

Pre-Apprenticeship Programme

Applications for the Pre-Apprenticeship Programme are now open! In a nutshell, the programme is a 26-week paid work experience for 16 – 20 year olds looking to start their careers within the agricultural industry.

We're looking for mentors to think about taking on a young person and sign up for this year's intake. A mentor will guide and support them through the programme giving them the best experience possible.

To find out more about the Pre-Apprenticeship programme, please visit the Pre-Apprenticeship page on our website.

<http://www.tarffvalley.co.uk/pre-apprenticeship/>
Application forms for students and registering interest forms for mentors can be found here.

Case IH Voucher

Register now and get a voucher (net amount) £2,500 for a front loader ready tractor and loader, or front linkage, when purchasing a new Luxxum 120. Offer applicable when a loader model no LRZ 100 MSL, LRZ 120 MSL or LRZ 125 MSL is purchased at a Case IH dealer.

This is valid until 30th June 2021.

Speak to your local Case IH dealership for more information!



TARFF newsletter

January 2021, Issue 49

Profitability and Sustainability with AminoMax proteins

Sustainability is the buzzword that simply won't go away. Milk processors and retailers are evaluating their supply chain as to its environmental impact and are seeking to improve sustainability. The use of soya in dairy cow diets has come under scrutiny, with some retailers banning its use and many others asking farmers to record and monitor its use.

Although many find the removal of soya from diets to be a daunting prospect, it is important to remember that cows do not have a requirement for particular ingredients – rather, they have a requirement for nutrients which can be provided by a range of ingredients.

Therefore, when removing soya from a diet, it is important to ensure that the amino acid requirements of the dairy cow are being met by alternative sources of high-quality bypass protein, and energy supply, rumen degradable protein and bypass protein are carefully balanced.

AminoMax-M is Carrs Billington's unique rumen protected rapeseed meal with an exceptional amino acid profile, achieved by heating rapeseed meal in the presence of sugar and steam. Sugars bind to the protein and block digestion in the rumen, before the acidic environment of the abomasum unlocks the protein from the sugar and allows full digestion of essential amino acids. This process means that AminoMax-M supplies a higher quantity of rumen bypass protein than normal soya bean meal and is therefore a viable alternative for dairy farmers looking to remove or reduce their reliance on soya.

AminoMax-M is a free-flowing meal, which is available in bags or bulk as a straight or as an ingredient in a bespoke formulated blend and is also included in a range of Carrs Billington's dairy compounds.

Speak to your local Sales Representative to discuss the various Carrs compound feeds which Tarff supplies.

Rearing Surplus Lambs

Surplus lambs can now be reared very efficiently off their mothers and without the problems associated with fostering onto an unwilling ewe. With good husbandry, organisation and the right milk replacer there's no doubt you can produce good quality lambs, as well as save hours of effort and hassle.

It does seem that more sheep producers are starting to appreciate the benefits of machine-rearing lambs, and to be as accepting as professional calf rearers about the latest technology available.

Farmers are undoubtedly attracted by the labour-saving benefits and the fact that machine-rearing frees up time to focus on other important jobs. However, it's important to appreciate that machine rearing is not a substitute for good husbandry. Sound hygiene is crucial and lamb pens must be draught-free, and well drained and bedded to keep lambs as warm and dry as possible. Clean, fresh water also needs to be available along with creep feed (18% crude protein) offered ad lib to encourage early intake.

Rearing a surplus lamb – how much milk replacer will you need?

Feeding a surplus lamb enough ewe milk replacer is the key to healthy, profitable growth. A single lamb reared artificially to weaning (at an average of 35 days of age) will require 9.5kg of Lamlac (equating to 47.5 litres of reconstituted ewe milk replacer).

To make a litre of milk, mix 200g of Lamlac with 800ml of water.

Age of lamb (days)	Volume of Lamlac to be fed per day
1-3	1 litre (split into 4-5 separate feeds)
4-7	1 litre (split into 4 separate feeds)
8-35 (weaning)	1.5 litres (split into 4 separate feeds initially; reducing to 2 separate feeds until weaning)

Do I need to feed anything alongside Lamlac?

Yes. Lambs should have access to fresh water, roughage and a good quality creep feed at all times to encourage rumen development. Lambs will begin to nibble on creep feed at 7-10 days of age. Consumption will be low to begin with and offering small amounts and keeping the creep feed refreshed at least once a day will encourage intake.

