriftiness and egg powder for a healthy gut.	Available as liquid, capsule, powder and paste.



Country UF Colostrum

Contains probiotics which physically exclude harmful pathogens from attaching to the gut wall.	Fortified with egg powder to supplement the high level of natural colostrum.
Contains vitamins A, D3 & E to counter common deficiencies in lambs.	High levels of easy-absorbable energy
Formulated to mix easily and sealed in a foil sachet for preservation of nutrients.	Available 12 x 50g, 500g, 1.25kg & 2.5kg.

Twin Lamb 4 in 1



For use at first sign of fatigue and in cases of twin lamb disease	Formulated for the ewe close to lambing
High levels of available energy	Added vitamins and trace elements to counteract deficiencies due to stress of pregnancy
Appetite stimulants to encourage feeding	Available: 500ml bottle

See in store for the full range.



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Join us,
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CELEBRATING 30 YEARS AT GLENLUCE!



Our Glenluce Store has been open for 30 years! Ronnie Laverie, featured above, has also been with the store since it opened. Ronnie is a vital part of the Tarff Team and a very well liked & respected member of the local community. Many congratulations!

Longtown Blending Plant

We're excited to announce that our new blending plant at Longtown is now OPEN! Featuring 13 bays, our capacity to blend feeds has increased significantly.

We're now turning our attention to the shop and give it a brand-new look! To keep an eye on the latest Tarff updates, visit the 'News' page on our website and Facebook page.



Santa steals the 'Tarffie' limelight!



Thank you to Mark Wardle, Auchenfad, New Abbey, for sending through this absolute 'Belter' of a photo! We love seeing customer Tarffies!

Accelerate calf intakes and performance

Dairy farmers around the world tell us the same thing - their calves routinely only start to eat solid feed from 2-3 weeks of age. This is not a reflection on the starter feed (calves don't recognise starch and fibre as feed in this period), but on the calf, which is designed for milk, and is a lactose-loving suckling animal for the first 3 weeks. This means calf rearers, by having limited solid feed intakes in this period are losing 2-3 weeks of rumen development time.

Calves are designed for milk, and Axcelera-C from AB Neo is a unique 40%, high lactose pellet that calves instinctively recognise as 'solid milk', eating it from day four, 2-3 weeks earlier than a starter feed. It has the same lactose content as milk but being a solid it enters the rumen where it starts to accelerate rumen development from day 4. This leads to greater dry matter intakes, providing the energy-deficient calf with more energy earlier than any other system, resulting in improvements in growth and immune response. Farmers who wean their calves on dry matter intake say their calves are achieving a significant 1.5kg of intake much earlier with Axcelera-C.

There is nothing better for calves than milk, but there is a limit to how much milk can be offered to calves, due to scour risks and calf appetite. If we could offer calves more milk safely, while they are at their most efficient, we would do. By offering Axcelera-C in addition to the existing milk program, calves are provided with 24/7 access to 'solid milk' and lactose that fuels extra growth and is also proven to reduce nutritional scours.

Over 1 million calves have used Axcelera-C and it is transforming calf performance in the USA where it is used on dedicated calf ranches that raise up to 120,000 calves a year. Tarff Valley dairy customers who have been using Axcelera-C are reporting faster growing calves, earlier and more aggressive intakes enabling earlier weaning and reductions in medication with generally stronger calves that show greater vitality. Axcelera-C replaces a starter feed completely for 3 weeks, and then is blended at 20% with starter feed until weaning.

Please contact your sales representative for more details.

AXCELERA-C
SWITCH ON LIFETIME PERFORMANCE IN COWS

Silage Additives

Believe it or not, January is the month when most silage additives are sold. Perhaps it helps to visualise the heady days of summer, away from the misery that a Scottish winter has to offer. Here are a few Q and A's to exercise the frozen brain cells.

Why would farmers use an additive?

The main reason is that an inoculant will stabilise the fermentation by decreasing the pH of the grass to around pH 4.0 as quickly as possible. This effectively 'pickles' the grass. Some inoculants will also cool the silage in the bale/clamp to ensure that the forage doesn't suffer any aerobic spoilage or moulds.

Is it worth the money?

It is generally accepted that grass silage is the most cost-effective feed we can offer our stock. Using a good quality silage additive will increase the potential feed value of our forage. Trials vary, but the general figure is that any quality additive will return at least three times its original cost, in terms of extra milk yield or daily live weight gain.

Are there any other benefits?

Yes. Trials over several years on many sites throughout the world have proven that higher forage intakes have been achieved when feeding good silage. Clamp losses are reduced allowing more of the silage to be safely fed. Some inoculants help to increase yields by making the consumed forage more digestible.

Will an additive make bad silage good?

No!

What additive should I use?

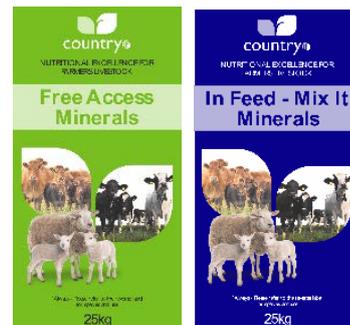
At Tarff we carry a range of inoculants suitable for any farming enterprise. We offer a solution to use on any type of stored forage be it grass, maize, wholecrop or legumes. Please contact your local Tarff salesperson for further details.

Vital Vitamin Information

We would like to notify our customers of the recent price increase of vitamins. Due to a fire in one of the facilities where vitamins are produced, prices have increased dramatically and will remain high for the short term.

To ensure we are providing the best service to our customers, we have decided to change the source of our mineral packages. Trow Nutrition will now supply us with beef, sheep and youngstock minerals under the Country UF brand.

A selection of Country UF Free Access minerals and Mix-It minerals are available. For more information, please speak to your local sales representative.



Timac Agro

Tarff Valley is now a distributor for Timac Agro. Specialists in plant and animal nutrition with extensive expertise in crop nutrition, soil conditioning and fertiliser efficiency, Timac Agro offer a specific range of fertilisers and mineral blocks.



Meet Hazel, Castle Douglas Store Manager

Hazel Highet has recently joined us as Castle Douglas store manager. Hazel was brought up on a sheep and beef farm in Southwick. Following her love for all things farm, she went on to study Animal Care followed by Veterinary Nursing at SRUC Barony Campus. Throughout her time studying, she also worked part time for Galloway Vets and latterly full time at Nithsdale Vets, predominantly small animal nursing. Hazel is looking forward to getting to know her customers and putting her previous training to good use.

