

Happy New Year!

We hope you had an enjoyable time over the festivities. Pictured below is members of the team from the Ringford Office sporting their Christmas jumpers whilst raising money for Save The Children. A total of £64.80 was raised.



Consultancy Services

With spring just around the corner, it's time to prepare for your 2025 IACS application.

Did you know that Tarff's Consultancy team is able to assist with your application?

If you're interested, please contact:

Hannah Dykes

Senior Sustainability & Advisory Consultant
hannah.dykes@tarffvalley.co.uk
or call 07586 126369

Alternatively, you can reach out to another team member who would be happy to assist:

Natalie Cartner

natalie.cartner@tarffvalley.co.uk
or call 07523 271526

Louise Hastings

louise.hastings@tarffvalley.co.uk
or call 07799 765319



*Louise Hastings missing from photo

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TARFF

AGRICULTURAL MERCHANTS

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newsletter

Ewes Returning from Winter Grazing: a critical period in sheep management

The transition of ewes returning from winter grazing is a critical period in sheep management. This process requires careful planning and execution to ensure the well-being of the animals and the efficiency of farm operations.

Specific Care

When ewes return from winter grazing, they need thorough health checks to identify any issues that may have arisen during their time away. Returning ewes require specific care to transition smoothly and prepare for lambing.

- **Health Assessment:** Conduct comprehensive health checks for signs of injury or illness.
- **Body Condition Scoring (BCS):** Aim for a BCS of 2.5 to 3.5 and adjust feeding practices accordingly.
- **Vaccinations and Treatments:** Administer necessary vaccinations and treatments for common diseases and parasites.
- **Hoof Care:** Regularly inspect and trim hooves to prevent lameness.

Feed Requirements

Proper nutrition is crucial, especially as ewes approach lambing. Ensure the balanced diet meets the ewes' energy, protein and mineral requirements and they have sufficient feed and water space to take in their allocated amount.

Forage Quality	Supplementary Feeding	Mineral Supplements	Water Availability
Provide high-quality hay, silage or fresh pasture.	Supplement with concentrates, grains, or specially formulated sheep feed as needed.	Address deficiencies with calcium, phosphorus, magnesium and trace minerals.	Ensure access to clean, fresh water.

Quarantine and Parasite Control

Quarantine measures are essential to prevent disease spread and control internal and external parasites, particularly anthelmintic-resistant worms.

Quarantine Protocol

Group 4 and 5 anthelmintics, such as STARTECT Dual Active, are crucial in quarantine treatments. By following these protocols and using effective anthelmintics like Startect, farmers can protect their flocks from resistant worms, ensuring the health and productivity of their sheep.

- **Isolation Period:** Quarantine ewes for 2 to 4 weeks.
- **Initial Treatment:** Treat with Startect upon arrival.
- **Yarding:** Keep ewes in a yard for 24 to 48 hours post-treatment.

- **Monitoring:** Conduct regular health checks during quarantine.
- **Biosecurity Measures:** Use separate equipment and disinfect facilities.
- **Turnout to Dirty Pasture:** Move ewes to previously grazed pasture after yarding

Role of STARTECT Dual active sheep drench

Startect is a dual-active wormer that contains derquantel (a Group 5-SI) and abamectin (a Group 3-ML). This combination is highly effective against a broad spectrum of worms, including those resistant to one or more other anthelmintic groups. This makes it an essential tool in delaying the development of anthelmintic resistance in flocks.

PROTECT	Unique combination in an effective, short acting oral sheep drench that helps protect your flock from resistance.
PROLONG	Newest class of sheep drench and the only one to be released in combination for improved product sustainability.
PERFORM	Improve your lamb performance by using an effective drench.

By ensuring specific care, proper nutrition, and effective quarantine protocols, farmers can optimise ewe health and lambing outcomes. Speak to a Registered Animal Medicines Advisor in your local Tarff Valley branch for more information on Startect.

Optimise Calving Success with Proper Nutrition

A successful calving period depends on cows having a body condition score of 2.5–3 at calving. Fit, not fat cows are essential, as excess fat can obstruct the birth canal and reduce appetite pre and post-calving. Lower feed intake pre-calving can decrease magnesium and calcium levels, leading to issues like "Slow Calving Syndrome" or milk fever.

Maintaining blood magnesium levels is crucial for calcium absorption and mobilisation, reducing the risk of milk fever. Crystalyx Pre-Calver supports this by providing highly palatable magnesium salts, essential trace elements, and high levels of vitamin E and selenium to boost immunity, calf health, and reduce retained afterbirth.

Introduce Crystalyx Pre-Calver 6–8 weeks before calving, with an average intake of 200g/cow/day. Contact your local Tarff Valley Sales Representative or call 01557 820247 for more details.



