

May Management – Get it Right!

As 2024 continues to bring weather related challenges, this month is going to be busy in the fields for farmers. Planning is essential more than ever and here at Quinns, we have the technical advice and knowledge to guide you on your crop input decisions.

Hopefully, this month will see the vast majority of crops finished in terms of spray and fertiliser applications. In terms of disease control, a few things to note in the field currently include: rust needs to be monitored in winter wheat but is very variety specific and T0 applications have controlled bad instances. **Crown rust** is beginning to rear it's ugly head in oats. It is essential to control this disease early to avoid chasing it later in the year. **Mirror** or **Stavento** should be included with all T1/T2 applications on wheat and barley crops to prevent resistance and particularly to aid ramularia control in barley. Below you will find a useful table for fungicide applications this month:

Crop	Product	Rate/Pack	Timing	Active Ingredients
Winter Wheat	Questar	Pack to 5ha	T1/T2	Inatreq™
	Revystar	1.5L/ha	T1/T2	Revysol™+Fluxapyroxad
	MacFare Xpro	1.5L/ha	T1	Prothioconazole+Bixafen+Fluopyram
Winter Barley	Acorn	0.8+0.8L/ha	T2	Revysol™+Pyraclostrobin+Fluxapyroxad
	BarleyXtra Macfare Xpro	1.5L/ha	paint/b T2	Prothioconazole+Bixafen+Fluopyram
Spring Barley	Decoy+Comet Coyote	Pack to 5ha 0.7L/ha	T1/T2 T1/T2	Prothioconazole+Pyraclostrobin Prothioconazole+Fluoxastrobin+Trifloxystrobin
Winter Rye/Oats	Decoy+Comet Veloxy Era	Pack to 5ha 1L/ha	T1/T2 T1/T2	Prothioconazole, Pyraclostrobin Prothioconazole, Solatenol™
OSR	Filan	0.5kg/ha	Early/Late Flower	Boscalid
Beans	Signum	0.5kg/ha	Early/Late Flower	Boscalid+Pyraclostrobin
	Veloxy Era	0.66kg/ha	Early/Late Flower	Prothioconazole, Solatenol™
Barley/Wheat	Mirror/Stavento	1.5L/ha	T1/T2	Folpet



Rust present on wheat



Quinns Grassland Sustainability Walk Tuesday May 14th at 11am

Osbornes Farm Stratford on Slaney Baltinglass Eircode: W91 X2 A3



Discussion Points:

- Demo of Liquid Nitrogen in action
- Nutrient Management
- Reseeding options
- Weed Control post sowing and Introduction of Proclova XL (new clover safe spray)



Register here or txt 0861990869

Successful Reseeding in 2024

Continuously upgrading the quality of our swards is key to maximising the amount of grass utilised in the diet. Older pastures produce up to 30% less growth per year in comparison to reseeded with more productive grass species, a better response to nitrogen and reducing the feed costs on farm.

Although weather can be the main limiting factor, taking opportunities to reseed is the main goal. Our aim on farm should be to reseed 8-10% each year to increase sward productivity and replenish less productive swards

Factors to Consider when reseeding

Spring and Autumn Reseeding

- Consider the stocking rate pressure on farm at both sides of the year
- Spring suits clover and herb mixtures better due to increasing soil temperatures as year goes on
- Autumn reseeds are easier on farm stocking rate however weather can make post emergent spraying difficult so getting in earlier in the second half of summer will be beneficial

Soil Health

- You must sort out your soil fertility before reseeding
- Soil sampling will tell the story for **Lime, Phosphorus** and **Potassium** application

Prep the seedbed

- Spraying off with glyphosate will help remove challenging weeds.
- Good graze off pre-spraying will remove trash, making it easier for seed to establish

Nutrition at sowing

- Use of 2-3bags/ac of granlime to balance acidity of remaining dead material.

- Using 2 bags/ac of 10-10-20 or 18-6-12 will help to give the new seedling a good start

Seed choice and seeding rate

- We have a number of options available for all systems, soil type and multi-varietal mixes.
- Our own **Green Ley Range** will have many mixes to suit your system, alongside many other well-known brands like Germinal, SinClair McGill and DLF.
- Sowing rate will be dependent on mix and field type

Cultivation technique

- To best suits you whether it being ploughing or min till there is plenty of options available – ploughing, discing, one pass, and direct drill

Good Seed to Soil Contact

- Good seed to soil contact necessary
- Don't sow seeds too deep 1-1.5cm
- Roll to ensure good contact

Monitor pests

- In the 0-6 weeks post emergence, pests such as slugs can appear which will reduce establishment especially in autumn reseeds so apply slug pellets if necessary

Weed Control

- Timing and weed identification is key to achieving optimum weed control and correct product selection
- If Clover included **Proclova XL** is a clover safe product on the market

Please contact one of our Sales Representatives or your local branch to gain more information



Chloe Dwyer - Quinns, Eoghan O'Brien - Teagasc, Jack Keenan, Donal Keenan, Eoin Wolfe - Teagasc, Colm Doran - Teagasc, Ciaran Murphy - Quinns, at Quinns recent Red Clover and Multispecies farm walk on Jack and Donal Keenans farm



Scan the QR code to view our Grass 2024 Brochure

Making Specific Dry Cow Silage

Whilst calving is coming to an end and most dairy farmers must now think ahead to next winter and planning forage for next year's housing time. In the main, farmers tend to feed whatever silage is in the pit to all groups of animals. Perhaps where they know there was poorer silage made, they would keep it for the dry cows or dry stock and keep what's deemed the better quality for the milking cows. In recent years more emphasis has been placed on making silage suitable for feeding to dry cows.

