

Feeding During Lactation

January – aim to increase weaning weight and increase BCS.

Ready in 60-90 days Jan/Feb. Increase the quality and quantity – good regrowth. 200 hinds on 8ha. Taking genetic samples in Spring and shifting it to Jan/Feb.

Paddy – 5 wks on 18ha – 250 hinds

Can stitch legume and grass for further food in the autumn.

BCS of hinds at start (before calving) important if need to

Best response to good feeding is lifting BCS on hinds.

Milk production initially set by calf demand. Will peak (around January) at 4L /day. Will keep milking off her ..until Condition becomes dire?

Weaning trial – can still get 55kg weaning at start March but poorer fed hinds have lower BCS if target 65kg weaner and 3.5 BCS hind and fawn starts eating grass early so to improve fawn intake need to offer high quality food.

Hybrid calf will increase milk demand by about 20% and will drop BCS off hind in Feb. Can mitigate hind BCS loss through offering a Lucerne/rape crop. But if year is dry Lucerne quality can be down so can use supplements eg Barley, grain, PKE, nuts.

Group Observations:

Paddy – 50 day feeding grain, barley and lucerne baleage 175g/wk

One member feeds 50t in 10d flush and has good conception rates.

Early supplementation will lead to earlier... and teaches weaners to eat grain.

January start feeding barley (about 3kg/hind/week), tow behind ...feeder

Preparing for lactation – can use cattle/sheep to take top off and improve quality before set stocking.

Kai.. Use urea or ammonia sulphate to boost growth after hard grazing.

Te – Lamb ewes in fawning paddocks and hinds in them. Start 10-15th January. Open gates and shift every 2-3 days.

If foetal age scanned can move hinds earlier – works well in winter (scanned in late May).

Need to watch .. AI hinds – high density of fawns as calving at the same time but still calve over 12-14 day period. Small hinds let female fawn – larger hinds with male fawns.

Uddering early Nov – udder early mob – 3wks later – 2nd mob.

Advantages of age scanning:

- can cull lates
- fawns for grazing on winter feed

Feeding ideas:

- If cold Urea + Pro if $<12^{\circ}\text{C}$ - - need good fertility.
- Silage/baleage if going dry – baleage can be expensive.
- ?? Plains: - have runoff at bottom of hill eg Lucerne, kale, rape, summer turnips (spray and pray). Turnips help loosen ground up before regrassing March/April.
- Ryecorn could be an alternative but quality poor and goes to seed early.
- Fodder raddish – can do double graze – first in Jan then again in winter.
- Plantain/chicory then later sow in ryegrass/grass.
- Strategic gain – balance of supplements.
- Earlier calving

<h3>Take Homes:</h3>

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Look at crop options – strategic timing. Bulk grain feeding. Flush for hinds after weaning.• Grain feed to quieten hinds and fawns.• Early age scanning to put hinds into calving mobs• K – Grain feed crop and early scanning• C 8-10% crop and get 2-3 grazing• Janice – Choose best• Paddy – Timing + BCS pf hinds +• Lyndon – Foetal aging fawning date to chop out bottom set• S – Rape crop• M? – earlier calving peak milk Dec – can increase velvet stag numbers• M – use Advantage feeder to help BCS on hinds for later• Paddy – easier to maintain condition than put it back on if it's come off.• Effect on milk production not as great as previously thought if feed quality low.• Pressed grapeskin fed in winter increase in February. Store as silage – feed value similar to barley straw so need to feed lots.• Self feeding pad would be better but Regional Council Issues eg Getting rid of hazardous substance• Grape skin lower ME – about 7.5• Fawns will eat more of a lower ME diet to a .. over winter. |
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