Keeping your cool

With the great forecast we have ahead of us this summer, it is prudent to consider how this might affect the performance of your livestock!

Let's look at the practical steps you can take to minimise the stress that heat can bring to your livestock!

Water is key - Cows need plenty of clean, fresh water especially in hot conditions. Make sure you have plenty of trough space, that troughs refill quickly and are clean. Cows have a far more sensitive sense of smell than humans. Take a look at the water in the troughs, put your head down and smell it. If you wouldn't drink it, your cows definitely won't. We offer a wide variety of quick fill, circular and double water troughs to suit all set ups.

Graze at night - keeping cows in by day and grazing by night will protect cows from the highest temperatures and improve grazing intakes. In one case, this simple change increased yields by three litres per cow

Improve ventilation and air flow

- leaving doors open and removing every other Yorkshire board can greatly improve air flow to cool cows. We stock fans and clippers to help reduce the heat stress on livestock

Avoid slug feeding of concentrates - increasing the value of outside feeds can help reduce peaks in temperature

Call us today for more information



Maintaining growth rates in grazing livestock

Maintaining growth rates in grazing livestock, whether lambs, growing cattle, or breeding stock in need of condition, is critical. With feed prices at all-time highs, there has never been a better time to review your system to ensure you don't fall into the common pitfalls that can prevent animals from performing to their full potential.

Grazed grass is a low-cost feed for ruminants and the preferred option, as compound feeds are unlikely to become more affordable any time soon. As you drive through the West Country, you can't help but notice sheep and cattle contentedly grazing. But are lambs going to hit the target market on time, releasing late season grazing for the ewes?

Will beef cattle grow fast enough to meet market demand? And will suckler cows and ewes be in good enough condition to rebreed?

Good grazing management is critical to ensuring both grass quality and quantity, but even if you have plenty of grazing ahead of your stock, other factors must be managed to ensure they grow to their full potential.

Trace Elements

Trace elements are vital to keep growth rates on the right projection. Grazed grass does not always contain adequate levels of trace elements and often made worse as the grazing quality decrease later in the season. For many farmers locally, Iodine and selenium, known to boost lamb growth can be in short supply and providing an additional supply, such as Agrimin's All Trace boluses will, have a positive affect on growth rates.

Fly Control

With the peak of summer upon us, flies are at their most problematic for livestock. Growth rates can be severely reduced, especially with blowfly strike cases in sheep and cattle. Detecting these issues and identifying the appropriate treatment is a guaranteed course to keeping growth rates up.

Parasites

Worms and fluke can have a massive impact on the condition of breeding livestock, reducing the performance of their reproductive abilities.

Our top tip would be to keep livestock away from wet areas that are more likely to harbour fluke.

We provide a faecal egg count service which is perfect for identifying worm burden and with our RAMA trained staff we can advise on the best course of action.





Speak to our team today on 01409 259 600



Electric Fencing

The heavier the better - is what our clients tend to say. Because, or so goes the thinking, with a heavy-duty energizer, all is well with the power on the fence.

Unfortunately, it doesn't work that way. We often see an energizer that is too powerful connected to fencing that is not properly maintained. Shame, because you don't benefit from the optimum performance of your energizer and your animals can still outsmart you and break out.

So, check the power on your fencing regularly, but particularly check that the basics of your fencing are right. Does the heart of your fencing beat fast enough for your paddock?

Tip I

Always use original earth stakes

instead of old iron stakes. That way we can guarantee the best possible earth.

Tip 2

Do you not know how much earthing is needed for your specific energiser? Gallagher's guideline is to use **2 meter stakes** per joule.

Check our website for a complete overview of energisers and our earthing advice.



Call Harpers Farm Supplies today or visit www.farmersdirect.co.uk for more information.









RUMISTART GREEN

A FAST ACTING, SUSTAINABLE, VEGETABLE ORIGIN PROPYLENE GLYCOL BASED, COMPLEMENTARY LIQUID FEED.