What exactly is suitable dry cow silage?

The ideal silage for dry cows is what most would deem poor quality silage (i.e. lower in digestibility with higher fibre content and most importantly is low in potassium). Grass silage earmarked to be fed to dry cows should test less than 1.5% for potassium and have a DCAB value of less than 150meq/kg DM. DCAB (dietary cation-anion balance).

What happens if Dry Cows are fed silage high in Potassium & have a high DCAB value?

Cows fed silage with high K & DCAB values will have a much higher risk of developing milk fever post calving. Cows that get milk fever have also a much higher tendency of developing other diseases. Unfortunately for every one cow that goes down with milk fever there is up to 5 more cows in the herd suffering from sub clinical milk fever. These cows may not show the symptoms of milk fever but will be under pressure and their milk yield will be negatively impacted.

How do we make specific Dry Cow Silage?

- Set aside a block of ground at the start of year for the sole purpose of growing dry cow silage
- Target ground with lower K soil indexes (ideally index 1 or 2)
- 12 ha/100 cows cut once or 6ha/100 cows cut twice provides enough silage for a 60 day dry period
- DON'T apply any slurry and ideally don't graze in the spring
- Only apply straight Nitrogen (Either Urea or CAN)
- Cut 2 weeks after heading so it's more stemmy than usual
- Needs to be put in a separate clamp or in bales



Omex is an Option in May

Omex 24N+3S liquid fertiliser is available in all Quinns depots for use on grassland and cereals.

Grassland: It is a great option after first cut silage – just apply directly after the harvester leaves the field and apply slurry the following day. The nitrate element of the liquid fertiliser will get to work straight away. The rule of thumb with granular is to wait 4/5 days after slurry application. This brings huge benefits in terms of extra days during the growing season with fertiliser on the sward ahead of a second cut of silage. It is also a great option on the grazing platform and we have contractors available to apply in your area.

Oilseed Rape: This year we will be stocking **Oilseed Extra**. It has performed extremely well over the past few years for Quinns customers. A limiting factor with Oilseed Rape is that it is difficult to apply N late in the season when the plant needs a supply of N for pod formation. **Oilseed Extra** can provide this and gives a total of 40kg/ha of N through the leaf after petal fall. It is applied at a rate of 200L/ha of product mixed with 100L/ha of water (total 300L/ha). Standard 24N+3S is still an option also where crops are less advanced.

NitroShield: NitroShield is a new urease inhibitor from Omex. It is applied at a rate of 1L/cube of 24N+3S. Liquid N has 3 forms of N to provide a staged release to the plant, and because it is in a

liquid state, the ureic element is less prone to volatilization than granular products. NitroShield can reduce this volatilization by a further 70% and has also been proven to improve yields. As temperatures begin to rise, it should be included in all liquid fertiliser applications from now on.

For more information please contact your Technical Sales Representative or your local branch.



Rust present on wheat

Stock Proof Options

Quinns stock high quality fencing materials to stock proof your farm regardless of animal type. Our wide range covers Posts, Wire, Mains Fencers, Handles, Joiners, Insulators, Handles and much more. Call your nearest branch today for more info.

For derogation, all boundary fences must be a minimum distance of 1.5m between livestock and watercourses. And a minimum of 20m between supplementary drinking points and watercourses.



Our recent fencing event in Naas with renowned fencer Henry Kavanagh on the tools.



Grass watch 2024



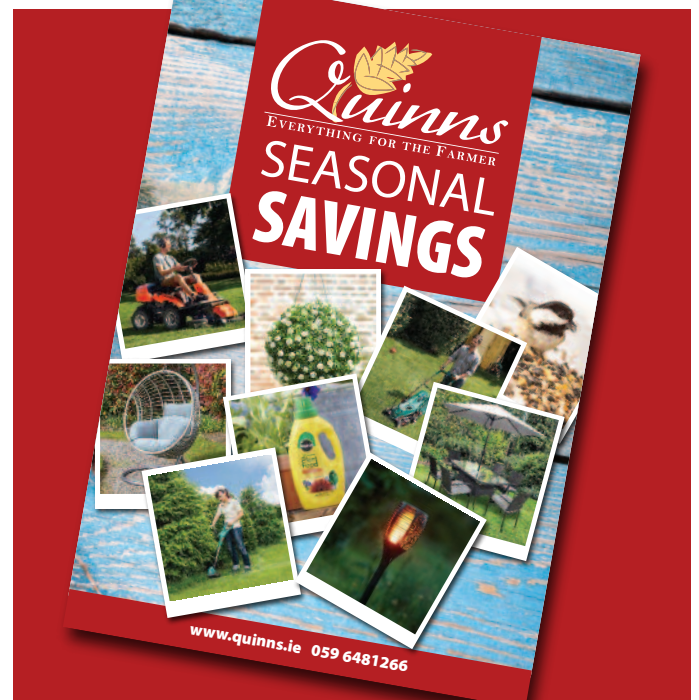
We are bringing back our GrassWatch program for the 2024 season. Quinns are proud to present local data on grass growth, quality parameters and tips on management throughout the season.

Obtaining key information about grass dry matters, proteins, energy, nitrates etc will help make key informed decisions surrounding nutrition and grass budgeting.

The adverse weather conditions of the winter have put silage stocks and spring grazing under pressure. The GrassWatch program will provide useful tips for managing swards in difficult weather conditions

We are continuing to run the program with the spring and autumn calving herd run by Peadar and his two sons Peter and John located in Stratford, West Wicklow.

To sign up for weekly updates on our Grasswatch programme please call 059-6481266 or email grasswatch@quinns.ie



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