

TARFF newsletter

September 2020, Issue 45

New Milk Formula for Stressed Calves

Farmers struggling to manage persistent digestive disturbances amongst their calves now have access to a breakthrough new 100% dairy protein milk formula from Volac.

New Imunogard® has been formulated specifically for under-performing stressed calves or to meet the unique needs of calf units wrestling with a stubborn nutritional scour problem that can't be overcome by an improvement in environmental hygiene.

Volac global technical manager Ian Watson explains that the new 23% crude protein calf milk formula is vegetable protein-free, which means it is more easily digested by calves under stress.

"The protein in new Imunogard® is 100% dairy in origin and based wholly on Volac's unique concentrated whey protein Imunopro®. Some vegetable protein sources are perfectly sound for mainline milk replacers formulated for high performing fit and healthy calves, but not so ideal necessarily for a young animal already expending significant amounts of energy fighting off a disease challenge," he says.

He adds that the new product also contains a slightly higher fat content to allow for more energy to be metabolised for growth.

Additionally, Imunogard® incorporates the established hydrolysed yeast culture Celmanax from Church & Dwight to help improve calf gut function and mitigate the effect of a number of harmful pathogens.

"Proven hydrolysed yeast cultures not only provide readily digestible refined functional carbohydrates for the calf; they

also have a recognised prebiotic function. Put simply, the inclusion of Celmanax feeds the calf's beneficial gut bacteria and helps bind them to damaging bugs, such as cryptosporidia, E.coli and Salmonella spp. This stops these harmful pathogens from binding to the gut wall and taking hold to cause disease signs such as scouring," explains Mr Watson.

"For example, independent scientific trials have demonstrated that calves supplemented with Celmanax shed three times less cryptosporidium oocysts than those which were not, thus helping to reduce the spread of cryptosporidiosis. The Celmanax supplemented calves also had improved faecal and dehydration scores."

Imunogard® also benefits from the inclusion of other beneficial health supplements, as standard in Volac's Lifeguard range of calf milk formulas. For example, butyrate for its anti-inflammatory effects and ability to stimulate gut enzyme production, and the garlic-derived ingredient Gardion – known too for its natural pathogen inhibiting effects and ability to enhance immune system function.

The new calf milk formula should be mixed at the rate of 150g in every litre of water and be fed to calves according to Volac's standard growth curve recommendations.

If you would like to find out more about Imunogard®, please speak to your local Tarff Sales Representative.



The last Pre-Apprenticeship tractor training was held on 19th – 21st August by kind permission of David Nelson, Redcroft Farm, Castle Douglas. Our sincere thanks to James Gordon Ltd for providing a CLASS tractor for the training and to David Nelson for allowing the students to use his machinery and equipment for training purposes.

All students have now completed their tractor training and started their placements. Keep an eye out for the Tarff Services Facebook page to keep up to date with how our students are getting on!



Protect and store your fertiliser correctly

In light of the recent explosion in Beirut, Tarff felt it was important to send a reminder to those purchasing fertiliser to store this safely. The Government suggests you should think about:

- Restricting access to the fertiliser or the building where it is stored.
- Ensuring a trespasser would be visible if they carried out a crime.
- Making the site as resistant as possible to criminal activity.

These can be achieved by simple low-cost measures, such as storing your fertiliser in an enclosed secure shed or, if it is in an open-sided shed, covering it with a tarpaulin. You should also

remove or trim hedges or bushes around the barn and keep gates locked.

The Government also outlines a 5 point plan which can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/yvfdxz7q>.



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Janet Elliot has joined the Tarff team as a Sales Assistant in our Newtown St Boswells store. A number of our customers may already know Janet from her previous career with her links to another Agricultural business in the local area. In Janet's spare time, she enjoys riding her horse, Storm, and in the winter she clips horses. In spring time, Janet enjoys helping friends with the lambing and likes to get involved with sheep work throughout the year.



Kelly Telfer has recently joined the Tarff team as an Office Based Sales Representative. Kelly previously worked in a local Veterinary practice for 20 years and more recently as a Customer Service Advisor in the NFU office in Castle Douglas for 7 years. Kelly will be getting in touch with customers in the Stewartry and surrounding areas to ensure they have their necessary requirements. In Kelly's spare time, she enjoys taking her daughter to horse competitions which are held all over the UK! She also runs events for the BEIRC (Barstobrick Riding Centre). Kelly is looking forward to getting in touch with customers and continuing to build on customer relations.



Can Maize Silage Make up the Shortfall?

