



The Wool Press

ISSUE 133

JANUARY 2001

PRICE : £1.00

**All the
regular
features
and more!**

The Wool Press is
published by the
Department
of Agriculture
and
printed at the
Falkland Islands
Government
Printing Office.

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By Nigel Knight

EDITORIAL PAGE

What weather we have been having! Listening to the news the other day on the radio and I heard that Mount Pleasant Airport reported that we has less rain than last year in December. Somehow I don't believe that, but if they are monitoring the weather all through the years, there must be some truth in it...

I am still on the lookout for your email addresses. If you are not in the new telephone book and would like to receive any information or requests that we ask for, or you find that the email is much faster than ordinary mail, then I would like to hear from you. I would also like to hear from any farmer who would be interested in receiving the Wool Press by email as well.

How's the shearing going? If you have any funny stories that you would like to share with the rest of us, please let me know. I'm sure over the last few months there must be something about. Even a funny photograph to go with the story would be appreciated. Think about it! Likewise if you have had a good story to tell over the past year then I would be happy to print it.

Staff news: Bob has arrived back off his travels from Australia. We also have a new Hydatid Officer; Jimmy Forster from Bold Cove Farm who replaces Diana Berntsen at Walker Creek. No doubt Jimmy will be on his travels soon to see you and inspect any offal or dogs. Gerard Ford has also started with the DOA replacing Marie Loveridge as an Agricultural Assistant. The reindeer party have all set sail and no doubt we will hear what they have been up-to when they get back which will be around the end of February. John Wellington has been appointed as the Locum Veterinary Officer in place of Cameron Bell. John has included in this Wool Press 'An Introduction'. We also welcome to FIDC Mr Brian Corner, the Abattoir Operations Manager. I will get an introduction from him for the next Wool Press or once he settles into his new post.

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR

From all the staff at:

Department of Agriculture &
Falkland Islands Development
Corporation

Editor:
Charlene Rowland

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Plus much much more.....

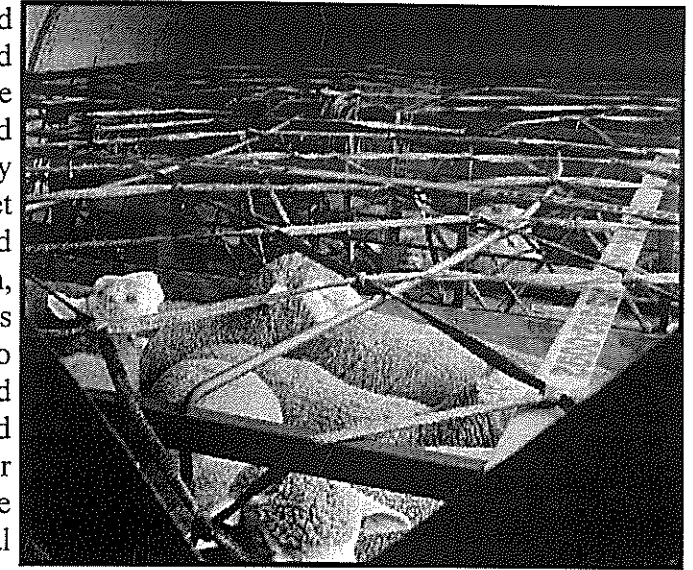
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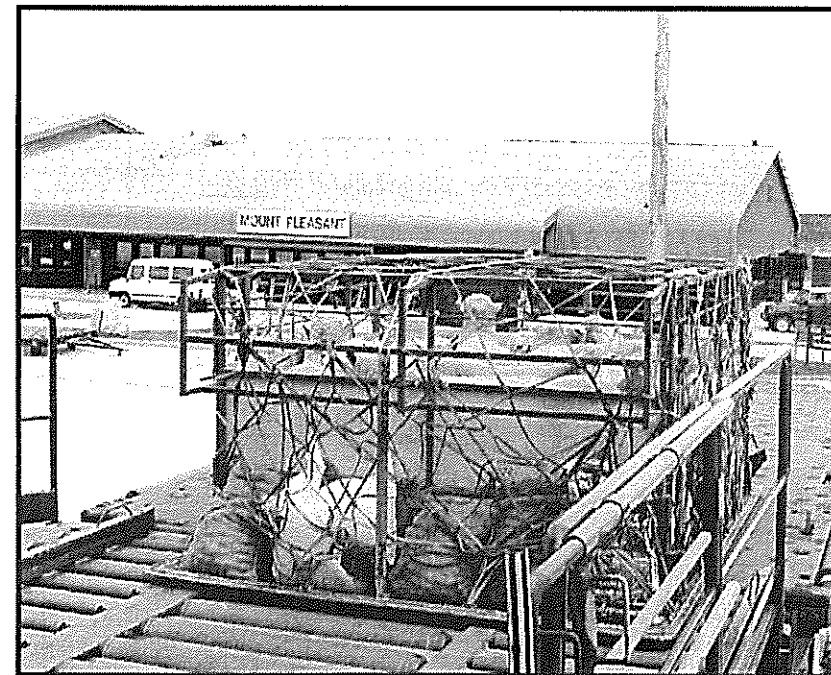
NEW SHEEP FOR THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

103 new rams arrived in the Falkland Islands from New Zealand on Sunday 3rd December 2000. The sheep were imported by Falkland Landholdings Ltd (FLH Ltd) and consist of approximately equal numbers of Texel and Poll Dorset rams. The rams were chosen by FLH Ltd Managing Director Mr Colin Horton, when he visited New Zealand earlier this year and where they were subjected to close inspection and a variety of blood tests. They journeyed from New Zealand in two batches on a Qantas freighter from Auckland to Buenos Aires where they were offloaded and kept in special pens close to the airport.



Sheep in crates on board the Lan Chile freighter.

They travelled on to the Falklands in a Lan Chile freighter which stopped briefly in Punta Arenas for refuelling. They were accompanied throughout the whole journey by 2 New Zealand stockmen. On arrival at Mount Pleasant Airport they were offloaded from the plane with the help of the military and loaded on to a sheep transport lorry belonging to Mr Chris May. From the airport they were delivered to Fitzroy settlement where they will be put in quarantine for a further 30 days. During this period they will undergo a variety of treatments and further tests.

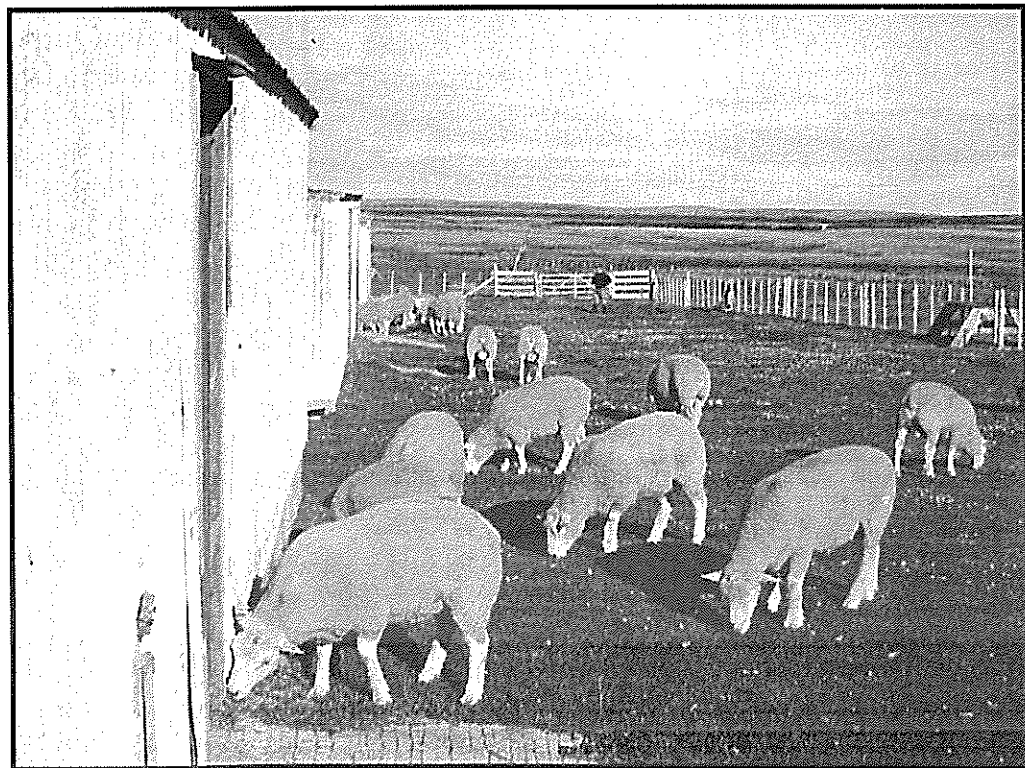


Sheep in crates being unloaded at Mount Pleasant Airport.

Texel and Poll Dorsets have been chosen because they are both proven meat breeds capable of producing lambs that will grow quickly and provide the type of carcass conformation required by today's meat markets. FLH Ltd have previously imported these two ram breeds for evaluation in 1997 and it is on the basis of those results that this importation proceeded. These rams have been imported with a view to producing lambs for the new abattoir, which is currently under construction and should be completed by the middle of 2001. Once the rams have completed their quarantine period they will be distributed between the various FLH Ltd farms.



Very jetlagged sheep being unloaded at Fitzroy Farm.



Happily grazing at Fitzroy!

PASTURE DEMONSTRATION TRIAL AT BRENTON LOCH

Peter Johnston, Sean Miller, Gillian Phillips and Brian Alexander

A small trial was established in mid-November 2000 at Brenton Loch to examine the performance of a range of pasture legumes and grasses as part of the pasture improvement program.

The 3.6 ha site is part of the area used in winter this year to grow the swedes and turnips for the lamb trial. The area was rotovated prior to sowing to remove the remnants of the swedes and turnips. Fifteen pasture grasses were sown in plots (6m wide * 300m long) using the Einboch air seeder. The 23 pasture legumes were sown in plots (12m wide* 90m long) using the Truax direct drill. The grass and legume plots overlap each other at right angles. The overlap will enable an examination of the performance of different combinations of grasses and legumes. All legume seed was inoculated with the appropriate *rhizobium* and lime coated. The site was rolled with Cambridge rollers following sowing.

The species chosen represents the current range of "best-bet" pasture plants available in the islands. This was based on the earlier evaluations conducted by staff of the Agriculture Department.

The Einboch air seeder and Truax direct drill were used to demonstrate the type of pasture that can be established using the equipment currently available in the machinery pool.

Calcified seaweed (3.3 t/ha) and rock phosphate (330 kg/ha) have recently been applied to each of the legume plots in 4 separate strips. The first strip has no fertiliser. The second strip has calcified seaweed only. The third strip has both calcified seaweed and rock phosphate and the fourth strip has rock phosphate only.

In addition to the legume and grass plots, four plots (6m wide * 300m long) have been sown to different pasture mixes.

By the first week of December 2000 most of the legumes have already germinated. It is anticipated to have the trial displayed at the Saladero open day next year.

Legumes	Grasses
Alsike Clover 99091	Browntop
Alsike Clover var. Aurora	Cocksfoot var. Cambria
Caucasian Clover var. Cossack Kura	Cocksfoot var. Elsie
Caucasian Clover var. Endura	Cocksfoot var. Prairial
Balansa Clover	Perennial Ryegrass var. Condensa
White Clover var. Huia	Perennial Ryegrass var. Rosalin
White Clover var. Pitau	Poa pratensis var. Barzan
White Clover var. S184	Red Fescue var. Barcrown
Lotus var. Goldie	Red Fescue var. Barpusta
Lotus var. Maku	Red Fescue var. Boreal
Lotus var. Sunrise	Tall Fescue var. Barcel
Berseem Clover	Tall Fescue var. Courtenay
Red Clover Astred	Tall Fescue var. Festorina
Crimson Clover	Tall Fescue var. Montebello
Red Clover var. G27	Timothy var. Titan
Canopy Ladino Clover	
White Clover var. Barbian	
White Clover var. Gwenda	
Birdsfoot Trefoil var. Leo	
Birdsfoot Trefoil	
Sub Clover var. Denmark	
Seradella var. Patas	
Seradella var. Yellow	

Pasture mixes
Browntop, Alsike and White Clover (Huia and Pitau)
Cocksfoot (Cambria and Prairial), Red Fescue (Boreal), Alsike and White Clover (Huia and Pitau)
Browntop and Lotus (Maku)
Cocksfoot (Cambria and Prairial), Red Fescue (Boreal) and Lotus (Maku)

PLEASE NOTE:

AS YOU CAN SEE THESE TWO PAGE ARE THE WRONG WAY AROUND.

I WILL PUT IT DOWN TO THE FLU! Charlene



In the photo above, the Serradella is the plant with the fern-like leaf. As you can see, within 6 weeks of sowing there are plenty of well-established plants. All these plants have nodulated successfully and are in the process of pumping nitrogen back in to the ground for the grass to use.

The main message to come from this work this year is that it is possible to sow your pasture grass in autumn and then under-sow with legume in the following spring.

