



CROP PRODUCTION  
ANIMAL HEALTH &  
SEED SPECIALISTS

Food from thought

Jan 2020

# Breakfast News

## Best wishes for the New Year

From all the team here at BCW Agriculture we would like to thank you for your custom and support during 2019, yet another challenging year!

We are here to help advise and support you in what is going to be a potentially challenging 2020 spring and summer season! Here's hoping Autumn 2020 will be kinder!!



### Secure Covers + Windbreaks

With a few months left before the hopeful guarantee of warmer, kinder weather ensuring sheds are insulated and protected from harsh weather is still of relevance at present. The flexibility to raise and lower a wind break allows for flexible ventilation control ensuring maximum insulation with improved environmental disease management.

BCW have access to a wide range of products from Secure Covers. Call the office or talk to your Agronomist to find out more!

**SECURE COVERS®**  
SILAGE COVERS & WINDBREAKS

### Maize Starter Fertiliser and Establishment

Maize, despite its large seed is a lazy establisher. It needs driving out of the ground and whilst manures and slurry's form the basis of nutrient supply they aren't necessarily enough to act as a starter product.

Soil testing for pH alongside the base nutrients and discussions with our FACTS qualified agronomists will help understand your maize crops requirements. **BCW** have a wealth of experience, knowledge and products to support maize establishment helping you achieve maximum yields and potential earlier maturity!

### Maize Variety Watch 2020

**LG Glory:-** With one of the highest starch yields on the recommended list and a high yield to boot, this variety is designed to produce milk from forage for any dairy system. Its digestibility and feed quality are top of its field!

**P7034:-** P7034 can be grown on all but the coldest sites. The dent x dent breeding improves the speed and availability of starch after a short ensiling period, perfect for when you need to open the clamp earlier than expected!

**KWS Calvini:-** KWS Calvini gives exceptionally high dry matter yields, early maturity (MC10), high starch yields and a high kernel content. This makes KWS Calvini a well balanced and high performing variety!

**LG Cardif:-** A high yielding variety best sown at 42,000seeds/acre (Higher if on 50cm spacing's), this variety has an indeterminate cob allowing for larger cob sizes if growing conditions are favourable. This is achieved through the plants own biological processes and by driving performance from applied nutrition. This variety suits high maize inclusion diets, its starch level allows for performance to be maintained without spicing up the diet! A variety for lighter south facing sites this variety has the ability to drive yield and performance!



## Dates for your Diary!

**Thurs 9th January**

**The office will be closed to allow a stock take to be undertaken**

### **NROSO Course Dates**

**Fri 17<sup>th</sup> January**

**Market Drayton (Fully Booked)**

**Fri 28<sup>th</sup> February**

**Market Drayton**

**Please call the office to reserve your space!**

## Bills Topical Tip

With the horrendous autumn there is still much ground not drilled or failed. It is too late to drill winter barley, but not too late for winter wheat. Most varieties have a cut-off sowing date of end January, but some are later, so check or ask.

If you drill wheat in January it needs to go into a reasonable seedbed, not too fine and use plenty of seed. (425-450 seeds/m or around 212-225kg/ha.) Protect against slugs if necessary and be very wary of rooks and starlings as they can devastate late drilled crops as they germinate. If in doubt, please ask!



## Zermex LA injection Ewes and Lambs

Protect your lambs by treating ewes at or around lambing. From two weeks pre-lambing until six weeks post-lambing ewes are more likely to shed worm eggs due to decreased immunity. This is known as the 'spring rise' and can contaminate the pasture and greatly affect lambs. Reducing the risk of lambs becoming infected reduces the disease risk and allows lambs to thrive. If treating ewes, not all ewes may need worming for example, fit single bearing ewes. It is always important to treat the right animal with the right dose of the right product at the right time and in the right way!



## Optilix High Energy

Optilix High Energy buckets are designed to deliver high levels of energy and protein.

These buckets are perfect for pre/post lambing to boost ewe health and help reduce the risk of twin lamb disease and poor early lamb vigour post lambing.

The buckets come in 20kg or 80kg making them versatile for feeding in a variety of situations.

Optilix High Energy will deliver quality helping ensure you maximise your flock health this lambing time!



## Pre-Lambing Animal Health Care

Early lambing will soon be commencing with ewe health being the primary focus. Ensuring ewes are vaccinated against clostridial diseases is vital to ensure lambs are not exposed to deadly diseases leading to excessive mortality rates. Get your ewes onto the Heptavac scheme and remember to provide booster jabs each year.

Nutrition is also vital to ensure ewes maintain optimum health. Under-nourished ewes will not be able to support lamb growth leading to weaker lambs, abortions and problem lambs that become a costly expense to the enterprise. Using bolus's will help reduce the risk of nutrient stress on the ewe ensuring smooth lambing performance. Don't forget milk powder for lambs that are struggling to get going. Using Lamb-force will give lambs the best start to life!