Successful weaning

To wean surplus lambs effectively, they should be:

- A minimum of 2.5 times their birthweight (9-10kg)
- A minimum of 35 days old
- Eating 250g of solid feed per day for 10 days

Abrupt weaning is recommended because it reduces the risk of digestive upsets associated with gradual weaning.

Nutrient Management Plans

Gas Bottles

Recently, it has become more apparent that fewer customers are returning their used gas cannisters when they arrive in store to replenish supplies. This is resulting in reduced stocks of the various sizes of cannisters being available to customers, which leads to increased costs if Tarff has to source new supplies. As you will be aware, old cannisters can be refilled if the bottle remains in good condition.

If you would like to purchase gas and have previously bought gas cannisters from Tarff, please bring your old gas cannister back, otherwise, we will have to add on a charge to the new bottle(s) being purchased.

If you have a delivery of gas, our delivery driver will be more than happy to collect the empty cannisters and bring these back, helping you avoid any charges which you may incur. Please notify us when you order that there are containers to collect.

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Nutrient Management Planning enables your farm business to target nutrient inputs to optimise plant performance and crop response. By properly balancing the use of slurry / manure with the application of the right amount of the right type of synthetic fertiliser, you can more efficiently meet the crop's needs, resulting in economic and environmental benefits.

Making sure that the plant gets the nutrients it needs, when they are needed, avoids either undernourishing some areas of the farm or unnecessary overapplication in others. If the plant does not receive sufficient nourishment it will underperform. On the flip side, nutrients not taken up by the plant result not only in a financial waste but can lead to environmental issues such as leaching or losses to the atmosphere through volatilisation. A report in 2019 states that in 2017, almost 50% of Scottish nitrogen application was not taken up by the target crop and was lost to the environment (Lampkin, Smith and Pade, 2019).

Nutrient Management Planning starts with comprehensive soil sampling to determine the base level

of nutrient availability. Fields should be tested regularly, ideally every 4-5 years. Your Plan will take into account a range of factors building on the soil analysis including soil type, rainfall, cropping history, desired crop yield, nutrient availability from organic manure and price of fertiliser.

A good Nutrient Management Plan forms the basis for sound economic and environmental crop production. Your Plan is unique to your farm and your Tarff adviser is on hand to help guide you through understanding and implementing the outcome. It is a living document, in the same way that your crops of grass or cereals are living, and should therefore ideally be updated on an annual basis to reflect changes in cropping, weather and plant needs.

If you are interested and would like to find out more, please speak to your local Sales Representative.

Energise Your Ewes Pre-Lambing

It's well known that ewes in late pregnancy are particularly prone to twin lamb disease which results in additional unwanted stress for both ewe and farmer at an already busy time of the year.

Around 70% of lamb growth takes place in the last two months of pregnancy. It is therefore vital to ensure that the ewe's nutritional requirements are met during this time. Twin and triplet bearing ewes have a particularly high demand for energy, especially glucose, and as they get closer to lambing this demand increases. If these energy demands are not met, this is when ewes can suffer from twin lamb disease.

ED&F MAN Liquid Products
ESTD 1793

Molasses Blends

The Essential Ingredient

- Sheepmol is a specialist high energy molasses blend containing glycerine
- Helps to significantly reduce the risk of 'Twin Lamb' disease
- Sheepmol is a nutrient dense, high energy liquid feed with a low feed rate
- Low substitution allows better use of dry feed
- Lick feeders offer a simple and easy feeding system
- Free access feeding reduces stress and competition
- Wide range of products, lick feeders & storage options available

RESEARCH PROVEN

Want to know more?
Tel: 01557 820247

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Twin lamb disease is typically caused when the dietary energy supply is inadequate, and ewes begin to metabolise their own body fat to try and meet these high energy demands. This leads to an excessive build-up of ketones to toxic levels in the body, and body condition loss.

In order to reduce the risk of twin lamb disease, a high energy, nutrient-dense molasses based liquid feed can be fed. A low feed-rate liquid feed offers an easy feeding system via a wheel lick feeder. This helps to encourage intakes particularly with shy feeders, as well as reducing competition and stress at feeding.

Molasses based liquid feeds are available from Tarff from 1 tonne upwards, supplied in an IBC container or delivered in bulk loads. A wide range of free access wheel lick feeders are also offered from 35 to 250 litres, with discounts available on multiple purchases.

Liquid feeds should always be fed as part of a well-balanced diet, for further information please contact your local Tarff Sales Representative.