We've taken this system one step further on the East in the north camp. Earlier this year Gillian Phillips disced a trial area of about 30 ha at Hope Cottage, and a similar sized area at Elephant Beach. At Hope Cottage we tried to burn in spring (early October). Unfortunately, the trash wasn't dry enough and the burn was patchy. What wasn't burnt we left for a few more weeks and in mid-November went back and set fire to it. There was a marked difference between the two fires. The second fire was much better as it burnt quickly and left very little trash on the ground. It was well worth leaving the trash to dry until November, and there was no risk of the fire burning in. We then direct drilled a mix of legume crops and pasture plants without any further ground preparation.

At Hope Cottage we've sown a couple of legume crops (grazing Yellow Lupins (50 kg/ha), and grain Lupins (96 kg/ha)), two Serradella cultivars (1.8kg/ha), Lotus (2kg/ha), Subterranean clover (3 kg/ha), Balansa clover (2 kg/ha), and a pasture mix containing White, Alsike, and Balansa clovers (each at 2.8 kg/ha) with Serradella (2.8 kg/ha), Cocksfoot (4 kg/ha) and Red Fescue (3 kg/ha). With Terrance and Carol's assistance, we hope to have a field day over that way in autumn 2001 to check the progress, and see what will and won't take to those areas up north.

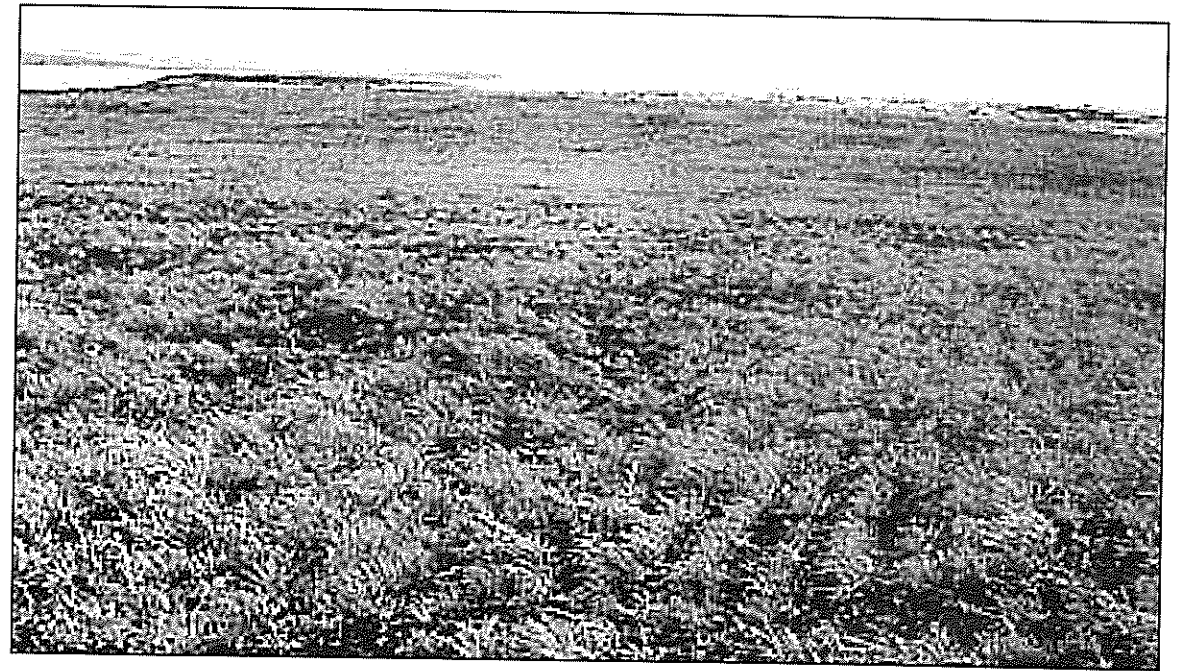
The plan for Elephant Beach will be to burn the diddle-dee in autumn next year and sow a pure grass pasture. Then in spring we'll under-sow the grass with legume.

If this year's results are anything to go by, an autumn/spring pasture sowing system promises to be successful. It also offers a better 'time' option in the farming calendar as spring and summer are busy with livestock work. It appears that it is important to sow legumes in spring/summer rather than autumn. A system that gets the ground prepared and sown to grass in autumn with a legume sowing the following spring (while the grass is not too competitive with new legume seedlings), will fit better into the traditional livestock management timetable.

PROGRESS DEVELOPING DIDDLE-DEE GROUND ON THE EAST

Sean Miller and Peter Johnston

For those of you who were able to make it out to the field day at Brenton Loch and Saladero last year, it is a good time to show a couple of photos on the diddle-dee site that was disc ploughed last year.



The 1.5 ha site is located on a diddle-dee ridge along the coast of Brenton Loch. In August 1999, Bob Reid prepared the ground with the offset disc plough. He lowered the discs about 1 inch into the surface of the ground with the aim of cutting the diddle-dee off from its roots. It was a quick, one-pass operation, and 3 ha an hour was possible in that country.

The trash was allowed to dry out and it was burnt in late November 1999. There were no problems with the fire burning in as a good wind pushed the heat from the fire upwards rather than down, and the residual heat dissipated within 30 minutes of burning. The other advantage of the heat travelling up was the preservation of soil moisture.

In December 1999 the grasses Cocksfoot (at 3 kg/ha) and *Agrostis* (Browntop, at 1 kg/ha) were sown using the Einboch air seeder. Unfortunately, the soil surface remained dry for sometime after sowing and grass establishment was poor. It appears that the Einboch was not ideal for sowing grass seed on un-cultivated ground. However, the Einboch does sow legume and brassica seed (swedes/turnips/kales) successfully in un-cultivated ground as long as the seed is rolled-in afterwards.

Since not much came up, we drilled Cocksfoot into the site again in March 2000, just a couple of weeks before the field day. This time we used the Truax direct drill with a sowing rate of 5 kg/ha. Despite being fenced, some sheep managed to find their way around the beach fence and had the opportunity graze the site on and off for about 3 months during winter.

In October 2000, Peter Nightingale spent a couple of weeks with the Agriculture Department learning to operate the drills and other equipment available in the machinery pool. During this time he took the chance to 'under-sow' the new Cocksfoot pasture with some legumes using the Truax direct drill. To avoid disturbing the young Cocksfoot plants we lifted the front row of cultivating discs out of the ground. With only the planter discs and press wheels touching the ground there was very little disturbance of the soil surface.

The two legumes Peter sowed were Serradella (cultivar Spectra) at 2 kg/ha, and Subterranean Clover (cultivar Denmark) at 3 kg/ha. All legume seed was inoculated with the appropriate *rhizobium* and lime coated.

Both Serradella and Sub-clover are legumes suited to the drier soils, as are the Cocksfoot grass cultivars. Furthermore, both the Serradella and Sub-clover are annuals, so they should set seed each year and new plants should emerge each year thereafter from the previous year's seed set.

FARMS NEED INCREASED PROFITS

By Robert H B Hall

Farms need greater profits in order to survive, develop and prosper. In addition the Falklands need a viable Camp population to manage and undertake the labour required for both wool production and diversified enterprises. The intensification of Falklands agriculture will be people driven and requires a reversal of the decline in the Camp population. The Falklands might consider the following additional investments in agriculture:

MARKET SIGNALS

The global market signals what is in demand through the price mechanism. There are extra-ordinarily clear signals that fine wool achieves higher prices, top quality wool achieves higher prices and that greater weights of production achieve higher farm revenues.

Increasing the value of production:

There is every reason for a specialist wool-producing nation such as the Falkland Islands to produce some super-fine wool, through the establishment of one or more Merino/Comeback flocks. Fleece Wool of 19 microns sells at over 450 p/kg because it is in serious demand. The original National Stud Flock hoggets produced small quantities of wool of under 19 microns from the Polwarth breed thus fine wool production is possible for the Falkland Islands to achieve, given the right genetics. Investment in Merino sheep is required to achieve super fine wool production as an obvious diversification enterprise with a definite export market, especially in Britain and Italy.

The Falklands have yet to conclude the objective of reducing all average fleece fibre diameters to below 30 microns. Wool over 30 microns is the least valuable part of the fleece wool clip and thus carries greater shipping costs per unit value. Net farm revenues would therefore benefit by producing finer wool. Improved breeding and selection resources are required to ensure the Falklands have a finer woolled yet robust sheep strain for the most difficult land.

The Quality Falkland Wool scheme requires further resources to get every wool shed in the Falklands into the basic scheme. Two thirds of sheds still remain outside the scheme. Involvement of all shearing sheds would benefit the Falkland wool brand by further minimising the risk of dark coloured fibre contamination in the clip.

Increased volume of production.

Even from natural pastures there are opportunities for increased production through investment in management and fencing. Parts of Lafonia arguably the best land in the Falklands, run about 0.6 sheep per hectare whilst on poorer country to the north some farms are already achieving 1.0 sheep per hectare. Thus even at the current level of technology there are significant opportunities to increase wool production: using more intensive grazing methods Lafonia alone could sustain an additional 100,000 sheep or their equivalent. With improvements and investment in pasture management involving better plant species, influence of pH and fertilisers, much greater production of wool or any other ruminant product is possible.

The Falklands average fleece weights lag behind other nations. This represents an achievable challenge to increase production per head through investment in genetics and sheep nutrition again principally through pasture developments.

Pasture Development

Falklands agriculture will be based on the utilisation of grassland for decades to come. Pasture development is flexible, will benefit both traditional and diversified ruminant enterprises and is a comparatively low-risk investment. Good Pasture Development Research needs additional resources to bring closer the point of proving profitable commercial scale delivery to farms. The work on legumes has particularly exciting potential. The worthwhile machinery pool cannot match current demand and requires further funding including the provision of smaller machinery that can be used by farmer's own tractors. There is great potential for the Pasture Improvement scheme to go beyond 50 hectares per farm when the DoA get to a position of demonstrating a financial return: at such a time pasture development will become self sustaining, meantime further Stabex and FIG investment is required.

Open Debate

There is a clear need in the Falklands for investment in more open debate and government. The fact that so many Government departments can work for so long with a seriously flawed RBA/DoA proposal as of late, including extra-ordinary accounting errors proves the danger of people working in secret without the confidence to debate proposals openly. How much Government and Councillors' time would have been saved had open debate and full consultation with those involved in the Falkland wool industry (farmers, merchants and ourselves) occurred at the outset?

New Farmers Association

The new RBA has not kept their membership properly informed, has demonstrated closed shop decision making and is about to be housed in the Department of Agriculture. There is an obvious need for investment in a New Farmers Association that keeps its members informed and can lobby on behalf of its membership: an Association of Farmers cannot independently and effectively lobby DoA on how public monies are utilised, from within shared offices!

Debt Reduction

One of the burdens on much of Falklands agriculture is the current level of debt carried by smaller farms. Falklands Landholdings Ltd have the advantage of having their debt cancelled and are rightly seen to have great development potential. If other farms similarly lacked a huge burden of debt, there would be greater potential for farms to concentrate on investment and development rather than having to focus on the next draining mortgage repayment. Similar public resources that cancelled FLH debt could be used to address this issue.

Warehousing in Stanley

The charge of £2.50 per bale currently applied at FIPASS by FIG could be eliminated altogether.

Freight

An Island economy such as the Falklands depends upon shipping in and out. The Government has known for many years of the costs and rates of increases in shipping. Making "less stable the existing shipping arrangements" with "higher south-bound costs as a result of not using the UK-bound service" would impact every person and business in the Falklands. Rather than negotiating special rates for themselves;

- FIG could help question the huge increases in shipping and transport rates in the last 50 months,
- FIG could help question why wool freight rates are not more competitive given the limited quantity of northbound cargo,
- FIG could help increase the volume of wool exported to help reduce costs per tonne to farmers and
- FIG could assist the shippers unloading wool in a northern Port such as Goole, from where transport rates to Bradford would be less than half the current rates from the English south coast and in the order of £18 per tonne.

Retirement Scheme

For decades many who retire from agriculture move to Stanley. There may be significant benefits to the Falklands if additional encouragement were given to help people to retire in Camp. Not only are there many social benefits from a mixed age society but retired Campers could help with the development of Farms by providing both council and occasional relief work at critical times of year. The Camp economy would also benefit. The dwindling numbers of people in Camp, particularly on the Islands and West Falkland is a cause of serious practical and political concern.

Replacement fencing and machinery

Ranching enterprises are Capital Intensive the world over: few personnel but significant infrastructure and machinery costs. This is recognised by the thoroughly beneficial replacement fencing scheme. There is equally a place for some kind of additional machinery scheme to ensure that the few people that do work the Falklands land can do so most efficiently using reliable bikes, four-wheelers, tractors and cultivation equipment.

In Summary Camp and Farms need increased profits which could be achieved through the implementation of several practical and relatively low risk investment schemes as outlined.

BACK TO THE FUTURE

By John Fowler

"Barbecues, Horse-riding and Milking" Europeans and North Americans have become the principal clients of a special tour offered by Magatour, a tourist agency dedicated to what is called Agro-tourism. In parts of the San Fernando estate, 42 kilometres south of Punta Arenas, daily tours are offered which begin at 7.30 am and finish round about 6pm and include a programme of activities related to Camp life. Participation in milking competitions, exploring the native forests, fishing, excursions, horse-trekking and the enjoyment of a typical spit roast all appear among the available options.

The daily cost per person is from US\$95 (55000 pesos) for foreigners and around 35000 pesos for Chilean citizens.

