



RE:SEED

Your Seasonal Newsletter

Spring 2023

Welcome to the fourth instalment of RE:SEED. In this issue we will be introducing our new catalogue, shedding some light on our seed selection process and Katie Evans will be discussing home grown cereals for on-farm-mixing. Hopefully you have received our 2023 catalogue, detailed across it's 35 pages are our core product lines all selected to help your business thrive.

As independent merchants and advisors we can offer impartial advice and products backed by national and independent trial and farm data. From across all breeders, we select only the best varieties proven to perform in our region and our seed lots endure a meticulous selection process. When you buy from Powys Leys you can be assured that your seed is the highest quality, free from impurities and

with the highest levels of germination and vigour. Over 70% of UK agricultural land is grassland and it is the backbone of most farming businesses in our area, so why settle for anything other than the best.

Did you know we have two in-house, independent agronomists specialising in grassland and livestock forage production? We also stock a wide range of grassland herbicides and plant nutrition products.



TREADING THE TRAMLINES

Winter cereals established well with autumn residual herbicide applications completed across most sites. As a result, crops are looking clean and forward as we head towards spring. The hard frosts in December and January have helped to slow things down to a sensible level but plant numbers are healthy and have tillered well resulting in thick canopies. It would be wise to keep an eye on mildew at T0 and include chemistry with mildewcide activity where necessary.

Even with the recent fall in fertiliser prices, it is important to manage applications correctly. Assessing soil nitrogen supply will help reduce over application, saving money and for those within NVZ it is essential for compliance. Timing is also crucial for maximising nitrogen use efficiency, too early/late and you could be pouring money down the drain (quite literally).

Did you know we stock a selection of spring cereals including Barley, Wheat, Oats and Arable Silage mixtures? We select varieties that perform in our region and source only the highest-grade seed to ensure purity, germination, and vigour. We also offer BASIS registered agronomy services and a wide range of plant protection products and foliar feeds.



SPRING CEREALS & AGRONOMY

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ORDER NOW



FEED FOCUS

In this article we're going to look at how home-grown cereals for on farm mixing could be a profitable asset to your livestock farming system. Powys Leys feed store manager Katie Evans talks us through growing and mixing feed for a beef and sheep enterprise on her mixed farm in Shropshire.

"We farm a mixture of dairy cows, beef cattle and sheep. The cows are put to a beef bull and calved all year round, being housed during the winter months and grazed in the summer. Our ewes are lambled in Jan/Feb.



We grow some of our own cereals which we use the straw for bedding and the corn for feeding to the beef cattle and sheep.

At home we grow approx. 50 acres of cereals each year. We grow a mixture of spring and autumn cereals both wheat and barley and we do the seed bed

preparation and drilling ourselves. Once harvested (by a contractor) the grain is stored and milled on farm as needed. The cereals are mixed 50/50 with a compound feed and fed to the cattle and ewes. The straw is kept and used for bedding during winter.

Based on our harvest figures last year and current market values, by growing on farm we save 48% compared to buying cereals in."

The following table shows the percentage split of costs incurred for producing 1 tonne of corn (60% winter wheat, 40% spring barley).

Cultivation/Drilling	25%
Seed	10%
Fertiliser	43%
Agronomy	22%

"The grain is loaded into a 12t corn trailer and brought to the mill; it goes through augers to the loft above the roller. It is then fed down into the roller and bagged into sacks. The rolled corn is mixed with the nuts by hand and bagged ready to feed out. We mill twice a day, producing ½ tonne of blend which takes approx. 15-20 minutes for each batch. This year we produced our blend for approx. £240/T. On farm mixing helps us manage our costs and increases the profitability of our beef and sheep enterprise."

For Farmers supply fully mineralised balancer pellets for sheep and cattle, speak to us for more information.

COMPANY NEWS



Our 2023 catalogue is out now. If you have not already received your copy, you can pick one up in store or contact us below. You can also scan the QR code below to view online.



We are delighted to be attending the NSA Welsh Sheep event in Aberhafesp on Tuesday 16th May. Come

and chat with us and enjoy a light refreshment. Tickets are available from www.nationalsheep.org.uk/welshsheep

Keep an eye out for our new bags this spring designed by VT Prints, Bishops Castle. Not only do they look great but these high-quality sacks protect from contamination ensuring your seeds always arrive in the finest condition.

