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YOUR NEWSLETTER FROM CREDITON MILLING COMPANY

Introducing the Dry Cow Pro Range

We have made it our mission over the years to ensure to supply you with cutting edge products which provide benefits to your animals and your bottom line.

Our dry cow offering is no exception, Pete has talked at length about our flagship products dry cow Xtra and Transformer products and the Calcium binding.

We have been working hard on improving this offering and our standard dry cow range with the option of our Dry Cow Pro Range.

This takes the existing range of Dry Cow Products, with their enhanced mineral pack, protected Zinpro mineral range, quality starches and bypass protein and adds Mecovit® which provides methionine, choline, betaine and B vitamins.

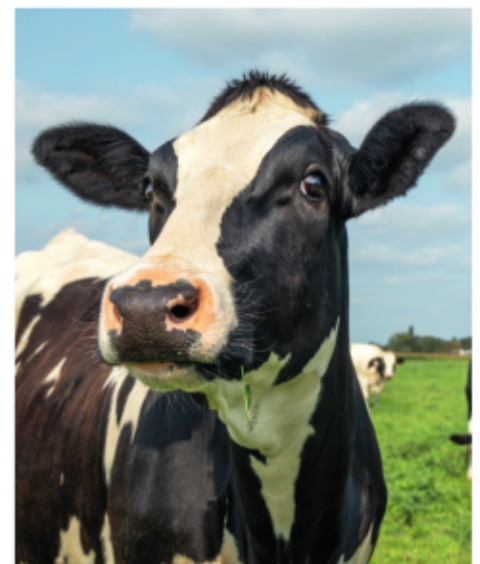
Mecovit® Improves the reproductive and productive efficiency and performance of the transition cow.

It combines different nutrients playing an important and synergistic role in the metabolism of the transition cow, reducing fatty liver, ketosis and the incidence of post-partum diseases.

There are also benefits to the calf with studies showing an increase in calf performance and reduction in mortality where Mecovit® has been fed during the dry period.

Unlike other forms of Protected choline this product has excellent and consistent recovery rates from being pelleted, meaning that the cow and calf get the true benefit of this product.

Please ask your CMC Ruminant specialist about changing your dry cow diet or having The Pro pack added.



MATT RANCE 07809 306571
FORAGE & NUTRITION SPECIALIST

DAIRY

POULTRY

BEEF & SHEEP

FORAGE

Is the mood changing amongst buyers?



Chris Walkland
WP Walkland Partnership

Back in January it was hard to be positive. Price reductions were starting in earnest and markets were awful.

Since then prices have plunged from an average non-aligned price of 47.8p down to 36.9p on a standard litre, with Arla down 30% from over 49p to 35.5p. CREDITON Dairy is down from 48.5p to 39p, with Barbers down from 48.3p to 37.83p. Muller, with its new A&B pricing model and new promise to its directs, is at 40p on an 'A' price, with June's overall price looking as if it will be around 39p. The latter three are extremely respectable prices indeed given the commodity prices, and credit should go to all of them.

Arla's price, though, is where I expected it to be given its markets. Indeed this sort of price was predictable as far back as February. Everyone will hope it doesn't go down again, but given its price was so high for so long last year, and that it is a month behind other companies, I wouldn't rule out another tweak down for its June price before it starts to lift.

So when might farmgate prices turn? Well the bad news is probably not for a few months for most – especially those on the higher prices mentioned above. But the good news is that the commodity market is starting to lift after being on a steady decline for several weeks. The mood is changing among buyers, and will continue to do so



as we are now past peak in the UK and Europe and milk volumes will be on the slide until the trough.

Already some of the lowest prices are showing some significant increases. Whenever a market turns up or down butter, SMP and young cheese prices react first. Over the last two weeks gouda and mozzarella have increased by 10%, for example. That's major! On the GDT Arla's SMP has increased by €275/t from €2390/t to €2668. That's another 10% + increase. EU prices have followed that up since. Butter prices also show some signs of improving for Q3, and the first trade for Q4 has just been reported at €4900.