Even though these activities are confined to five months of the year – from November to March – the take-up has been positive and optimism exists for the development which could amount to a distinct model for Magallanes tourism operation. Jorge Varas, the Chief of Operations, emphasises the work carried out on this estate of nearly one thousand hectares, which belongs to the Ruiz family. Although the tours began to develop two years ago with positive results, Vargas indicates that the activity is still in its infancy and they have in hand a programme of improvements to the existing infrastructure to attract more tourists interested in getting to know the wide open natural spaces of Patagonia."

Merco Press Report 3rd January 2001

In the last few weeks, I have been aware of many articles such as the one above. The message they all contain is that in various parts countries around the world, from Scotland to New Zealand, farms and farming communities have been developing a kind of tourism, which has the farming community itself: its work, its recreation and its people as the principal focus. The claim is that agro-tourism, as it is called, may not only hold the key to increased revenues from the land, but also provide the vehicle to keep agricultural communities together and their way of life intact. This integration of tourism and agriculture is not a particularly new idea, of course. On the Isle of Arran in Scotland where we ran a small hotel and restaurant for six seasons, farm holidays had been in vogue since the 1880s. Every spring farmers, their wives and families would vacate the 'big hoose' and garden to visitors from Glasgow and move into much smaller quarters somewhere on the property. The increased daylight hours would also permit wives and daughters to combine their normal farm chores with working in the local hotels and guest houses as cooks, waitresses or house-keepers. They're still doing it.

It is a sad fact that when land-based tourism was being developed in the Falklands in the mid-eighties, the camp community was largely left out of the picture. While we claim to be involved in 'eco-tourism' we forget that most accepted definitions of that growing tourism sector place as much emphasis on the involvement, benefits and protection of the local human population as they do on the natural environment. In neglecting humans in favour of penguins, we may also have neglected real opportunities for a more rational and profitable use of a dwindling, threatened, but potentially gold-plated resource: the Falklands farmer.

It is my intention to make contact with some of the associations on the mainland from Uruguay to Chile which market "estancia holidays" to find out more about them and what level of commercial success they enjoy. On the basis of the information I currently have available, all seem to offer roughly similar programmes, which aim to allow the visitor the opportunity to share in a version of farm life from which some of the difficulties and discomforts have been minimised.

In the usual pattern, all the activities take place on one large estate, which minimises leakage of holiday spend elsewhere. The farm takes care of internal transportation and the activities offered, with the exception of trout fishing where available, all tend to be centred on the life and work of the farm, either as it is now or as it was a generation ago. Horse-riding, either on treks or gathers is a significant attraction and participation by the visitor rather than merely watching is the key-note generally. Just watching has its place, of course, as does retailing food stuffs and locally produced souvenirs. Where accommodation is offered it is usually, as in some places in the Falklands, in the estate's old 'big house', refurbished to provide hotel-style comfort. Catering is based on traditional 'camp' fare with barbecued meat being the staple and most estancias in Patagonia have some kind of sheltered 'asado' attached to a large rustic restaurant or "quincho" probably the equivalent of the farm galley.

One advantage of pursuing the development of agro-tourism in the Falklands as a diversification programme, might be that the concept of the 'holiday farm' 'dude ranch' or 'estancia turistica' is well-developed and understood and does not rely on wild-life to be a success. In advertising such holidays in the Falklands we would be looking for unique selling points, of course and in some cases penguins would figure as an additional attraction, but there would be no necessity to reinvent the marketing wheel. However a central feature of farm tourism, whether in Patagonia, Scotland the USA or New Zealand would appear to be the integration of both the farming and the tourism effort in one business, under one management, making maximum use of all resources: whether land, infrastructure, management or work-force. It is not an 'either or situation' in these countries and is unlikely to succeed as one here.

Given the probability that Falklands tourism will always be predominantly seasonal, it is unlikely, by itself, to provide a stand-alone business for more than that handful of farms which happen to contain spectacular wild-life sites. Thoughtfully combined with wool production, or any other kind of farming, however, agro-tourism may provide the most readily available possibility of turning existing underused resources into sources of significant and satisfactory profit.

Assuming for the moment – and it's a big assumption, but one which space does not allow me to pursue here – that there might be a sufficiently large market for farm-based holidays on the Falklands to provide an attractive additional revenue flow into camp, the question still remains, 'Do any of the farms of the Falklands have the resources to put together the sort of 'agro-tourism' developed elsewhere?'

A central problem is the lack of people. It doesn't make a great deal of sense to talk about 'rationalising' the use of available labour where none exists or to talk about agro-tourism being the means of holding together a community, if it has already vanished. However, I am paid to be optimistic and my view is that the potential for the development of farm-based tourism still exists. In some cases, as I have mentioned elsewhere, useful development might take the form of farmers acting cooperatively to provide hiking, horse-trekking or driving routes, but in others there still remains considerable scope for the development of integrated farming and tourist businesses on the large tourism estancia model.

Most promising is Port Howard. It is the last of the old-time large Falkland farms in private hands, exemplifying still the sort of community that people mean when they talk about "our unique way of life". Moreover it has good internal communications, outside shepherd's houses still in good repair, magnificent scenery, a golf course, the additional attraction of first rate trout fishing and ...for the moment at least...people. For all these reasons, Port Howard would appear to be the prime place to develop as an agro-tourism destination, either for long-stay visitors or cruise ship visits. This may not be the final answer to the problems currently facing the farm, but could make a significant contribution, particularly should the West – East ferry become a reality. It will not happen, however, while the tourism and farming businesses run in parallel, the one over-stretched and the other with workers facing redundancy. Like all the other Falklands tourism lodges, Port Howard operates during the season at the absolute limits of its small staff's physical endurance and it would be unfair to expect them to do more than they are doing. While Robin Lee was alive, I know that it was always his intention and dream that the lodge and the farm should be mutually successful and supportive. Now that he is gone, it would be a rather shabby memorial to him if we were to allow either to perish separately, without first at least exploring the possibility that both might be integrated together into a successful revival plan.

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PASTURE ESTABLISHMENT – SOME ALTERNATIVE METHODS.

By Aidan Kerr

Conventional methods of pasture establishment here usually involve most if not all of the following stages.

- destruction of the original pasture by cultivation, burning or both,
- preparation of a suitable seedbed by further cultivation,
- broadcasting or drilling in the seeds and fertilisers,
- consolidation of the seedbed by rolling.

I have no doubt that many excellent reseeds have been established using these processes. Successful establishment has usually been achieved when there has been enough money, time and effort to put into the exercise. It also helps when the correct machinery is available and where the ground is firm enough to take the machinery without bogging.

But what happens if these conditions are unlikely to be met? Can improved pastures be successfully established at lower costs, in less time and without all the proper machinery? Some recent work by our staff has been aimed at reducing the costs, time and effort involved. For example, the new discs have greatly speeded up the cultivation of Diddle-dee areas while lower sowing rates for grass than previously recommended can reduce seed costs.

Expanding reseeding options

However to reduce costs even further and to expand the options for reseeding we are investigating whether new pastures can be successfully established by;

- intensively grazing or burning Whitegrass pastures,
- then broadcasting the seed and fertilisers,
- then intensive trampling the ground with sheep.

First attempts

Ron Binnie at Fitzroy Farm was also interested in the techniques. So in April 1999 with the help of his staff we tried some of the methods on relatively dry 1.4 ha (3.5 acres) area of ground near Bush Pass. The vegetation at the site was mainly Whitegrass. The site also included some narrow strips that had been rotavated the previous season but had not been treated further.

Firstly the grass was burned. However the burn was patchy due to the prevailing damp weather. Some areas were mown off with a tractor-mounted mower and the mulch left. So there were a variety of ground treatments!

As it was a 'look-see' attempt, we used a very high seeding rate (40 kg/ha) for the grass, over most of the area. Cocksfoot was the main type sown. White Clover seed was also applied at 4 kg/ha. Three 100m² plots on burned and unburned Whitegrass were sown only with a mixture of inoculated legume seed (Lotus and White, Caucasian and Alsike Clovers) at 8kg/ha. Sufficient amounts of Rock and Triple Super phosphate fertilisers were broadcast over the site and a temporary fence was quickly erected. Using dogs Ron then moved a flock of a few hundred sheep back and forth over the site a few times, until they had trampled the soil well. After that the area was not stocked until this summer.

Promising results

By August 1999 the grass had 'taken' best in the rotavated strips, particularly in the wheel ruts and damper depressions. The legumes had 'taken' only on the burned areas.

By Spring 2000, Cocksfoot had established well over most of the site. The legumes had also established well in the plots with several large Lotus and Clover plants per square metre. My conclusion was that the technique was generally successful and practical to use. With some modifications it should be tried again.

Second attempt

With this in mind, Peter Johnston, Gerard Ford and I recently over-sowed three small areas on the former grazing trial near MPA. This time sheep were used to graze the Whitegrass down prior to over-sowing. Then using a small spreader, specially mounted on the back of a four-wheeler bike, we over-sowed a mixture of Lotus, Alsike and White Clovers to two damp valleys and a patch of rushes. The rushes have many good grasses growing amongst them. The seed was inoculated and coated with lime. We also applied Rock Phosphate at recommended rates. Finally Basil Faria from Fitzroy Farm kindly used his dogs to move about 500 sheep back and forth across the areas. We left the sheep on the areas so that they can chew the Whitegrass down further and trample some more of the seed in. They will be removed by the end of January 2001 to give the legumes a chance to establish. We hope to assess establishment in March prior to the planned farmer's visit to Fitzroy Farm near the end of the season, when you can see the results for yourselves! Watch this space!

Other alternative techniques?

I know that a few farmers have tried out similar methods. It would be great to hear about them and how successful they have been! Please get in contact with me.

PUBLIC NOTICE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

As part of a proposed soil survey of farmland, soil surveyor Jim Cruickshank of Queen's University, and Aidan Kerr from the Department will be visiting the following areas in January. If any farmers would like them to specifically inspect soils on their farm then please get in touch with Aidan as soon as possible.

January

7-8 th	Saunders Island
9 th	Port Howard to Roy Cove area
10 th	Roy Cove via Hill Cove to Shallow Bay
11 th	Fox Bay via Chartres area
12 th	Port Stephens area
15 th	To Green Patch, Horseshoe Bay and Port Louis areas
16 th	Estancia via Hope Cottage to Salvador area
17 th	Cape Dolphin via Port San Carlos to San Carlos area
18 th	San Carlos via Goose Green to Saladero
19 th	Goose Green to Stanley via Fitzroy area

It is hoped Jim will show some slides on his soil survey work elsewhere. The slide shows will be at;

- Shallow Bay Farm at 7pm on January 10th,
- Fox Bay Social Club at 8pm on the 11th,
- Hope Cottage Farm at 8pm on the 16th,
- and Stanley Community School at 8pm on the 22nd.

Everyone is invited to attend.

**AN INTRODUCTION FROM THE
LOCUM VETERINARY OFFICER**

John Wellington B Agr Sc B V Sc MRCVS

When I first heard of an opportunity to join the Veterinary Service and work in the Falklands, I thought "what a great thing to do". I have previously worked in Australia and Britain, with farm animals and with small animals in Melbourne, and for some years in the Veterinary Pharmaceutical Industry. The Falkland Islands have a reputation for being a "clean and green" environment, and also for successfully tackling the major problems affecting the animal industries, so I know we can all learn from your experiences.

I've so far been involved with the clinical work in Stanley and I look forward to getting out to the camp when the sheep and cattle programs resume for the New Year. The races were a great start, a great way to meet people and see the community in action. Pity about the weather, but I expected wet and cold anyway. I didn't bring any light clothing with me, and the beautiful days recently have been a big surprise.

I'm filling in for Cameron Bell, while he is in South Georgia, and will stay until his return in mid February. I didn't expect to ever see a dog without fleas, nor a sheep without biting lice, nor a place where livestock are safe from tetanus infection. Add to these the advantages from eradication of tuberculosis in cattle and brucellosis in sheep and livestock industries here must have a head start on the rest of the world.

The reindeer will I'm sure be a useful addition to the rural economy. The velvet, or freshly growing antler is a valuable crop in New Zealand and southern Australia. We farm mostly red deer and the more tropical Rusa Deer from Asia. Pasture management is OK, as in most things, local experience shows the way to go for each farm.

I've seen some worm burdens in the sheep. I guess they're hard to control, as pasture spelling here to kill worm eggs would take too long to be practical? If there is no season each year when the ground is free of eggs and nearly all the worm population is inside the sheep, then using anthelmintics will not improve production very much. In Australia we depend on dry season drenches to control worms throughout the year.

I look forward to gaining an appreciation of what the Falklands are all about, and I think home time will come all too soon. Until then, thank you for having me.

Brian Corner, the Abattoir Operations Manager, arrived in the Islands on 6th January. He will be based in the FIDC offices at Shackleton House, Stanley. If you are coming into Stanley and would like to meet Brian, please call the FIDC offices on 27211 to arrange a time for you to call in.

FOR NEXT SEASON SHEARING 2001—2002

Farmers: If are you interested in having your sheep shorn with reductions and without a loss to the shearer or rousie due to very low wool prices, you are asked to get in touch with me for a quote.

Contact: Haggis at Port North Farm on
telephone: 41104 fax:41104
or telephone after mid April on 01770 342802.

To whom it may concern.

Could all Farms when paying for **Woolpacks** or **Fish hooks** purchased from The F.I.Sheepowners Association Please read and follow the clear payment instructions on their invoice.

