

Walking winter crops – spring agronomy



Oilseed Rape

Weed control should be finished in most OSR crops. If there are some weeds present, an application of **Korvetto** should cover a broad spectrum of weeds. It is a good idea to assess the GAI of oilseed rape crops to establish nitrogen rates. There have been a lot of crops grazed by pigeons so an early application of N on these crops would be beneficial. For advanced crops that haven't been grazed there may be an opportunity to reduce nitrogen rates as they will have a higher GAI index. A growth regulator may also be useful in this situation to break apical dominance and promote side branching.



Use the BASF GAI app to guide you on what nitrogen is required for your crop.

Winter Wheat

Winter wheat in general has established well and has a good foundation for the year ahead. For later sown crops that haven't had a herbicide yet - **Alister Flex** is a suitable option before GS29. Most crops have strong plant stands and good tiller count. Crops should receive some N by GS30. First split of N is applied to encourage tiller development and survival. In crops where there is a take all risk should receive early nitrogen to encourage rooting and reduce the severity of take all infections.



Advanced crops are more at risk of disease so it is key to be proactive in this scenario. The current chemistry for disease control in wheat is much more effective in preventative programs rather than in curative situations. Where winter wheat crops are well advanced in high fertile sites - a T0 fungicide should be considered.

Winter Barley

Winter barley has progressed well through the winter and many crops are well advanced, especially crops sown in September. Winter barley benefits hugely from early nitrogen as it is key for tiller survival. Good tiller numbers are very important for building a big yield in winter barley. The aim is to produce 1000 heads/m². Plant stands in fields at the moment are anywhere from 250 – 300 plants per m² so each plant will need 3 – 4 survivable tillers to achieve 1000 heads/m². An application of **K2** or **Ceraide** may be useful to break the apical dominance of the primary tiller which forces the plant to resource the secondary tillers. Depending on disease levels within the crop and the weather a fungicide application may also be advisable here.



Winter Oats

Winter oats have done well over the autumn and many crops are quite advanced. There have been reports of some frost damage to crops in January with the cold blast so it is important to go and assess your crop. Earlier sown crops are more susceptible to frost kill. When deciding on compound fertiliser for oats, an important point to note is they have a big demand for K. A 9.5t/ha crop of oats on index 1 soils requires over 100 units of K.

€200
DRAW

To meet our sustainability targets in 2025, Quinns of Baltinglass Ltd will be e-mailing our monthly statements and invoices to customers. We would appreciate if you could forward your preferred e-mail address to niamhfarrell@quinns.ie with your account number, account name and your email address. On receipt of your details, you will be entered into a draw, for a chance to win a €200 Quinns Gift Voucher. The draw will take place on the 4th June 2025.



Supreme Spring Breeder- High energy to drive herd performance

Breeding and fertility is at the heart of herd performance and increasing profit. One missed heat on farm costs the farm €250.

Increasing cull cow rates due to missed heats on farm can be a major financial cost on the system. Improving 6 week calving rate and reducing the cull cow rates come from the following practices:

- Good dry cow/transition nutrition
- Good Body Condition Score (BCS) coming into early lactation
- Nutrition management post calving
- Mineral package

As grass is gradually introduced into the diet and becomes the main forage source, it's important to have a high energy nut to complement the high protein grass.

Our **Supreme Spring Breeder Pellet** is an excellent option for your herd this spring into summer.

Includes our RumiProS mineral package containing Bioplex Copper and Zinc as well as Selplex for fertility. Also included is Yea-Sacc® to aid digestion, maximise grass utilisation and optimise rumen function and pH in your Dairy Cows this spring.

Supreme Spring Breeder Pellet:

- **14% Crude Protein and 0.97 UFL High Energy.**
- Irish Barley and Maize top ingredients in mix
- **Yea-Sacc®** improves Milk Yield by +1.6litres; Feed efficiency by +6%; Fertility is 5-7less open days
- **BIOPLEX® Copper and Zinc** → improves herd health
- **SEL-PLEX®** → higher conception rates.
- Long term effect of feeding BIOPLEX® and SEL-PLEX® to cows and heifer calves +1.7kg milk per day for 100 days. Heifers calved 42days earlier.

If you are within Derogation rules and regulations please follow all of the relevant guidelines surrounding crude protein limitations on supplementation.



We have a wide range of pellets and rations suitable for all diets so please get in touch with our nutritional team to get advice.



Optimizing Lamb Thrive through high energy Creep Feeding



A lamb is the most efficient it will ever be in converting feed to daily live weight gain in the first 5 - 6 weeks of life. A good start will be the key to getting lambs hitting targets and being profitable. If a lamb is under pressure and under the ADG target by 15grams/day they will be approximately 2kg lighter at weaning. .

Lambs that receive creep feed in early life and throughout will be:

- Less stressed at weaning
- Continuously pushing growth targets
- Finishing earlier where lamb prices are usually more attractive earlier in season
- Reduced labour for farmer as lamb is healthier

Quinns Intensive Lamb feed options:

Product	Crude Protein	UFV	Ammonium Chloride
Supreme Intensive lamb muesli	17%	0.96	Yes
Supreme Intensive Lamb Pellet	18%	0.96	Yes

- Achieve maximum growth rates and thrive
- High proportion of palatable ingredients such as flaked maize, Irish barley etc
- Our muesli protein pellets ensures intake of Soya bypass protein
- Full comprehensive mineral package with high levels of Vit B12, Zinc and Cobalt aiding thrive and health
- **Ammonium Chloride** which greatly reduces risk of urinary calculi in ram lambs

In 2020 Quinns monitored lamb performance on **Paul and Margaret Byrnes Farm** in Newtown **Mountkennedy**. Table 1 opposite summarizes the findings of the farm trial.

Table 1.

Average Birthdate	30/01/20
Average Slaughter date	27/04/20
Average Birth weight	5.4 Kgs
Average Slaughter weight	19.5 Kgs
Lamb Grade	Every lamb graded either a U3 or a R3
Average Daily Live weight gain	0.36 Kg per day
Total Average Meal Consumption	42 Kgs

Pushing growth targets in lambs through early creep feeding this spring has many benefits.



Contact one of our agri sales representatives or branch staff to get more details.

Spring has sprung

Your local 
Topline

**All your gardening
needs covered from:**

Lawnfeed

Weed & Mosskiller

Compost

Broadcast Spreaders

Chicken Manure Pellets

Fruit & Vegetable Seeds



Wicklow Cheviot Sheep Owners Association information evening



(L-R) Peter Behan, Valerie Hobson, Pat Dunne, Vet Mark Drought and Ciaran Murphy at the recent Wicklow Cheviot Sheep Owners Association information evening in the Glenmalure Lodge. Vet Mark Drought discussed the health and welfare of sheep. While Valerie and Ciaran from Quinns, covered feeding requirements pre- and post-lambing for ewes.

Baltinglass Mart celebrates 50th anniversary



(L-R) John Tobin, Sales Manager, Quinns of Baltinglass, John Fitzpatrick, Mart Manager presenting the Quinns Cup to James Thompson, winner of the "Best Championship Group" at the annual fatstock sale and show