



FARM SERVICES LTD.

Chesley, On

519-363-3308

1-800-269-2561

April Newsletter

Understanding Late Gestation Nutrition in Sheep

Nutrient demands increase significantly as the ewe enters into the last two months of pregnancy. Energy requirements almost double and protein requirements increase upwards of 60%. This is in order to support the growth of lambs, colostrum production and also mammary tissue development. At the same time that nutrient demands are increasing, rumen capacity is becoming limited due to the growing lambs. This creates the need for a very nutrient dense ration in order to meet nutrient requirements without exceeding the rumen's capacity.

Feeding the ewe in late gestation is not a one size fits all approach. Requirements vary based on the ewes live weight, litter size and body condition. Good nutrition in late gestation is fundamental for the growth of healthy lambs and also in setting her up for a successful lactation. Energy is typically the first limiting nutrient when it comes to feeding ewes in late gestation. Energy is needed by the ewe in the form of fiber, starch, sugar and fat; each one playing an important role. Like energy protein also plays an important role, both rumen degradable and by-pass protein are needed by the ewe and her growing lambs. Energy and protein work together in the rumen so it is important to understand that without one the other cannot be effectively utilized.

It is economical to feed good quality forage in late gestation that supplies adequate energy and protein so excessive concentrate supplementation is not necessary. Keep in mind it is absolutely critical that rumen health is maintained in order to maximize dry matter in take during this challenging time.

Tips for Success:

1. Feed high quality forage that supplies good protein and energy
2. Supplement grain and protein sources to meet individual ewe requirements
3. Always make changes to rations slowly to allow time for the rumen microbes to adjust
4. Keep top-dressing of concentrates to less than 1lb/feeding
5. Practice good feeding management through consistent feeding and monitoring feed intake
6. Work closely with your nutritionist to make sure you are supplying adequate energy, protein, calcium, selenium and vitamin E

Courtney Vriens Wallenstein Feed, Ruminant Nutrition Advisor 1-226-220-6887

Get a FREE soft shell vest for every 10 tonne of Peninsula Creep Feed booked by April 30, maximum two vests per family.



Competitors Pellets



Our Pellets

Jarrett Johnson: 519-379-6404 or jarrett@blfarm.com

Jamie O'Shea: 519-477-1238 or jamie@blfarm.com

519-363-3308 or 1-800-269-2561

We will be closed on Friday April 19 prior to the Easter weekend.

Please make sure that all bag and bulk feed orders are sent in early that week so we can accommodate all customer orders.

We sell assorted beef pasture minerals available plain or medicated with Bovatec, Deccox or Garlic.

Call 519-363-3308 for details



Spring IS HERE!

We have: Seeds, Potting Soil, Peat Moss, Lawn Mowers, Lawn Fertilizer

Chesley Agri fair

Chesley Community Centre

April 9th 11 am-9 pm

April 10th 10 am-8 pm

*** Check out our Booth**

Get Grilling!

Napoleon and Green Mountain Grills

Sold Here



- Get 2 free bags of wood pellets with a purchase of a Green Mountain Grill



- Coming soon Green Mountain Grill Prime Serous



**All in stock
2018
Napoleon
Grills up to
\$250 savings**



**We are open
Sundays starting
April 28th**