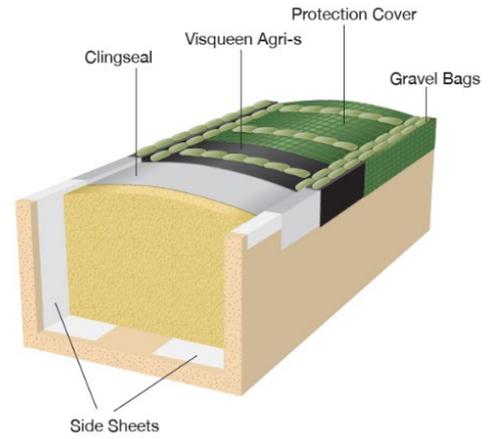
2020 has been a strange year, not just for the coronavirus pandemic, but for weather too. There have been floods and long dry spells which have had a huge effect on silage making for the season.

However, maize crops have made a very good start. To make the most of this harvest, it is recommended that following best practice will help minimise losses in the clamp and enhance the nutritive content of the crop.

Maize forage offers a high nutritional content to both dairy and beef herds, however it needs to be harvested and ensiled correctly to get the most nutritional content and reduce spoilage in the clamp. Even when the maize is harvested at the right time, the DM losses between harvest and feed out can be as high as 20-25%. This means that up to a quarter of the dry matter in your clamp could be lost due to spoilage.

Good consolidation of the clamp during ensiling is crucial. Start by using side sheets to reduce air ingress from the side walls, and fill the clamp in even layers of 10 - 15cm deep. Compact each layer as filling takes place, and aim for a target density of 250kg DM/m³. When the clamp is full, roll for ½ to 1 hour to get good compaction and then start sheeting the clamp. To get the best results, use a vacuum sheet such as Clingseal.

Clingseal is a thinner, more flexible sheet that is designed to sit directly beneath a top sheet, such as Visqueen Agri-S. This vacuum sheet clings to the clamp's surface and tucks in better at the sides to form a highly efficient oxygen barrier. This closer fit minimises air pockets to help prevent the formation of white mould, creating the right environment for a faster, more efficient fermentation process for producing high quality maize silage. Although Clingseal is thin and flexible, it has a high resistance to punctures and tears making it easier to apply.



Product	Purpose
Side Sheets	Fold over the top of the vacuum sheet to protect from spoilage.
Visqueen Agri-S	Roll out in the centre of the clamp and tuck in at the edges to give extra protection from spoilage.
Clamp Surface	Use a mesh cover, bales or mats. These should be added to give a constant pressure to the whole of the clamp's surface.

Together, the above sheets are especially good for ensiling high value, moist crops such as brewer's grains and crimped maize. These types of crops are more likely to have higher levels of spoilage that lead to lower feed intakes, and reduced conversion rates.

Using this process for maize silage can result in less loss in the clamp, higher nutritional values and increased returns from home grown forage.

Call your local Tarff store for more information about Clingseal.

CLINGSEAL

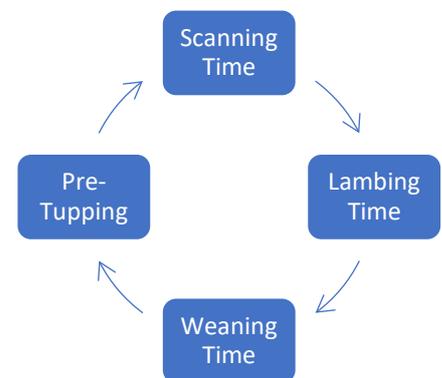
24.7 Smartrace Adult Sheep and 24.7 Smartrace Plus Adult Sheep

The key trace elements of Selenium, Iodine, Cobalt and Copper (if needed) have been shown to have a vital role in sustaining fertility, lamb vitality and overall flock health but the problem is most delivery methods cannot guarantee the necessary daily consistency over the period needed to protect fertility.

The key priority is to ensure ewes have a guaranteed and consistent supply of these key trace elements in the critical 180 days from pre-tupping to lambing. Controlled, sustained release of Iodine, Selenium and Cobalt in breeding flocks can improve lambing percentage by up to 20% and deliver significant health benefits to ewes and lambs.

The administration of one 24.7 Smartrace® Adult Sheep bolus or 24.7 Smartrace® Plus Adult Sheep bolus, if copper is needed, gives you the peace of mind that each and every ewe is receiving her recommended daily supplementation of these key trace elements for the critical 180 days from pre-tupping to lambing.

A bolus lasts 6 months, the gestation period is 5 months. Giving a ewe a bolus a month before tupping will mean that the trace element release will start to decrease around lambing. Giving a second bolus after lambing will ensure that the lamb and ewe will



continue to benefit from the bolus. If you do not wish to increase fertility by using the bolus pre-tupping, using one around scanning time will mean that the ewe is covered over the lambing period and the lamb benefits until weaning, when the lamb boluses could be used to continue the optimal growth of the lamb.



Product Range