

Focus

Our Informative Quarterly Newsletter
Issue 4 **Winter 2018**

Main Story

Minimum Input for Maximum Output

Husband and wife team Charlie and Jane McAllister, from Ceitheir Gaoithe Farm in Sliderry on the Isle of Arran are enjoying the benefits of their “easy care rearing system”. With 600 breeding ewes and 110 suckler cows the couple outwinter all livestock, with lambing and calving starting the first and last weeks in April respectively.

“We have 250 Blackface and 350 Easy Care ewes along with a mixture of pure Highland cows, Shorthorn crosses and Saler cows” explained Mr McAlister.

“Everything is kept outside over the winter with the livestock having access to variable qualities of pasture. The Highlands graze the rough hill ground, the Shorthorn crosses graze the mediocre ground and the Saler cows have the best grazing.”

“Due to the nature of our system we need to offer supplementation when forage quality and availability starts to decline. Every 2-3 years we have our forage analysed by Scotmin, this helps to ensure we are offering the correct level of supplementation.”

“From the start of November we introduce round bale silage and top dress this with MEGAMINS Cattle, we also give the cattle and sheep access to ProPlus Complete Feed Licks to ensure 24 hour supplementation”.

ProPlus Complete is a high energy feed tub containing 16% protein and a full complement

of vitamins, minerals and trace elements that can be fed to both ewes and cows mid-gestation. MEGAMINS Cattle is perfect for balancing forage based diets and contains a full range of vitamins to supplement both youngstock and mature cows.

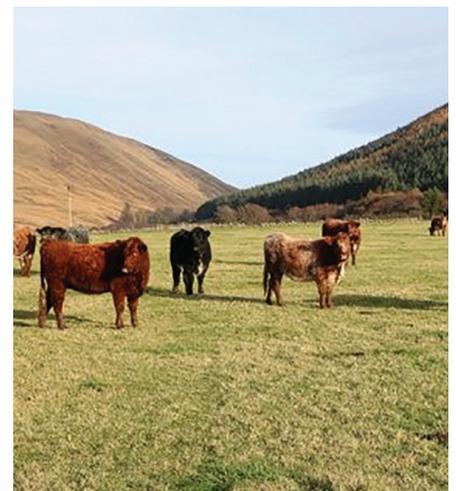
The MEGASTART, ProPlus and MEGAMINS products complement our system and breeding programme perfectly

“Before having our forage analysed we found it could be a bit hit or miss when it came to the spring time, the supplementation we were offering was not always ideal, meaning a few animals would lose body condition, ultimately resulting in some issues when it came to lambing and calving”.

“Over the last few years we have introduced MEGASTART products to both ewes and cows in the 4-6 weeks prior to them giving birth. The last 2 years have been particularly pleasing as we have had no assisted calving’s and have almost completely eradicated the need to assist ewes at lambing”.

“The MEGASTART, ProPlus and MEGAMINS products complement our system and breeding programme perfectly, it’s the balance

of livestock genetics, stockmanship and the products that have all contributed to an overall improvement in animal health, performance and profitability”. ■





5% Extra Free on order of Beef Biosprint and Biosprint Farm Mix

Order before Thursday 20th December and you will receive 5% extra free on every ½ Tonne ordered. Delivery must be taken on or before Thursday 31st January 2019.

Biosprint probiotic live yeast (MUCL39885) is authorised for use in dairy, beef and sheep diets. Scientifically proven to improve rumen fermentation and digestion efficiency Biosprint has been successfully used in a range of Scotmin products to significantly boost livestock performance.

Biosprint Farm Mix incorporates this live yeast, with research confirming that an increased milk yield of up to 2 litres per day can be achieved.

Beef cattle supplemented with Beef Biosprint can also achieve significant production gains increasing DLWG by up to 8%. This leads to shortening the finishing period by three weeks, the equivalent to a saving of 250kg in total diet per animal, and a vastly improved return on investment. ■

New Megastart Suckler Cow Mineral

MEGASTART Suckler Cow mineral is the latest innovation from Scotmin Nutrition, adding to the already hugely successful range of MEGASTART pre-lambing and pre-calving supplements. MEGASTART Suckler Cow is designed to be fed to suckler cows both pre and post calving, supplying all the necessary minerals and vitamins required for a healthy cow and calf.

With a high level of magnesium, this mineral is suited to all year round supplementation. The weather proofing included makes it suitable to feed outdoors in a trough, top dressed, or included in a TMR.

MOS is included to promote a healthy gut, with optimum levels of zinc and iodine included to aid the immune system response.

High Vitamin E and selenium levels help to increase the quantity of colostrum, a vital factor in the early development of the calf's immune system. The selenium level also helps combat typically low levels seen in UK forages.

Megastart Suckler Cow recommended feeding rate is 100-150g per day, costing only 8-12p head/day.

Available in 25Kg Bags. ■



Merry Christmas From Scotmin

Seasons Greetings to all our customers old and new from the whole team here at Scotmin Nutrition. Wishing you a wonderful Christmas and happiness throughout the coming year. ■

New Brassica Balancer

Brassica Balancer Cattle and Brassica Balancer Sheep are two exciting new feed tubs launched for this winter season, designed to balance the mineral deficiencies of brassica crops such as kale, forage rape, turnips, and swedes.

Brassica Balancer contains high levels of protein as RDP and DUP to feed both the rumen and the animal. Calcium and phosphorus are included at optimum levels to balance the typically low levels found in brassica, with an essential oil blend being incorporated to stimulate dry matter intake and increase feed conversion efficiency. Brassica Balancer Cattle can be fed exclusively to cattle, or Brassica Balancer Sheep can be fed in a mixed grazing situation as no additional copper is added. The Brassica Balancer range offers a convenient cost-effective method of supplementing livestock 24 hours a day.

Daily feed intakes range from 100-200g head/day cattle, and 50-150g head/day in sheep, depending on the age and size of the animal. ■

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