At this week's DIN conference there was also no negative talk, with the general view being that the market was on an upturn, but in a "U" shape as opposed to a "V" shape, so it might take a while for the impact to filter through into milk price rises.

What is also making a difference to sentiment and prices, are milk volumes. The spring has not been good for farmers but it has been good for the market, in that volumes have generally been lower than expected in the UK and in Europe. The silage season has also not gone well for many, and the lower milk prices mean that the Milk Price:Feed Price ratio is now such that few (if any) farmers will be feeding for milk. It is battenning down the hatches time, and it is almost certain that concerns over Q3 milk volumes have helped to fuel the commodity price increases that we are currently seeing.

However there is a very long way to go. Both the GDT and EU futures are converting into an AMPE farmgate equivalent price of between 28 and 32p for the next six months, with cheese converting to a MCVE price of around 36p. If we then take AHDB's theory that the overall farmgate price is basically comprised of 20% AMPE and 80% MCVE then we end up with a price of 34.8p. With costs still in the high 30p to over 40p it is clear that commodities need to move an awfully long way yet for some before the milk price matches the income.

Still, it's a start, and while the current prospects are that the upturn will be slow and steady you never know in this sector – strange things can happen, and very quickly indeed as we have seen in the past!

Prevent bad things happening to good cows

Introducing Availa® Zn

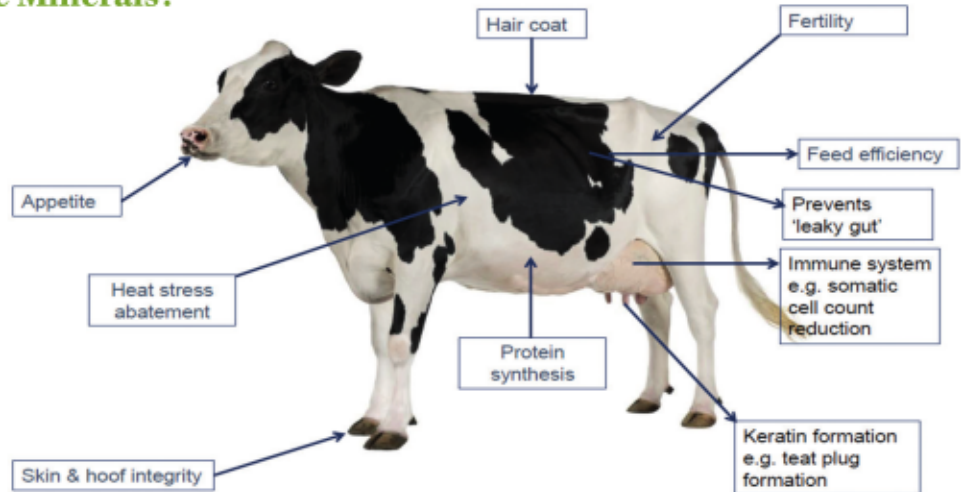


DR KAREN WONNACOTT
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RUMINANT NUTRITIONIST

Why feed Zinpro Performance Minerals?

- Zinpro are the **ONLY** performance mineral in the market
- Proven Return on Investment (ROI) of 10:1
- The metal is protected from antagonists throughout the digestive tract (running the gauntlet of the digestive system – surviving the rumen, stomach and arriving at the small intestine for absorption!)
- The bioavailability is increased to the animal by being absorbed through the amino acid pathway
- Consistently improves animal performance across a range of target species

Trace minerals are not additives, they are nutrients, the animal needs them! With increasing pressures on today's production animals, the demand for nutrients to meet the genetic potential and maintain the immune system has grown. Arguably of all the trace minerals, zinc has seen the highest requirement increase due to the crucial role it plays in key structural proteins, enzymes and the immune system.



We need cows to walk to feed in order to eat to produce milk that we can sell. There are many factors that are needed for a cow to be able to do this, some of them management (e.g. feed availability, cubicle design, flooring, standing times etc.) and some physiological, so what role does Zinc play in all of this?

