

UDDER HAIR REMOVER HELPS REDUCE BACTERIA ON DAIRY COWS

New on the market is an udder hair remover which offers a quick and painless way to remove unwanted udder hair. This helps prevent manure, dirt and bacteria from accumulating on the udder, that may cause mastitis and Johne's Disease in calves.

The Udder Hair Remover works with a cool wave flame, which used in a continuous figure of 8 movement., removes excess hair from the udder without causing pain to the cow. Without hair the udder is less likely to retain dirt and bacteria, which dramatically reduces pre milking preparation time, helps reduce bacteria around the udder and raise milk quality.

The "cool" flame is generated by burning propane with reduced aeration. This provides a controlled flame

reaching about 300 C, which in comparison to the 1000 C and above produced by a gas burner, allows the cow to perceive the hair removal process as a pleasantly warm procedure that takes 2-4 seconds

Dried on dirt sticking to udder hair is not easily removed, even when using water or udder wipes. The cool flame leaves the udder clinically clean and destroys bacteria situated in the dirt accumulated on the udder, improving udder hygiene, considerably reducing the risk of mastitis and promoting improved milk standards.

The Udder Hair Remover comes complete with adjustable propane regulator and gauge, 3 meters of high pressure gas tubing. Flow control hand valve and angled lance to make flame clipping while staying

at the back of the cow.

A portable version is also available which uses a small gas canister.

For further details please contact your nearest branch.

CCF CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

CCF branches will be closed over the festive season on the following days:-

Saturday 24th December
Sunday 25th December
Monday 26th December
Tuesday 27th December

Sunday 1st January 2006
Monday 2nd January 2006

NEWS FROM BOCM PAULS

"Now that there are no direct subsidies available to sheep farmers how can we maximise our income" is the question Philip Douch is most often asked on farm. In order to produce 'real' profitability there are relatively few areas to address. More lambs born and surviving together with greater lamb growth rates are really the only things that will make a difference. Higher lamb birth weights are the best way to ensure more lambs are born alive. There is plenty of evidence that mortality rate declines dramatically as lamb birth weight increases. As the ewes rumen space is taken up by the growing lambs a more energy dense diet needs to be fed to ensure enough energy gets through to the foetus. **BOCM PAULS Ewbol 18 and Ewbol Elite 18** are specified to have high energy to ensure optimum birth weights.

Once the lamb is born, survival becomes the next critical factor. BOCM

PAULS new health and vitality package included in the Ewbol range will ensure much better survival. The new package now contains **Extrasel** which is a combination of very high levels of Vitamin E and Selenium together with extra Cobalt, Iodine and Zinc. Vitamin E & Selenium work together in encouraging the ewe and lamb to fight off disease challenges and help the lamb to avoid hypothermia. Iodine will also help the lamb mobilise its brown fat to overcome hypothermia. Cobalt has been shown to help reduce mortality in the new born lamb. If lambs are to survive, particularly during bad weather, it is essential they start to suck as soon as possible to start taking in warming energy. ADAS trials show that the level of Vitamin E included in **BOCM PAULS Ewbol** feeds leads to lambs sucking 25 minutes sooner, this can be the difference between life and death. Zinc is an essential element for the

ewe to avoid lameness and help against mastitis.

The lamb has now survived birth and the first few hours of life, growth rate becomes the next critical factor so that the lamb can be sold at the desired time. A ewe that produces plenty of milk together with a good creep feed such as **BOCM PAULS Ewbol Lambwena Pellets** will ensure this happens. Maximising the ewes milk production depends very much on the quality of the cake that is fed after lambing. High undegradable protein together with high energy and starch are the key features that will produce milk in the ewe. These features are incorporated into all **BOCM PAULS Ewbol** feeds so that you can be sure of maximum milk yield with minimum fuss.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

to all our customers

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

By Keith Gosney

Well this is the last newsletter before the new year, and it would be wrong of me not to take the opportunity to wish everybody well for Christmas and the new year and to express the hope that, even though farming is a 365 day 12 months of the year occupation you are able to spend some quality time with your families.

Hopefully Carwyn Jones will have kept his promise and that many of you will receive some much needed "brown envelopes" from the assembly.

For the year to come, high on every ones wish list must be sensible prices for farm produce to get some real stability into the market - we keep being told we produce the best; local produce is good for the environment so why can't farmers be paid fair money for it?