Get geared up for lambing 2025 with the UK's No.1 dedicated Pre-Lambing product and support The Pink Ribbon Foundation with Rumenco's Limited Edition PINK Lamb & Ewe bucket!

LIFELINE Lamb & Ewe is a unique specialist pre-lambing feed and mineral bucket designed to benefit both the ewe and unborn lamb.

Optimise colostrum production & quality
Trial proven to increase colostrum IgG levels by 25%* (P < 0.01)

Target body condition score
Ideal BCS at lambing is 3.0 to 3.5 for lowland breeds and 2.5 to 3.0 for hill breeds

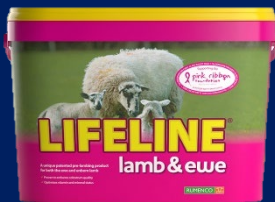
Provide high-quality protein
Good supply of by-pass protein (DUP) required to boost colostrum quality and milk yield and udder development

Minimise risk of metabolic
Provide sufficient energy to minimise the risk of twin lamb disease

Support immunity and lamb vigour
LIFELINE contains the full package of key trace elements and vitamins required to support lamb development, ewe and lamb immunity and lamb vigour

For every limited edition pink 22.5kg bucket sold, 15p will be donated to the Pink Ribbon Foundation.

Speak to your local Tarff Valley Sales Representative or call 01558 720247 for more information on LIFELINE Lamb & Ewe buckets.



*Trial carried out at SRUC

Get Ahead with SKAi

Although silage season is still a few months away, now is the perfect time to think about tackling docks in your grassland and registering your interest in our retrainable boom spot spraying system, SKAi, to get ahead. Want to secure your spot for spring? Contact Scott Gallacher or Colin Prentice on 01557 820247 or complete our registration form - <https://forms.office.com/e/fQivHDDUBH>. Taking action early can significantly improve the quality and productivity of your forage.

Mounted on a tractor, the SKAi system employs advanced camera technology to precisely identify and target docks, ensuring effective control without affecting the surrounding grass or clover.

Key Benefits of SKAi Spot Spraying:

- **Accurate Dock Control:** *Advanced cameras ensure precise targeting of docks.*
- **Clover-Safe Technology:** *Protects valuable clover in your fields.*
- **Reduced Environmental Impact:** *Minimises chemical use by spraying only where needed. For the 2024 season, on average, we saw an 81% reduction in chemical usage.*
- **Grass-Friendly:** *Avoids stunting grass growth across the field after spraying.*

Proactively managing docks in the spring can lead to healthier, more productive fields come silage season. Speak to your local Tarff Valley Sales Representative or contact Scott or Colin for details.



Explore our Sheep Feed Options

As announced in our last newsletter, we're delighted to introduce our new in-house ewe feed range. Building on the success of our dairy, beef and calf feeds, this range is expertly formulated by Tarff Valley and manufactured by a trusted third party, with deliveries handled by our own transport.

Sheep Feed Options:

Tarff Valley Emerald Ewe – Rolls ONLY:

A high-spec, 18% crude protein feed with 44g/kg DUP for superior milk yield, ewe condition, and colostrum quality. Made with premium ingredients for exceptional energy levels.

Available in bulk, totes and 25kg bags.

Tarff Valley Diamond Ewe Rolls & Nuts:

A versatile high-energy feed offering great value, with a balanced starch blend to support rumen health and vigorous lambs.

Available in bulk, totes and 25kg bags.

Mercury Range – Rolls & Nuts

A proven performer with 19% crude protein to optimise production, milk yield and rumen health.

Available in bulk only.

Please note: the lambing season is an extremely busy time for us. Orders for sheep feed **must** be placed at least 3-4 days in advance. Call us early to ensure you're ready for the lambing period! Speak to your Tarff Valley Sales Representative for further details.



Essential Support Services for Tarff Valley Members

Tarff Services has introduced a new initiative, Farm Services. As a member of Tarff Valley, you can benefit from a variety of resources tailored to support your farming business.

24/7 Employment Law Advice

Receive expert guidance on agricultural employment matters, from seasonal hiring and contracts to workplace policies and upcoming legislative changes. This service helps you stay compliant and prepared for workforce-related challenges.

Free Webinars & Regional Events

Stay informed with free regional seminars and live webinars led by industry experts. Gain valuable insights, practical advice and networking opportunities to keep your business competitive in a fast-changing industry.

Commercial Legal Support

Get tailored assistance with key legal issues such as property leases, land access disputes and data protection. This support ensures you can manage challenges effectively and protect your business operations.

These services are designed to help you navigate the complexities of modern farming, giving you the tools and confidence to focus on running a successful enterprise.

When you first sign up, get 30 **FREE** minutes of advice from one of the trusted consultants.

For more information about these resources, call **Tracey McEwan** at Tarff Services on 01557 820247 and our team will be happy to assist you.