- IS A NEWER ALTERNATIVE TO 'MONO PROPYLENE GLYCOL' FEEDS, WHICH ARE FOSSIL FUEL BASED, CURRENTLY IN USE.
- CONTAINS ESSENTIAL VOLATILE FATTY ACIDS & OTHER IMPORTANT NUTRIENTS, INCLUDING SORBITOL FOR ENERGY INTAKE & AROMATIC SUBSTANCES TO AID DIGESTIVE PALATABILITY.
- CAN HELP TO REDUCE INSTANCES OF KETOSIS IN DAIRY COWS & OTHER RUMINANTS.
- CAN ASSIST IN BOOSTING LACTATION, ESPECIALLY AROUND CALVING.



- PROMOTES RUMEN FERMENTATION IN THE GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT & ENERGY FOR THE LIVER. HELPS TO STIMULATE RUMINAL ACTIVITY, THUS PROMOTING INCREASED DIETARY INTAKE.
- CAN BE USED IN ROBOTIC FEEDING SYSTEMS & TOP-DRESSING FORAGES.

TO FIND OUT MORE OR TO ORDER RUMISTART GREEN, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL KERSIA RUMINANT AREA SALES MANAGER OR CALL OUR LOCKERBIE OFFICE: +44 (0) 1576 205 480 OR EMAIL: ENOUIRIES@KERSIA-GROUP.COM.

Our Calving Essentials

Pre Calving

At Calving

Post Calving

In the weeks before calving, the muscles in dry cows soften to allow the calf to be born. So, prior to this stage would be the opportune time to foot trim dry cows, as well as stock up on supplies for the calving period

Whilst most cows are able to calf on their own, others, especially first-time calvers may need a helping hand. We have quality products that will ensure an easy birth, reducing the stress for the cow and calf

Once a calf has been born it is vital to provide them with colostrum, from the mother within the first 6 hours of life. The first of the mothers milk is full of antibodies and provides the calf with their immunity. If this is not possible our range of Volac colostrum are stocked in store

Recommended Products:

- ✓ Four Cows foot solution
- ✓ Buckets
- ✓ MF Eliminator Mix
- ✓ Pre Calver Bucket



Recommended Products:

- ✓ Calving Aid
- ✓ Calving Ropes
- ✓ Gloves
- ✓ Teisen Uddermint
- ✓ Fresh Start
- ✓ Stomach Bag



Recommended Products:

- √ Trusti-Tuber
- ✓ Volac Colostrum
- ✓ Milkivit Energiser milk replacer
- ✓ Milk Bottles and Teats
- ✓ Calf |ackets
- ✓ Calf Feeders
- ✓ Hutches and Igloo
- ✓ Scour formulas

Shop in store and online at farmersdirect.co.uk



Shows and Events

Come and see us at this year's shows, our mobile shop will be exhibiting at some of the shows across the county. Don't forget to visit our website for our range of products

www.farmersdirect.co.uk

Date	Event	Location
Saturday 9th July	Liskeard Show	Merrymeet, PL14 3LE
Saturday 23rd July	Mid Devon Show	Chettiscombe, Tiverton
Monday 25th July	Woolsery Show	Clovelly Court, Clovelly EX39 5SY
Thursday 28th July	Launceston Show	Kennards House, Launceston, PL15 7EZ
Wednesday 3rd August	North Devon Show Mobile Shop	Umberleigh, EX37 9DX
Thursday 4th August	Honiton Show	Gittisham, Honiton, EX14 3AW
Wednesday 10th August	Camelford Show	Marshgate, Camelford, PL32 9YN
Thursday 11th August	Okehampton Show Mobile Shop	Okehampton, EX20 ISW
Thursday 25th August	Holsworthy Show Mobile Shop	Killatree, Holsworthy, EX22 6LP









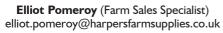
Store Open Times

Monday-Friday 8.00am-5.30pm Saturday 8.30am-4.00pm

Contact Details

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