The invoice clearly asks payment to be made direct to **Standard Chartered Bank** with cheques made out to "SOA Woolpack Account".

The Sheepowners Association does not have a Stanley Office; the registered office is at Coast Ridge Farm, Fox Bay to which mail other than payments should be addressed.

Prompt payment of invoices and payment **direct to the Bank** will help keep costs to a minimum. Unnecessary interest and administration costs are something that no one wants.

Thank you for you co-operation.

N.Knight,
Secretary FISOA.

VISIT BY ALAN LOW

**Forestry Consultant Dr. Alan Low will visit the Islands from
February 6th to 18th 2001.**

Anyone wishing to discuss trees, shelterbelts etc. with him could they please contact Aidan Kerr on 27355 to make an appointment ASAP.

LUPINS FOR WOOL

By Robert H B Hall

Genetically modified foods have been the centre of press attention recently and the organic movements are generally against genetically modified crops. The dilemma for farmers around the globe is that genetic modification can substantially increase production, yet bearing in mind that the customer is always right, a significant number of customers are prepared to avoid purchasing such products.

"Genetically modified lupins are proving a tasty dish for Australian sheep according to the CSIRO. Selected Merino sheep have been eating lupin seeds that were modified to contain a sunflower gene that stimulates production of a highly nutritious protein.

The sheep trying the new feed have experienced an 8 percent increase in wool growth and 7 per cent greater weight gain than sheep eating normal lupin seeds and have otherwise maintained normal health over the six-week trial, according to scientists from the CSIRO.

Growing wool and muscle requires sheep to eat large amounts of sulphur amino acids which are absorbed through the animal's small intestines. However, the sheep's first stomach tends to break down 40 per cent of these nutrients before they reach the intestine. By modifying the lupin with a sunflower gene scientists have produced a protein that remains stable in the first stomach." (FT 5/1/01)

Clearly IF customers are prepared to continue buying some products that have a genetically modified history, the producers of those products will have an advantage over those producers who for whatever reason do not employ such methods. IF on the other hand customers refuse to buy genetically modified products, producers may be poll-axed. Genetic modification is likely to remain in the limelight for years to come, and will be extremely damaging for any enterprise that misjudges their consumers' reaction either way.

IRISH SEAWEED BOOM

The Irish seaweed industry could expand from its current annual value of \$7.5 million to \$50 million within the next ten years reports Gery Flynn in a recent edition of Fish Farming International.

The Irish National Seaweed Forum is proposing a strategy to build on Ireland's clean, "natural" image to sell added value products in the animal-feed, cosmetic and alginate industries using sustainable harvesting methods.

We know from studies carried out in recent years that we have significant quantities of commercially valuable seaweeds growing around the Falkland Islands. This could be a major growth area in the future - anyone interested in working with FIDC/DoA to develop a seaweed industry in the Islands, please contact Jason Morris on 27211 or email jmorris@fidc.co.fk.

AN EXAMPLE OF THE MEAT MARKET TRADE PRICES IN THE UK IN NOVEMBER 2000.

Birmingham 16 November 2000		Birmingham 16 November 2000		Glasgow 15 November 2000			
Beef: quoted in pence per kilo		Mutton:		Beef:	Vacuum Packs:		
Sides under 136.8kg	176	Ewes	92	Specials	94	Thick flanks	130
Hinds	261			Medium Sides	94	Silversides	155
Fores	114			Heavy Sides	88	Topsides	170
				Others	84	D cut rumps	205
				Irish Fores	55	Fillets	510
Boxed Beef:		Pork:		Scotch Fores	64	Striploins	320
English Topside	331	36.4 - 58.6kg	150	Flanks	50	Shins	74
Scottish Topside	408	63.1kg - 76.7kg	141	Loins	235	Ponies	98
English Silverside	301						
Scottish Silverside	331	Veal:		Loins & ribs	200	Briskets	105
Irish Silverside	-	Bobbies	55	Tops	102	Chuckroll	100
				Rumps	130	Rumples	130
		Fresh Eviscerated Chicken:		Tops & Rumps	108	Cuberoll	260
Lamb:		908g - 1300g Grade A	99	Ox Liver	32		
English New Season Lambs	193	908g - 1300g Grade B	97	Ox Heart	50	Pork:	
New Zealand PL	-	Trays	149	Roastings	180	Quality pigs	76
New Zealand PM	169	1300g - 1700g Grade A	101	Foreribs	120	Light pigs	72
New Zealand PX	169	1300g - 1700g Grade B	97			Cutters	64
New Zealand YL	-	Trays	149			Heavy Pigs	56
New Zealand YM	165	1800g - 2200g Grade A	101	Lamb:		Pork Fores	40
New Zealand: Carvery Legs	276	1800g - 2200g Grade B	97	FASL	99	Fores	50
New Zealand: Ordinary Legs	257	Trays	149	Medium weights	95	Loins	115
		2200g + Grade A	116	Heavy weights	86	Gigots	72
		2200g + Grade B	97	Prs of fores	54	Fillets	240
		Trays	149	Prs of hinds	156	Skinned Loins	125
				Loins	200	Dressed Loins	145
				Gigots	155	Legs	77
				Livers	80		
				Hearts	50		
				Plucks	45		

Red Meats: Price per pence per kilo		
Beef:		<i>Min-Max</i>
	Scotch Sides	212.0-236.0
	Hind 1/4	265.0-289.0
	Fore 1/4	130.0-135.0
Home Killed Beef:		
	Hind 1/4	243.0-258.0
	Fore 1/4	115.0-121.0
	Top Bits	174.0-194.0
	Rump & loin	480.0-490.0
	Foreribs	269.0-298.0
	Pony	135.0-154.0
Boned Beef:		
	Topsides	342.0-387.0
	Silversides	291.0-367.0
	Knuckle	289.0-346.0
	Chuck Roll	215.0-254.0
	Striploins	694.0-830.0
	Rib Eyes	525.0-668.0
Pigs:		
	Under 45kg	135.0-150.0
	45-54kg	132.0-149.0
	54-63kg	132.0-146.0
	Pork Legs	135.0-145.0
	Legs st. loins	142.0-156.0
	Short Loins	186.0-207.0
	Neck Ends	129.0-146.0
	Bellies Long	140.0-174.0

Poultry: 15 November 2000		
Chicken:	Average prices for good Quality birds (pence per kilo)	
Broilers under 1150g		95
Broilers 1150g and under 1350g		102
Broilers 1350g and under 1550g		102
Broilers 1550g and under 2050g		92
Roasters 2050g and under 2450g		100
Roasters over 2450g		102
Skinless Breast Fillets		270
Drumsticks		105
Turkeys:		
Up to 7.25kg		210
7.25kg and under 9kg		198
9.0kg and over		152
Ducklings: all weights		190
Geese: (in season)		475

If you are interested in these figures and would like to see more.

Please give me a call and I will send you what I can. Charlene

*Public Works Department
Ross Road
Stanley*

The Public Works Department would like to inform the general public of the road inspection regime that has been put into place.

Regular road inspections are carried out by the Highways section and are programmed to be on the following days.

East Falkland

*21 & 22 Nov 2000
19 & 20 Dec 2000
23 & 24 Jan 2001
20 & 21 Feb 2001
20 & 21 March 2001
17 & 18 April 2001
15 & 16 May 2001
12 & 13 June 2001*

West Falkland

*27 & 28 Nov 2000
10 & 11 Jan 2001
22 & 23 Feb 2001
5 & 6 April 2001
17 & 18 May 2001
28 & 29 June 2001*

Lard McLeod will normally carry out these routine inspections, if you have any particular concerns and wish to meet him please call a few days before the inspection date to make arrangements.

Should anybody have note problems occurring with a section of road, they should call the office on 27387 or fax on 27199.

**REPORT OF THE FOURTEENTH
WEST FALKLAND RAM & FLEECE SHOW**

After a wet and windy few days the weather on the day of the Fourteenth West Falkland Ram and Fleece Show was pleasantly calm and dry. The residents and visitors to Fox Bay Village on the 29th December therefore anticipated a good day out.

The HARPS Car Boot Sale the day before merely served to whet their appetite for another days eating and drinking punctuated with the odd activity.

Justin had already been working hard to transformed the Woolshed, so it was now Keiths turn. He started off by taking entries, some of which had already arrived by FIGAS. Shortly after Lisa arrived from Port Howard to give him a hand.

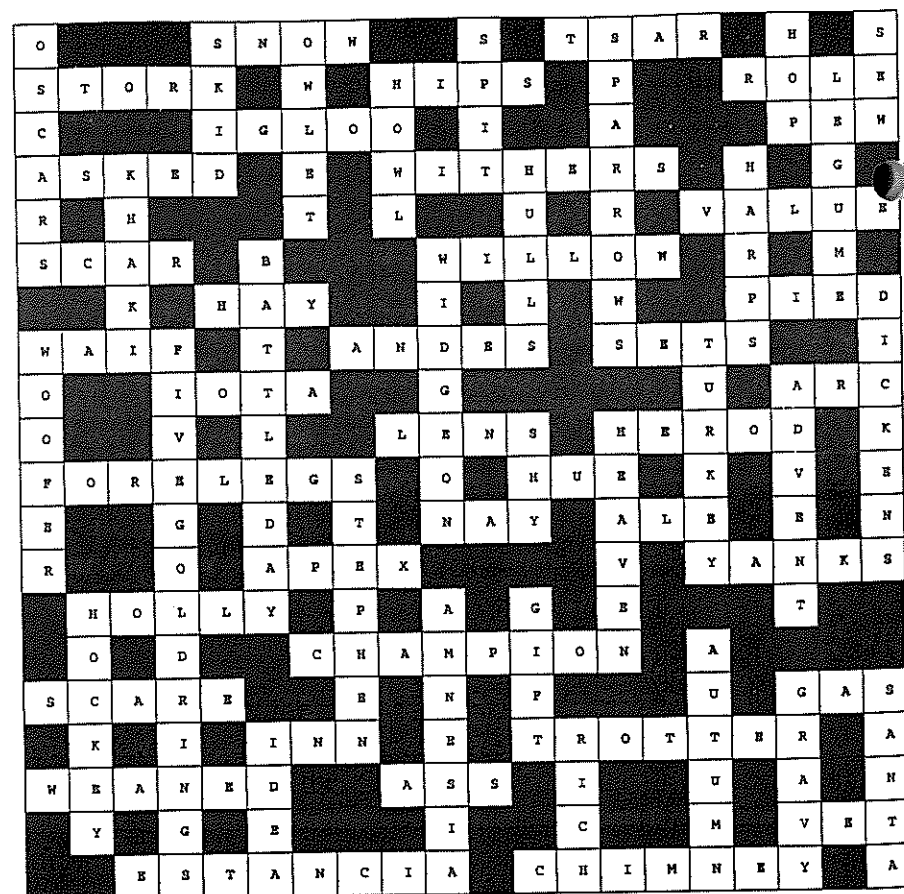
Once the entries were all in Bill Pole-Evans and Leon Marsh set about the daunting task of selecting the Fleece having the highest Commercial Value. They did this by working out the clean weight by estimating the yield and then multiplying this by the actual greasy weight. They then estimated the average fibre diameter before multiplying this by today's prices for that micron wool. Once this had been accomplished the next task was to judge the Champion Ram and Reserve Champion from all the Rams exhibited in the Show, not a job for the fainthearted.

By now the Barbecue which was once again in the capable hands of Lyn and Tony was in full swing, this fortified those who intended judging the three classes of Rams and the three classes of fleeces which now awaited them back at the Woolshed. Once this task had been accomplished the judging slips were added up by numerous volunteer manual-adding machines before Lisa collated the results. The sheep used in the fleece weight competition was then relieved of its fleece and both the fleece and the sheep were then weighed. This enabled the winners in these other competitions to be worked out. Once all the winners in each class had been established the rosettes were attached to the relevant pen or table.

Promptly at 6pm a good crowd once again assembled in the Woolshed for the Prizegiving. Councillor Norma Edwards presented the prizes this year. After this the sweaters were auctioned, the money going towards Show Funds. Roger did an excellent job in wringing a few extra pounds out of some very tight purse strings. This last Event brought the Show to a close, so the focus of attention now moved back again to the Social Club for more drinking and dancing into the early hours of next morning. thus bringing to an end another successful Show and the last Ram and Fleece Show of the Twentieth Century.

N.A.Knight.
Organiser WFR&FS. 2000

*ANSWERS
TO
LAST
MONTH'S
CROSSWORD*



THE FOURTEENTH WEST FALKLAND RAM & FLEECE SHOW 2000

Prize list.

Won by - Points:

Class 1 - Full Wool Ram Hogget

- 1st prize. Engraved Challenge Shield presented
by Mr & Mrs Austin Davies + £75 donated by Standard Chartered Bank.
2nd prize. £50 donated by Cable & Wireless plc.
3rd prize £40 donated by the Falkland Islands Development Corporation
4th prize £25 donated by R. M. Pitaluga & family.

Shallow Harbour - 73
Chartres - 51
Coast Ridge Farm - 47
Main Point - 44

Class 2 - Full Wool Shearling Ram

- 1st prize Silver Cup presented by Dunnose Head Farm
+ £50 donated by Cable & Wireless plc.
2nd prize £60 presented by the Falkland Islands Development Corporation.
3rd prize £50 presented by Saddle Farm Computers.
4th prize £25 presented by the Rural Business Association.