CMC have been partnering with Zinpro for over ten years now and we are delighted to be able to offer our customers access to Availa® Zn. We have been fortunate to experience the consistency that Zinpro Performance Minerals have delivered over the years and we are now able to offer Availa® Zn in some of our products.

For more information on Availa® Zn, please contact your local CMC representative.

So, what are the benefits?

Feeding Availa® Zn at the recommended levels can:

- Reduce somatic cell counts (improve keratin quality so forms teat plugs quicker preventing the nasty bacteria entering the teat canal)
- Improve milk yield
- Improve feed efficiency
- Improve colostrum quality
- Reduce services per conception
- Improve gut integrity (zinc acts like Velcro to stick the cells together preventing 'leaky gut')
- Reduce inflammation
- Improve hoof health – including reduction of digital dermatitis and foot rot prevention

Come along and see us at this year's shows

8th, 9th & 10th June –
Royal Cornwall Show

22nd July – **Mid Devon Show**

2nd August – **North Devon Show**

3rd August – **Honiton Show**

10th August – **Okehampton Show**

16th & 17th August – **Shaftesbury & Gillingham Show**

24th August – **Holsworthy Show**

4th October – **The Dairy Show at Bath & West Showground**



Avian Influenza update

Despite the lifting of the housing order, it is incredibly important that we don't become too complacent in our biosecurity. As commercial cases are still being reported, it is still as big a threat to our businesses as it was during the winter period.

Since October 1st 2022 to the time of writing, there have been 182 confirmed cases of high path AI in the UK.

The current UK bird flu vaccination policy, is not to permit the vaccination of birds, but due to the scale of outbreaks in the last couple of years, Government has recently set up an AI vaccination task force, a joint industry, cross government group which aims to explore options, and develop recommendations for the use of preventative vaccination of poultry against high path AI.

It is widely acknowledged that vaccines against AI are effective, but the challenge is to ensure it is also cost effective. Cost effective for the producer in purchasing the vaccine for use, administering the vaccine to their flock, but also not cost prohibitive

It has been rather a challenging and stressful time for the poultry industry over these last couple of years, with Avian Influenza weighing heavily on a lot of our minds.

in the surveillance requirements. (Surveillance of vaccinated flocks are likely to be required, to ensure a vaccinated flock isn't harbouring the disease, but being asymptomatic, and therefore aiding the spread).

The group has a wide ranging remit, looking at regulatory and legislative issues, to vaccine effectiveness and information and research, but will also need to consider any trade implications of a vaccination policy, and aims to look at how trade barriers can be avoided.

Vaccination is not a quick fix, or a silver bullet, therefore, the most effective, cheapest option to all producers is to ensure they are

undertaking the best biosecurity on their own sites –

- Ensure feed is contained within a bin or bags – prevent wild bird access to feed.
- Avoid open bodies of water – ponds/lakes etc near your poultry housing
- Ensure poultry housing is well proofed against ingress – of both wild birds and rodents, and water from shed roofs/storm water.
- Think about bedding storage (straw/bales) and ensure these can't be contaminated by wild birds prior to being taken into sheds
- Ensure you change your footwear/ dip your boots when going into poultry sheds or in areas with poultry (the range)
- Site biosecurity – wheel washes/ sprays, limiting visitors



LIZ WARNER
POULTRY SPECIALIST



GB Poultry Register

All poultry keepers with 50 or more birds have to register with DEFRA, this can help in the case of an AI outbreak, as you will be notified if you are within any surveillance zones. There is also a voluntary registration for people with less than 50 birds. These can be found on on gov.uk website by searching "UK Poultry Register"

West Country Layers Association – backup and running!

CMC were delighted to attend and sponsor the WCLA Quiz, held at Cullompton Rugby club recently. After a 3 year break, it was wonderful to have a room full of poultry

farmers, and industry professionals for a fun (at times, rather taxing!) quiz evening raising funds to support egg focussed educational resources. I think it is safe to say that the

appetite for this group, which aims to bring a cohesive voice to represent the sector in the South West, is as strong as ever. So keep an eye out for future events!