One thing that does seem likely is that fertiliser prices will stay high, with compounds currently looking perhaps better value than nitrogen - if

you haven't bought yet give your local branch a ring it might be the best telephone call you make this month!

I was interested to listen to a presentation recently on the Scottish colleges "Easy Care" system for sheep farmers.

Farmers throughout the U.K. have asked the colleges to come up with a management package, to enable a sensible extensive system to cope with farming sheep under a new payment regime. While it won't suit everyone it may well give lots of ideas for how individuals can adapt it to their own systems. After all it's not many years ago that people scoffed at dairy farmers in S.W. Wales adopting New Zealand systems for their farms.

Lastly but not least of all the headline in the Farmers Guardian this week says that Defra intend to cut red tape by a quarter- if it's true then that on its own would help a beleaguered industry.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS with Richard Francis

The November meeting of the board of directors was held near the CCF depot at Gaerwen, on Anglesey. Whenever circumstances allow, we intend to hold board meetings throughout our trading area, giving an opportunity for the board to meet the managers and staff in the branches, for them to meet us, and also to get a feel for the business in different localities. Obviously, with a trading area stretching from South Pembrokeshire to North Wales, the demands and requirements of the farming will differ widely; that is to say nothing of the effects of Single Farm Payments on different sectors. Harry Evans, our board member from the North, had been singing the praises of his local branch for some time, so it was with some excitement that we ventured forth, braving the threat of snowstorms, on our intrepid journey.

The Northern region, stretching from Aberystwyth to Gaerwen is under the watchful eye of Gordon Fairbairn. Gordon has a background in the feed industry, so his extensive knowledge of livestock

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nutrition is a huge advantage in such pastoral surroundings, and in the past 18 months he has done sterling work in his area, which was well demonstrated during our visit to the Gaerwen depot.

Under the efficient management of Emma Evans and her team, this is a most impressive branch, with a large, clean and well-stocked shop, professionally laid out and backed up with a large warehouse stacked to the eaves with a range of feedstuffs to suit all farming systems. It was

no surprise to learn that Emma and her team have out-performed and beaten their trading targets in the past year; this at a time when all would agree, farming has not been through its easiest period. I would urge anyone who is not familiar with the Gaerwen depot to call in if they are in the area; this is surely a blueprint for the business which we should aim to replicate throughout West Wales.

It was particularly heartening to see the extensive range of our own

"Centenary" brand feedstuffs sitting complementary with the mainline brands that we sell. As I mentioned in my last article, CCF has made a significant investment in feedstuff manufacture. Decisions on this magnitude are not made lightly, particularly in the current climate. We hope that you, the shareholders will now take the opportunity to turn this investment to your advantage. May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

LIVESTOCK FOR SALE

CEINWEN HOLSTEINS bulls out of high production type and longevity cows.

TEL: 01407 810298 or 07901555172

SHEEPDOG PUPPIES. Good working parents.

TEL: 01994 484304

YOUNG MURRAY GREY bull & cows in calf

TEL: 01407 840250

GEESE FOR SALE

TEL: 01437 721601

HIGHLAND COWS.

Telephone for details.

TEL: 01545 570680

QUALITY WELSH COB filly. 21/2 years old. Very smart. Strong enough to be broken

TEL: 01545 570680

PEDIGREE BRITISH FRIE-

sian bulls. Ready to use.

TEL: 01244 335057

FOR SALE

CATTLE CRUSH GALV. Excellent order. New timber floor. TEL: 01239 851621 or 07774 403902

TULLOW 880 VACUUM tanker. Excellent condition £700 ono.

TEL: 01437 710180

BOMFORD B49 HEDGE cutter, Heavy duty. Good condition. Genuine reason for sale.

TEL: 07811 186377

THORNS FOR FARM HEDGES. TEL: 01239 698631

ORGANICALLY grown hay TEL: 01239 881273

DARIKOOL REFURBISH-

ed bulk tank. 750 gallon (3375 litres) ono.

TEL: 01545 570439

TAARUP-KIDD 300 XL feeder. VGC. £1100 ono

TEL: 01545 570439

PLATE COOLER unused.

£250 ono

TEL: 01545 570439

500 GALLON DARIKOOL bulk milk tank.

TEL: 01239 682258

WANTED

HEREFORD & ABER-deen Angus cattle by registered bull (fat or stores).

A good price given
TEL: 01437 731336

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