Coast Ridge Farm - 67
Coast Ridge Farm - 56
Coast Ridge Farm - 54
Shallow Harbour - 39

Class 3 - Full Wool Mature Ram

- 1st prize Falkland Islands Wool Marketing Challenge Cup.
A replica and £40 presented by Falklands Landholdings Ltd.
2nd prize Prize donated by the Falkland Islands Company Ltd.
3rd prize £50 presented by Port Howard Farm.
4th prize £25 presented by Little Chartres Farm.

Coast Ridge - 39
Shallow Harbour - 46
Main Point - 41
Coast Ridge Farm - 41

Class 4 - Hogget Fleece

- 1st prize Silver Challenge Cup and replica presented
by Meridith Fishing Company and Falkland Hydrocarbon Development Ltd
+ £40 and voucher donated by Falkland Farmers.
2nd prize £50 Fuel Voucher donated by Stanley Services.
3rd prize £35 voucher donated by Falkland Farmers.
4th prize £25 voucher donated by Falkland Farmers.

Horseshoe Bay - 53
Chartres - 47
Shallow Harbour - 42
Chartres - 41

Class 5 - Any Fine Wool Fleece other than hogget

- 1st prize 'Governors Cup' challenge cup presented
by H.E. the Governor + replica presented by
" Newton Investment Management Ltd (FIG's investment managers).
2nd prize £75 " "
3rd prize £50 " "
4th prize £25 " "

Rincon Ridge - 44
Port North - 42
Horseshoe Bay - 35
Horseshoe Bay - 31

Class 6 - Any 'b' type Wether Fleece

- 1st prize Engraved Challenge Cup presented by
Coast Ridge Farm + replica and £25 presented by Ursula Wanglin.
2nd prize £60 donated by Falkland Islands Sheepowners Association.
3rd prize £40 also donated by Falkland Islands Sheepowners Association.
4th prize £25 donated by Stanley Electrical.

Chartres - 58
Port North - 46
Boundary Farm - 46
Chartres - 28

Additional Prizes

The Champion Ram won by *Chartres Farm* wins 'the Patricia Luxton Perpetual Challenge Cup' + replica from the Luxton family Chartres. The Cable & Wireless Perpetual Challenge Cup + replica is presented to the reserve champion and won by *Coast Ridge Farm*. Rosettes were presented for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th, prize winners in all six classes. A champion and reserve champion rosette was also given. These were all provided by Jim McAdam of the Department of Agriculture, Northern Ireland. In Class 3 the 1st, 2nd and 3rd rams were given medallions by *Twigworth Trading*. A Silver Challenge Cup + £60 for the fleece with the highest commercial value was presented by the Falkland Islands Development Corporation and won

by *Chartres* with a fleece having estimated value of £10.37. A Challenge Cup for the farm with most points in all classes is donated by Mr Owen Summers and won by *Coast Ridge Farm*.

Additional Competitions

In the 'guess the sheep weight competition' the winner receives £25 from the Southern Cross Social Club won by *Jackie Morrison* who guessed the closest with 102 kilos. The winner of the 'fleece weight' competition received £25 from Lake Sullivan Farm and was won by *Tony Hirtle* who was closest with a guess of 4.2 kilos. Whilst the winner of the 'micron estimate' competition received £25 from the Argos Fishing Company and was won by *Tom Blake* who guessed 28.2 micron. The Department of Agriculture and Falkland Islands Wool Marketing again be sponsored a sheep judging competition for the under '21's' was won by *Roxanne Morrison* and runner up were the *Goodwin Children*.. The Falkland Mill (FIDC) and Warrah Knitwear kindly donated sweaters. These items were then auctioned by Roger Edwards for show funds after the prize giving. FIGAS once again generously agreed to fly fleeces free of charge.

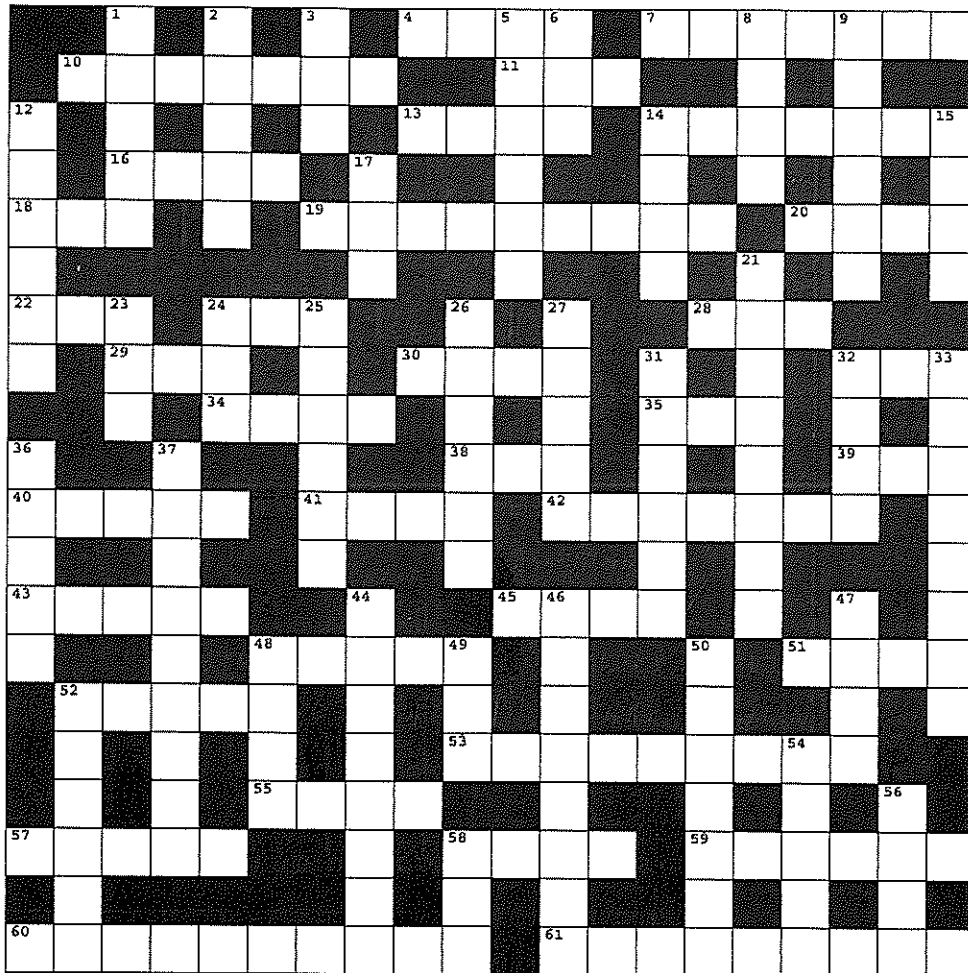
Thank you to Tony and Lynn Blake and friends for the BBQ with meat supplied by Little Chartres and Coast Ridge Farm. Justin for transforming the Woolshed. Keith and Lisa for taking entries. Bill and Leon for judging, and all those who did the sums afterwards, Lisa for sorting it all out and the Department of Agriculture for their assistance before and after the event. Cllr. Norma Edwards for presenting the prizes, The Committee of the Southern Cross Social Club and for forgetting the residents of Fox Bay for being excellent hosts.

Dog Dosing Dates 2001/2002



January 17th	Drontal	August 8th	Droncit
February 21st	Droncit	September 19th	Drontal
April 4th	Drontal	October 31st	Droncit
May 16th	Droncit	December 12th	Drontal
June 27th	Drontal	January 23rd	Droncit

JANUARY 2001



ACROSS

- 4. AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY
- 7. SEDIMENT LEFT BEHIND
- 10. FARM WORKHORSE
- 11. FEMALE BOVINE
- 13. PLANT SYSTEM UNDERGROUND
- 14. WOOL IS THIS BEFORE SHIPPING
- 16. BLACKTHORN FRUIT
- 18. DISTRESS SIGNAL
- 19. MOODY, HUNT, LAMONT, LEWIS, ETC.
- 20. CHEMICAL FOUND IN URINE
- 22. SELF IMAGE
- 24. VENOMOUS SERPENT
- 28. VERMINE
- 29. ATMOSPHERE
- 30. WELSH VEGETABLE
- 32. TOP FLAP ATTACHED TO A PAIR OF TROUSERS
- 34. LASK OUT WITH THE FEET
- 35. EGGS
- 38. NOISE
- 39. LOWER APPENDAGE
- 40. FALKLAND VESSEL
- 41. SMALL ISLAND
- 42. SEA PLANTS
- 43. OPEN SPACE IN FOREST
- 45. RENDERED FAT
- 48. A PERENNIAL WOODY PLANT
- 51. APPLE CENTRE
- 52. GROUP OF SHEEP
- 53. SAY SORRY
- 55. POTATO
- 57. RECORD OF DAILY EVENTS
- 58. VOICE A PRICE OF MUSIC
- 59. DISPOSABLE HANKY
- 60. INSTRUMENT FOR MEASURING HUMIDITY
- 61. BEACH BIRD

DOWN

- 1. GRAZING FODDER
- 2. THEATRICAL PERFORMER
- 3. SMALL DRINK
- 5. DIARRHOEA IN ANIMALS
- 6. VINDALOO FOR INSTANCE
- 8. PLANT GERM
- 9. LONGING
- 12. STRIP OF BACON
- 14. SHIPPING HARBOUR
- 15. DISH OUT THE CARDS
- 17. PIG
- 21. SMALL COLOURFUL PARROT
- 23. ROWING TOOL
- 24. NOAH'S BOAT
- 25. OUTDOOR MEAL
- 26. SEXUAL CATEGORY
- 27. ANIMAL HIDES
- 31. GOVERNOR LAMONT'S CHRISTIAN NAME
- 32. FEARLESS
- 33. SCOTTISH INSTRUMENT
- 36. PERFORMERS LOCATION
- 37. COMMON 4 X 4
- 44. OFTEN
- 46. FINANCIAL REPORTS
- 47. ENCRYPTED MESSAGE SYSTEM
- 48. SNOW GLIDERS
- 49. SHEEP NOISE
- 50. WITH VISION
- 52. CLOSE RELATIONS
- 54. TRENDY ORIENTAL RAW FISH
- 56. SAND HILL
- 58. KNIGHTED MAN



The Wool Press

ISSUE 135

FEBRUARY 2001

PRICE : £1.00

**All the
regular
features
and more!**

The Wool Press is
published by the
Department
of Agriculture
and
printed at the
Falkland Islands
Government
Printing Office.

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SOIL SURVEYOR'S VISIT

&

FALKLAND SOILS - ORIGINS AND PROSPECTS

By Jim Cruickshank & Aidan Kerr

THE JETTY CENTRE - AN UPDATE

By Emma Jane McAdam

MAEDI-VISNA:

SHOULD THE FALKLANDS FARMERS BE CONCERNED?

By Steve Pointing

AN ACCOUNT OF WOOL MARKETING DEVELOPMENT IN CHILE

Sourced by Doug Cartridge

WORMS IN SHEEP FLOCK

By John Wellington

WHAT IS POTATO CYST EEL WORM (PCN)?

By Aidan Kerr

NEW ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME FOR CAMP EXEMPTION FROM RETIREMENT PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS

EFFICIENCIES IN WOOL MARKETING

By Robert Hall

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Editor:
Charlene Rowland

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*An account of Wool
marketing Development
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Sourced By Doug

*WORMS IN SHEEP
FLOCK*
By John Wellington

*What is Potato Cyst
Eelworm (PCN)?*
By Aidan Kerr

*Maedi-Visna: Should
Falklands Farmers be
concerned?*
By Steve Pointing

...and much much more!

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However, such quotations are to be
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must be acknowledged as the source.

The articles printed in
The Wool Press do not
necessarily represent
the views of the
DoA and FIDB.

Most staff from FIDC/DoA have been out in the field this month. Firstly, a field day and a familiarisation trip out to Brenton Loch was arranged for FIDC staff that seemed to soak up the expanse of what experiments have and have not been achieved with pasture improvements. The second was four different working parties from both departments on different days in cementing posts for the reindeer fence. All in all everyone one had a good couple of enjoyable, hard working and fun days.

By the time you will have received this 'Wool Press' the reindeer should have arrived at Brenton Loch and settling in to their new home. Hopefully I will have photographs and a write up on the catch.

Its been suggested that the Ram Sale could be around the 20th March. With the road all the way to Saladero it may be possible to have the Open Day and Ram Sale on the same day. I will inform you in the next 'Wool Press' of our decision.

**WILKINS •
KENNEDY**

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Wilkins Kennedy are offering training courses at YOUR farms. We will offer training in any area of accountancy, dependent on your requirements.

Our standard course will be
"DIVERSIFICATION AND ACCOUNTING".

Assistance for the cost of these courses will be given from the Department of Agriculture. Please register your interest in attending to Karen on telephone/fax 22918 or e-mail wkfi@horizon.co.fk

NEW ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME FOR CAMP Exemption from Retirement Pension Contributions

As part of the Government's policy to facilitate the long-term viability of Camp, a new assistance programme has been approved to exempt Camp residents from the liability to pay Retirement Pension Contributions and for the Government to make payment on their behalf.

This programme came into effect on 1 January 2001 for an initial period of 3 calendar years, subject to review. Unlike previous forms of assistance for Retirement Pension Contributions no prepayment is required.

Upon application to the Retirement Pensions Board of Management exemptions will be considered and, if approved, payments will be made by Government on behalf of individuals providing they fulfil the following qualifying criteria:

- (a) The contributor is ordinarily resident in Camp (i.e. for at least 240 days a year)
- (b) The contributor is employed in Camp
- (c) The annual gross earnings of the contributor is less than £15,000 or £30,000 in the case of joint tax returns
- (d) Provided criterion (a) is satisfied the following persons are also eligible:

those absent from Camp and working -

- in the coastal shipping service;
- in fishery protection;
- on fishing vessels;

and those absent from Camp -

- for medical reasons;
- for attending training;

Please note that, should there be any question regarding an individual's eligibility for exemption, the information obtained for the purposes of the Taxes Ordinance may be disclosed to the Retirement Pensions Board of Management by the Commissioner of Taxation.

It should be noted that this assistance programme only came into effect on 1 January 2001 and does not admonish an individuals liability to make payment for any period for which payment is due prior to that date.

Forms to claim exemption will be issued by the Pensions Office at the Treasury however if for any reason you do not receive one please contact that office for a form. It is anticipated that the forms will be issued at the end of each calendar year.

If you require clarification of the above, or assistance to determine eligibility or in completing the form, please contact the Pensions Office at the Treasury on 27010.

**The Treasury
Stanley
5 February 2001**

AN INTRODUCTION FROM THE HYDATID OFFICER

By now, the majority of farmers will be aware that I have taken over from Diana Berntsen as Hydatid Officer and, as is customary, I have been asked to jot something down for the Woolpress.

I suspect that most of the farming fraternity will know that I live and farm on West Falkland but might not know that I came to the Islands from Manchester in 1967 on a three and a half year contract to work at Hill Cove as a shepherd - many of you will remember that a number of farms recruited employees on similar terms back then. I completed two contracts, married Ginny in May 1975 and, after an extended honeymoon in UK, came back to work at Hill Cove in January 1976 where we stayed until April 1980 before moving to Dunnose Head as section manager and eventually buying a section of what was then Packe's Port Howard, in September 1983. When I applied for the Hydatid Officer's post, the job description highlighted three main requirements where experience was regarded as necessary, these were: "Local farming knowledge; Experience with working dogs and Ability to work and meet deadlines without direct supervision". I believe that 33 years living and working in camp has provided me with those qualifications.

There are 32 farms that need to have offal checked, some to bring them up to the required number that have to be checked on each farm (100) and some that haven't had any checked at all. I have written to all these farms asking for their co-operation in getting the full number of offal inspected - thank you to the ones that have responded already. May I urge the ones who are yet to reply to contact me as soon as possible so a programme can be drawn up where the maximum number of farms can be visited in the shortest possible time? Please feel free to use any of the following to get in contact:

Tel: 42178 Fax: 42177 e-mail: jimgin@horizon.co.fk

A JOKE FROM ROGER SPINKS

Once upon a time there was a farmer tending his sheep at the edge of a camp track. A brand new Mitsubishi screeches to a halt next to him. The driver, a young man dressed in a Brioni suit, Cerrutti shoes, Ray-Ban glasses, Jovial Swiss wrist watch and a Bhs tie gets out and asks the shepherd:

"If I guess how many sheep you have, will you give me one of them?"

The farmer looks at the young man, then looks at the sprawling camp full of sheep and says:

"Okay."

The young man parks the vehicle, connects his notebook and wireless modem, enters a NASA site, scans the ground using his GPS, opens a database and 60 Excel tables filled with algorithms, then prints out a 150 page report on his high-tech mini printer. He then turns to the farmer and says: "You have exactly 1,586 sheep here."

The shepherd answers: "That's correct, you can have your sheep."

The young man takes one of the animals and puts it into the back of his vehicle. The farmer looks at him and asks: "Now, if I can guess your profession, will you pay me back in kind?"

The young man answers: "Sure."

The farmer says: "You are a consultant."

"Exactly! How did you know?" asks the young man.

"Very simple" answers the farmer.

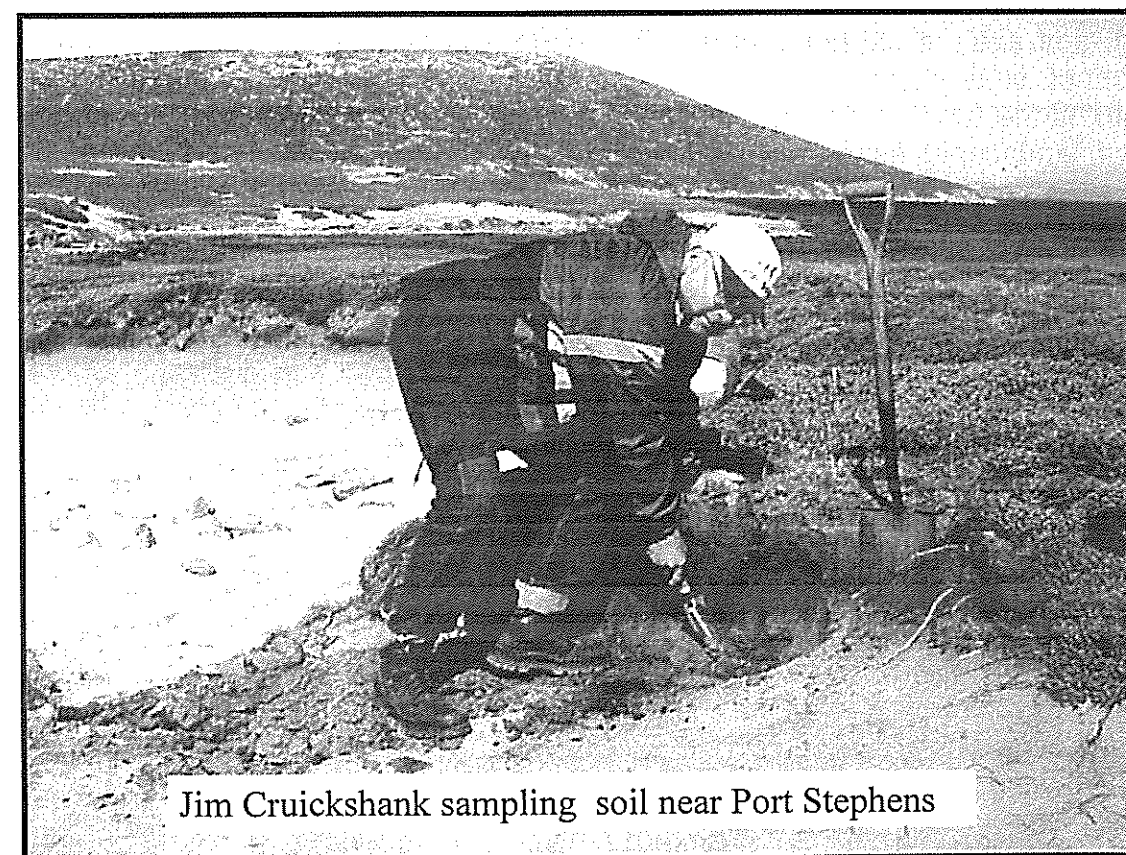
"Firstly, you came here without being called. Secondly, you charged me a fee to tell me something I already knew. Thirdly, you do not understand anything about my business, and I'd really like to have my dog back".

SOIL SURVEYOR'S VISIT.

Jim Cruickshank recently retired as the Principal Soil Surveyor of Northern Ireland. During 1987-99 he led and was the main author of the soil survey of N. Ireland. He has worked in soil science for almost 40 years and has surveyed soils in places as diverse as Greenland to Australia.

Through our links with Queen's University, Belfast we asked Jim to help us plan an intensive survey of farmland here. The information from the survey and the resulting soil maps would be available to farmers. This would help farmers decide on the optimum levels of inputs e.g. calcified seaweed, phosphate, needed to improve the soil and manage the land developments sustainably. This is essential if the significant investments in pasture improvement and crop diversification are to be maximized in the long term.

In his short January visit Jim familiarized himself with the soils and rural environment through much of East and West Falkland. Jim and Aidan would like to thank all those who hosted them during their recent tour and all those who attended Jim's 'slide shows'. They hope you enjoyed them as much as they enjoyed the discussions that were provoked!



Jim Cruickshank sampling soil near Port Stephens

FALKLAND SOILS – ORIGINS AND PROSPECTS

By Jim Cruickshank (with a few notes by Aidan Kerr)

Soil is man's most vital resource on earth. Combined with sunlight and solar energy, soil provides a growth medium for plants, wild and cultivated. Soil includes space for plant rooting, oxygen, moisture and nutrient supply for plants. Its importance to man can never be overstated, and that applies everywhere, even in the Falklands. Soil is a valuable resource that when eroded cannot be replaced readily.

What is the environment in which soil has developed in the Falklands? Climate, past and present, is all important, especially for the formation of organic soils or peat. Currently annual rainfall (everywhere in the lowlands at less than 700mm) seems too low for peat formation, but the possibility exists for peat to have formed in an earlier, wetter climate. Peat is 92 percent by weight water and also holds water most effectively. Evaporation and transpiration losses of water back into the atmosphere have not been measured, but are likely to be quite close to the rainfall figures. Falkland's climate is close to semi-arid therefore moisture in peat is valuable.

The next major factor to explain variation in Falkland soils is geology or rock-type. Evidence on the ground is clear. Ice sheets in the last world glaciation, between 14,000 and 25,000 years ago did not cover the Islands. Thus the mixing of material that occurs during glaciation did not obscure soil parent materials. Instead, the Falklands lay in a "peri-glacial" environment, around and near ice caps, but not below them. At that time, the Falklands climate was very cold, freezing and thawing the soil by season, and even in shorter cycles. The result was that rock outcrops or "tors" were left intact, slopes were smoothed by the process and upstanding stones were pushed into 'stone runs'. Consequently, the main rock types can be seen clearly in the present landscape, especially along the cuttings of the new roads. It is well known that the Falklands started their geological life on the edge of south-east Africa in what was known as Gondwana. For the present, the important points are that rock building stopped in the Falklands about 250 million years ago, and that the Islands were in their present position by about 150 million years ago. That crucially means that the Falklands have no rocks from the most recent geological periods of Jurassic, Cretaceous and Tertiary, which usually contain lime-rich rocks. The most familiar example might be the area of England, southeast of the line from Bristol to York. The loss to the Falklands of these lime-rich rocks is beyond estimation, as a corrective measure for the acidity in soils.

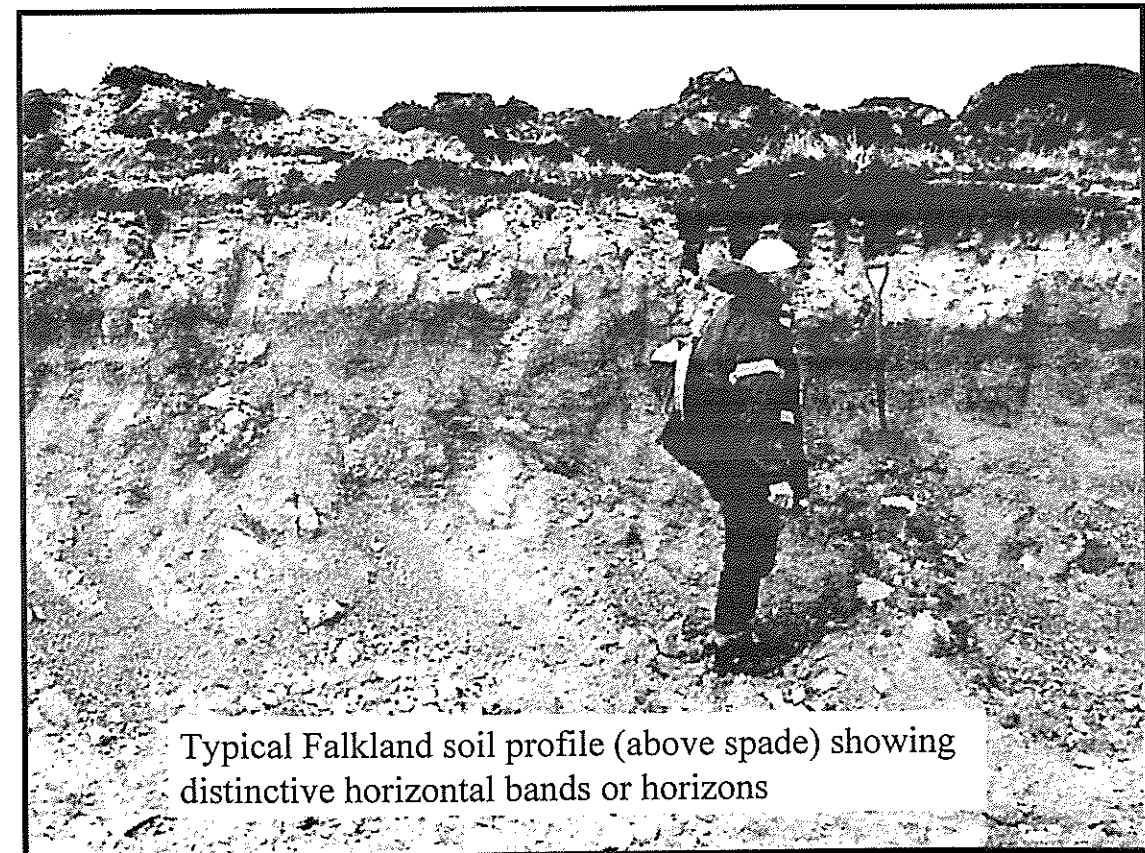
The mineral soils of the Falklands have developed by chemical and physical changes from the underlying rocks. What matters is not that the rocks are old or ancient in geological time, but that they are all acid or very acid – as are the related soils. The main difference among the rocks is between the hard, quartz-rich rocks of the mountains lying mainly above 500m (Port Stanley and Port Stephens formations), and the soft rocks of silt stone, mud stone and tillite which form the lowlands (Fox Bay, Port Philomel, Fitzroy and Lafonia formations). The fine soil material of the latter group contain mainly silt and clay particles, and have a better mineral nutrient store than the quartzite hard rocks. The soils of the latter have very low fertility and thus are likely to need relatively more inputs to improve them for agriculture.

In our recent reconnaissance tour of soils in both West and East Falkland Aidan Kerr and I inspected and sampled over 30 vertical sections and collected other samples for advisory work. So far these samples seem to confirm the soil to rock relationships

mentioned above. Laboratory soil analyses are awaited for further property data about these mineral soils in relation to their underlying rock type.

Most of the farmers we met had cultivated the peaty 'topsoil' down to about a spade's depth (c. 14 in or 35 cm). This depth was common on the better draining slopes in the low lands. Rotavating, ploughing, discing and even power harrowing, as physical measures to improve aeration and mineralisation of the vegetable peat have successfully established improved pasture. Burning vegetation trash must be done, with caution, to ensure good seed to soil contact. However improvement of mineral nutrient levels by this method is doubtful. Applications of lime and phosphate mixes (e.g. calcified seaweed, rock phosphate) are necessary to raise nutrient levels and to lower acidity

The commonly found soil profile of the Falkland lowlands (see photo) has 30-35cm surface peaty horizon, overlying a thin bleached horizon (5-10cm), an iron pan (incipient or 1-2 cm thick, consolidated), and all overlying the silty clay, poorly drained, mineral subsoil. Ideally, such a soil should be deep ploughed to break up the iron pan and mix the upper part of the subsoil with the surface peat. But, the cost and effort would not be justified in the current farming of the Falklands. Likewise, drainage might be considered, but may not be worth the cost. There is also concern that such mixing may bring up subsoil with levels of Aluminium likely to be toxic to sown plants. Sample analyses should provide further information.



Typical Falkland soil profile (above spade) showing distinctive horizontal bands or horizons

Soil survey is not an end in itself. It is an inventory, a stock taking of the soil store. Soil survey becomes useful when it is applied to a specific use of soil, soil improvement for agriculture in the Falklands case. After my overview of soils here, I would propose that further work in soil survey should concentrate on lowland areas of thin peaty soils (only deeper than 40cm is an organic soil called peat), with pasture improvement and crop diversification as the objective. I hope future soil survey should be 'farmer-driven' in that each farmer be given the chance to select areas of land (up to a notional cut-off size) for closely spaced sampling and soil analysis, followed by recommendations for soil improvement measures.

Improving Falkland soils will not be easy, anything but! The cost benefit arguments will figure very strongly. But, improvement of lowland soils is possible, and is happening now, to encourage the growth of better pasture grasses, oats and legumes. This is nothing short of a miracle in a place with such a hostile climate for the cultivated plant, and in a place which was dealt such a bad hand in rock and soil types. Government support with some of these costly improvement measures would be repaid with population stability and optimism in "the camp". I salute all those who hold the key to the future, especially the Falkland farmers.

THE JETTY CENTRE – AN UPDATE

The new visitor centre, located beside the Public Jetty, is now well underway. The visitor centre – which will be known as the Jetty Centre – is a Falkland Islands Development Corporation-funded venture. Its aims are primarily to serve visiting tourists to the Falkland Islands, especially the large numbers of cruise ship tourists who come ashore each season. However, equally important will be its use as a local community and heritage centre. There will be a number of temporary exhibitions in the Jetty Centre, all year round. These will be based on local craftwork, artwork and photography.

The Centre has an exhibition area, within which is contained a permanent local heritage display. Information concerning local services and leaflets will be available at the reception area. Importantly, there is also a large advertising area, which is placed around a huge hand-painted wall map of Stanley. A craft display will be situated beside this map, and as well as advertising the crafts of local producers, it will be used to explain and demonstrate how local crafts are made and what local materials are used.

It is anticipated that the Jetty centre will be opening at the end of February for the remainder of this tourism season. Can I take this opportunity to remind any local craft producers who have not yet contacted us regarding the craft display, and would like the opportunity to advertise their wares in the Centre, to do so as soon as possible. Any shops, tour operators or accommodation providers who have not yet contacted us regarding a poster for the advertising area are also asked to do so.

Emma Jane McAdam

Tele: 27211 or Fax: 27210
Tourist Board, Falkland Islands Development Corporation, Email: ejmcadam@fidc.co.fk

AN EXAMPLE OF THE MEAT MARKET TRADE PRICES IN THE UK IN January 2001

Birmingham 11 January 2001		Birmingham 11 January 2001		Glasgow 10 January 2001	
Beef: quoted in pence per kilo				Beef:	Vacuum Packs:
Sides under 136.8kg	176	Mutton:		Specials	96
Hinds	257	Ewes	84	Medium Sides	95
Fores	119	Tegs	84	Heavy Sides	90
				Others	87
Boxed Beef:		Pork:		Irish Fores	57
English Topside	353	36.4 – 58.6kg	154		
Scottish Topside	430	63.1kg – 76.7kg	145	Scotch Fores	66
English Silverside	331			Flanks	50
Scottish Silverside	386	Veal:		Loins	250
Irish Silverside	-	Bobbies	-		
Lamb:		Fresh Eviscerated Chicken:		Loins & ribs	220
English New Season Lambs	265	908g – 1300g Grade A	123	Tops	105
New Zealand PL	-	908g – 1300g Grade B	123	Rumps	130
New Zealand PM	176	Trays	154	Tops & Rumps	112
New Zealand PX	-	1300g – 1700g Grade A	127	Ox Liver	32
New Zealand YL	-	1300g – 1700g Grade B	123	Ox Heart	50
New Zealand YM	176	Trays	154	Roastings	175
New Zealand: Carvery Legs	265	1800g – 2200g Grade A	127	Foreribs	130
New Zealand: Ordinary Legs	232	1800g – 2200g Grade B	123		
		Trays	154	Lamb:	
		2200g + Grade A	-	FASL	128
		2200g + Grade B	-	Medium weights	120
				Heavy weights	115
				Prs of fores	70
				Prs of hinds	200
				Loins	200
				Gigots	155
				Livers	80
				Hearts	50
				Plucks	45
				Poultry: 10 January 2001	
				Chicken:	Average prices for good Quality birds (pence per kilo)
				Broilers under 1150g	118
				Broilers 1150g and under 1350g	122
				Broilers 1350g and under 1550g	122
				Broilers 1550g and under 2050g	122
				Roasters 2050g and under 2450g	122
				Roasters over 2450g	125
				Skinless Breast Fillets	280
				Drumsticks	85
				Turkeys:	
				Up to 7.25kg	205
				7.25kg and under 9kg	185
				9.0kg and over	155
				Ducklings: all weights	190
				Geese: (in season)	425

If you are interested in these figures and would like to see more.

Please give me a call and I will send you what I can. Charlene

AN ACCOUNT OF WOOL MARKETING DEVELOPMENT IN CHILE

Below is an account written by Gerry Williams of his involvement in the development of wool marketing systems within Chile. Gerry is a New Zealander, the Consul of Chile and has had a relatively strong involvement with Chilean farmers since 1985. I asked him to write this article as I thought it maybe of interest to Falkland Farmers. Doug Cartridge

As a University student I worked holidays in wool stores, and coming from a sheep farming background I was always bought up with wool and sheep - so I guess to a degree it is in the blood.

I also have a background in trading, as a sharebroker for a number of years and then as a trader with a major Japanese trading company before establishing my current agricultural trading business.

My interest in wool marketing (or more correctly the problems in it) started when a large wool producing client in Chile (Estancia Rio Cisnes) asked us to assist them in obtaining better prices for their wool. We looked at selling in Argentina, or transporting through Argentina and selling in Uruguay - these options were discounted at that time (1985) for a number of reasons. We decided to look at the possibility of selling in New Zealand on the basis of selling certified wool rather than wool by sample. New Zealand had at that time moved from the large display system where bales were broken open for buyers to the selling by test house certificate with a small supporting sample.

I persuaded Stephen Fookes (Manager NZWTA) to come to Chile with me and look at the wools and establish a wool sampling system. The Chileans were initially skeptical at the idea as they had been constantly told their wool was very second rate, yellow, cotty etc. Stephen took a sample of 'yellow' wool and briefly washed it in some warm water - hey presto - white wool! He then proceeded to convince the growers that there was nothing wrong with the quality of their wool (except perhaps in preparation).

Over the next year or so we held a number of meetings in Punta Arenas and Coyhaique to persuade the farmers there was a 'better way'. They had also traditionally sold their wool to Harts or Standard, and didn't have any choice. Surprisingly for me the farmers viewed us with suspicion, but had trust in the people who had been 'ripping them off' for years. The reason was that the two buyers were prepared to pay part of the purchase price in advance, and thus assisting the farmer cash flow.

Harts and particularly Standard rallied against us and tried to persuade the farmers against having their wool tested, and did all they could to block our progress.

Meanwhile we had formed a company in NZ called SANZ Wool Marketing Ltd to promote initially Chilean wools. We bought two grab sampling machines, established a core sampling gang with scales etc. We were forced to establish a bonded warehouse on the Punta wharf to satisfy the Wool Buyers Assn, and established an acceptable system to bring Chilean wool into the NZ market.

We took core samples and grab samples of the lots of wool under a prescribed system and flew them back to NZ. The cores were Certified by NZWTA, and we prepared a sales catalogue in exactly the same way as other brokers were at the time, and displayed our grab samples (together with the certificates) in the same way as others.

At our first sale the NZ Wool Board, just before our turn to auction, withdrew our right to sell in their premises on the basis that we were selling wool on which an IWS levy hadn't been paid (this proved to be an ongoing argument). So we took our auction to a nearby coffee shop, and a good group of buyers came to either support us or see what was going on. As one or two buyers started bidding others were worried they may miss out, so started bidding as well.

We had had all the wool valued by a valuer and had established limits with the sellers - because expectations were a little too high we only actually sold about 20% of the catalogue at auction, but then sold another 50% odd by negotiation immediately after the auction.

This set the scene, and our regular sales went along on the same basis. The prices were about US\$2.60 - US\$3.00 per kg in comparison to US\$1.00 that the local buyers were initially offering. Off course they raised their prices and tried to force us out.

Delivery proved not to be a problem, and a number of farmers had an excellent wool selling season. We sold about 1000 tonnes that first season - then we were stopped by an Act of Parliament organised by the Wool Board.

We then bumbled on trying to sell by tender, private treaty etc etc - all much more difficult. The whole exercise ended up costing me personally quite a lot as we had to pay our bills in Punta Arenas, and had no cash flow.

We carried on with persuading the farmers that knowledge of their wools through a wool test was a management tool they could not afford to give up, and then arranging the tests and paying the immediate costs in much the same way we still do.

We spent some time promoting the idea of internet selling of wool, but didn't have the funding to develop it ourselves. Then James Wilson developed the necessary software, but failed in the actual creation of a market by being able to attract buyers.

Finally WoolNet came along, and we listed some Chilean wool on their system. However, until now they have fallen down in that they are not marketing the system to overseas buyers. Ideally the mill production manager in Bradford or Bremen or wherever would buy wool for delivery to meet production requirements (by filtering wool offerings) over the internet. The contract would be direct between grower and mill, missing out all the middle men in the system.

We believe this will come in the short term, and know that WoolNet have recognised the need.

Meanwhile, I suggest, the channels need to be developed, and the systems put in place. I would suggest that selling into Argentina would be a mistake because of inherent systems (taxes, established practices, subsidies etc), but Uruguay may be a possibility for the short term. We have arranged sales of Chilean wool direct to mills in Uruguay, and this has worked quite well. However, their wools are still discounted internationally, and until they try to raise their price levels this will always be the case.

My view is that eventually New Zealand (or Australia) will offer the best market for Falkland wool. Your volumes will not cause any problems on the market, the old requirements for levy payment have gone and with them official disapproval, the buyers bench is wider (physical or electronic), and the system works honestly without any obvious rip-offs.

EFFICIENCIES IN WOOL MARKETING

By Robert Hall

The Falkland Islands have a uniquely positioned wool clip that is currently marketed through a system that has evolved and continues to develop over time. Falkland wool is already targeted into Europe by Falkland Wool Growers Ltd and others, a market (together with the United States and Australasia) that has been identified by New Zealand as more "lucrative" than most other markets (FT 30/1/01). Falkland wool arriving in Bradford is extremely well positioned for delivery both to the high value/speciality British home trade and to the rest of fashion conscious Europe. Britain is also a competitive shipping hub from which to export wool and manufactured goods to the rest of the world.

The Falkland clip is shipped and transported in relatively large consignments to Bradford, where it is warehoused, sampled and tested by companies that undertake much other work besides their important Falklands work. It is this integration of the Falkland clip into these companies' physical workloads that ensures that the Falklands benefit from their economies of scale. Such practical economies of scale in warehousing, sampling and testing would be extremely hard for the Falklands to replicate locally given the restricted size of the Falklands clip on its own. Rather than create costly alternative physical systems that farmers will have to pay extra for; the Falklands should build on the efficiencies we already have, by further investment in improved wool quality (finer fibre diameter, QFW etc) and increasing the quantity of wool exported, that offer much greater returns for farmers.



THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S ANNUAL SHEEP AUCTION SALE & OPEN DAY

- Corriedale and Polwarth sheep for auction
- Auction / Open Day around 20th March 2001
- Auction at Saladero wool shed
- Tamar FI transport to the West Falklands
- Confirmation of dates, times, sea / air transport, food etc. will be in the next 'Wool Press'

MAEDI – VISNA: SHOULD FALKLANDS FARMERS BE CONCERNED?

A recent article in Penguin News (Mercopress supplement, Feb 2, 2001) reported on the rapid spread of a viral sheep disease identified as Maedi- Visna (MV) in the Magallanes region of Chile. This is not so very far from our shores – so should Falklands sheep farmers be concerned?

The disease – what is it?

Maedi (Icelandic for difficulty in breathing) and Visna (Icelandic for wasting) are slowly progressive diseases of sheep and goats. Maedi affects the respiratory system and visna the central nervous system. They are separate clinical manifestations of infection by the same virus. The disease was first recognized in Iceland where it caused losses of some 150,000 sheep in the period 1939- 1952 and another 650,000 sheep were destroyed during a successful eradication plan. Although the disease is now known to be present in many parts of the world, it has not elsewhere caused dramatic losses similar to those in Iceland.

It occurs in most of Europe (including the UK), many African countries, the Middle East, South Asia, Russia, Canada and N America and has been reported from Peru in S America. It is absent in both Australia and New Zealand.

Although both clinical manifestations may occur in the one flock, maedi is far more common than visna.

How is it spread?

MV spreads by direct contact between sheep, presumably by the respiratory route. The highest incidence of the disease occurs in N Europe where sheep are often housed over winter and hence are in close contact with one another. In the absence of disease controls, flocks remain infected for very long periods. Another possible route of spread is from the ewe to the lamb during the early neonatal period when the lamb takes colostrum from an infected mother.

The disease is introduced to uninfected countries or regions by the movement of infected animals. In the Falklands we have recently only imported sheep from either Australia or New Zealand (both MV free) or slightly longer ago from the UK, where the disease, although present, is more commonly found in commercial flocks rather than pedigree flocks from which most imports were made.

Clinical signs

Maedi

Maedi has a very long incubation period - usually in excess of two years – and the onset of clinical signs is insidious. Clinical cases are rarely seen in animals less than 3 or 4 years. Affected animals lose condition and lag behind the flock. There are progressive respiratory signs over several months, initially after exercise. Eventually the animals spend most of their time lying down with severe breathing difficulties. Death invariably occurs as a result of suffocation or secondary bacterial pneumonia.

Visna

The incubation period of visna is usually shorter than that of maedi and signs occur in sheep as young as 2 years. In the early stages affected sheep lag behind the flock when driven and exhibit hind leg weakness. There then follows a slowly progressive incoordination, weakness, trembling, and loss of function of the hind limbs. Rapid loss of body condition is a pronounced sign. The clinical course may last up to one year and usually ends in death.

Prevention and Control

There is no treatment for either form of this disease. It is very important, therefore, that if the disease is not already present in a country it is kept out by strict import controls. Although we have not tested for this disease in the Falklands there is no indication on clinical grounds or from farmer reports that either form of the disease occurs here. Both New Zealand and Australia remain free of the disease and it is unlikely that we would sanction import from the UK again not only because of MV but also because of other worrying diseases such as Scrapie. Iceland managed to achieve country freedom by adopting a policy of blood testing all of the national sheep flock and slaughtering out positive cases. This policy took several years to achieve final eradication. In all other countries where the disease exists attempts to totally eradicate the disease have proved either too expensive or too difficult to achieve. In the UK, for example, control of MV is done on a flock by flock basis and is of real interest and importance to pedigree breeders only.

In summary

Maedi-Visna is not present in the Falkland Islands and by keeping to our tightly controlled import policy there is no reason why the disease should ever gain access into these islands. If you do have any sheep which display symptoms similar to those outlined above then please report it to the veterinary section so that tests and post mortems can be carried out where necessary.

ALAN LOW'S VISIT

The visit of the Dr. Alan Low, (DoA's Forestry Consultant) has been postponed until March 6th - 17th.

If anyone would like to meet Alan then please contact Aidan Kerr on 27355 ASAP.

WORMS IN SHEEP FLOCK

By John Wellington

It's probably true to say that most sheep and lambs are carrying parasitic worms at this time of the year. A telltale sign of a worm burden is a daggy or a dirty tail, and worms visible at post-mortem; but we don't see the signs of a heavy infestation here. These are a watery scour, a tail of affected sheep which can't keep up with a gathered flock, and sometimes coughing and even signs of anaemia. Weaners are the most susceptible to worms, and ewes and lambs under stress can also be severely affected.

In the Falklands, it's hard to demonstrate lost production due to worms, because trials involve large numbers of sheep for a long period, and a worm-free group is hard to produce. Overseas work does show, however, that the numbers of worms seen in Falklands sheep do cause reduced growth rates in young sheep and reduced clean fleece weights. In situations where feed is of poorer quality, worms further compromise sheep which are struggling anyway. The daggy tail reduces fleece value, increasing skirting, and if a crutching is also required, then costs are significantly increased.

But worm drenches or anthelmintics are expensive, and may have little overall effect on production. All a drench can do is remove the worms from the sheep's gut. When that sheep grazes pasture with hatched worm eggs on it the next day, it becomes re-infected. It's fair to say most drenches are of little lasting value, and the money's better spent elsewhere.

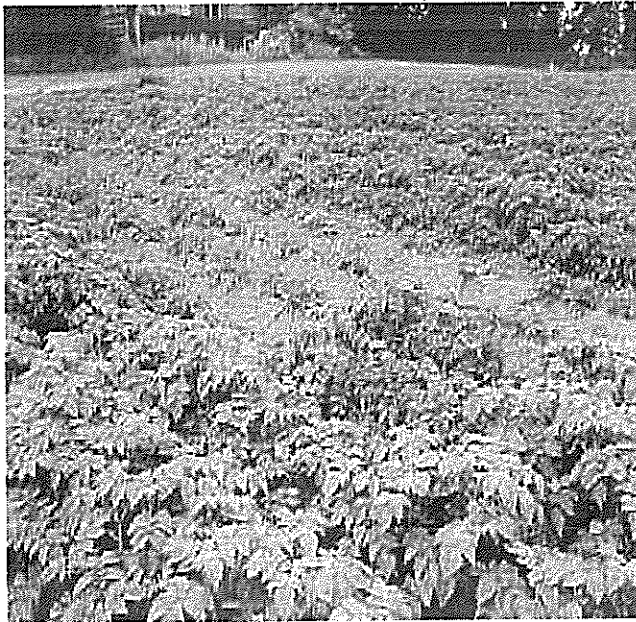
There are other things we can do to reduce worm burdens throughout the year. Remember that at all times, most worms are not in the sheep at all, but are on the pasture in the form of eggs and hatched out larvae. What we really want to do is to avoid picking these up.

Ways to reduce worms include :

- o Use cattle or horses to eat up sheep worms from the pasture, then use the cleaned ground for the sheep that are most at risk – ewes pre-lambing or weaner hoggets.
- o If new feed has been produced by cultivation, use this for ewes or weaners first.
- o Spell paddocks to avoid close cropped pasture, as there the worms are concentrated on the short leaf. Besides, a pasture with leaves over 2 inches long grows quicker than a shorter one.
- o Strip grazing with say an electric fence can give good grass control.
- o Remember, a pasture has to be closed up for about 3 months for the worm larvae present to begin to die out. Dry spells in summer are not effective, nor winter frosts.
- o Only use a drench when a clean paddock is available or signs of worms are tied in with a lab report of high egg numbers in the manure.
- o Probably the most important drench is for ewes a month or less before lambing. But without a clean paddock to put them in - their lambing paddock - the drench will be of limited value.

WHAT IS POTATO CYST EELWORM (PCN)?

By Aidan Kerr with information adapted from DARDNI, MAFF UK and the British Potato Council).



Also known as potato root nematodes, these pests are parasitic worms that feed on potato roots causing yield losses or even total crop failure. They are the most common pest of potatoes here often with very adverse long-term effects on potato land. When infestation levels are high the land should not be planted with potatoes for between 4-7 years, depending on other control measures.

The photograph above shows the classical symptoms of PCN attack - patchy growth, stunted plants. The leaves usually yellow and small 'marble-size' tubers develop. These symptoms are easily seen in some gardens now.

Two species of PCN exist: The yellow or golden cyst eelworm (*Globodera rostochiensis*) and the pale or white cyst eelworm (*Globodera pallida*). Both species were introduced into Europe from Peru over 100 years ago. Today they are the most

important pests of European potato crops causing annual yield losses of 10% (worth about £300 million per annum). The photograph below shows the pinhead size



female cysts on the potato roots. These can be seen easily by eye.

Here a soil survey of 23 gardens conducted by Queen's University in 1986 found only *G. pallida*, the 'white' cyst, in quite high numbers. The strain was of S. American origin. Also *G. rostochiensis* was not found which indicated more strongly that the eelworm here had been introduced from S. America and were well established. This finding has important implications for growers who wish to use resistant varieties. They should ensure that the variety offers resistance to the *G. pallida* or white type. When choosing varieties look for the term 'Pa2/3' in the technical information.

Control

A range of management options such as rotational practices, PCN resistant varieties

and nematicide (a pesticide which specifically kills eelworm) application are available depending on the level of infestation and other factors.

According to the British Potato Council the following varieties are partially resistant to *G. pallida* PCN;

Accord
Argos
Ballade
Celine
Harmony
Maritiema
Midas
Nadine
Redgem
Rocket
Sante
Valor

Low level - no fully resistant variety is currently available but the use of a partial *G. pallida* resistant variety will limit the potential multiplication of the eelworm.

Moderate level - nematicide treatment is recommended if it is decided to plant a potato crop. However consideration should be given to leaving the ground out of potatoes for several years (4+) to allow the nematode to decline to lower levels.

High level - cropping with potatoes not advised in most situations.

Resistance: A resistant variety does not escape invasion of its roots by the nematodes, it merely prevents them from developing to maturity. Some resistant varieties may suffer yield losses because of root damage and must be protected with a nematicide when grown on moderate to high PCN infestation.

Tolerance: A potato variety is said to be PCN tolerant if it has the ability to yield

relatively well in spite of nematode attack. Tolerance is not directly related to resistance as some PCN-resistant varieties are intolerant of nematode invasion and will suffer loss in yield unless protected with a nematicide.

Soil type: The yield potential of a variety and its susceptibility to nematode attack are influenced by soil type. Crops grown on lighter mineral soils, unless irrigated, generally suffer more damage from PCN than those grown on heavier or organic soils.

Rotation: PCN populations can decline gradually in the absence of potatoes. This rate of decline can vary greatly from site to site, depending on PCN species present, soil type and other factors. On PCN infested soils any shortening of the rotation must be accompanied by close monitoring of nematode population levels.

Nematicides: aim to allow healthy plant growth but may not actually reduce eelworm levels. Granular nematicides recommended for the control of PCN should be applied to the soil and thoroughly incorporated immediately before planting, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. The pre-cropping PCN infestation level mainly determines the extent to which crop loss is reduced. Fumigants, sterilants, etc that are used during a fallow phase in the rotation, can be of value in particular situations. The following nematicides may be locally available;

Aldicarb
Mocap
Nemathorin
Oxamyl
Temik
Yaltox

A combination of rotation, resistant varieties and nematicide can give almost total control. **For more details or advice contact Aidan.**

ANIMAL FEED – available mid March

Contact: Pat & Dan Whitney

Phone/fax: 31003

Corn	25 kilos @ £10.78	Mixed corn	25 kilos @ £9.00
Wheat	25 kilos @ £8.22	Layers Pellets	25 kilos @ £9.18
Layers Mash	25 kilos @ 9.18	Oats	25 kilos @ £7.05
Horse/ pony cubes	25 kilos @ 9.02	Ewe rolls	25 kilos @ £8.90
Ewe cubes	25 kilos @ 8.81	Sugar beet pellets	25 kilos £8.20
Pig grower cubes	25 kilos @ 9.01		

EARLY SUMMER NUTRITION BOOSTS WOOL PRODUCTION

Source: Farming Ahead December 2000.

Improved wool production and lower feed costs without the need for higher stocking rates or a change in flock structure have been achieved by a group of farmers at Kangaroo Island, South Australia.

The group has recorded an improvement of 10 kilograms of greasy wool per hectare on average. At 51kg/ha, this is well above the average sheep property on Kangaroo Island (about 30kg/ha). At the same time, they have cut supplementary feeding costs to average less than \$1.50 per dry sheep equivalent (DSE). For the average farm, this is a saving of \$4000 annually. This has been achieved without a major increase in stocking rate or a change in flock structure to include more ewes.

The survival of Merino weaners has been a major problem for Kangaroo Island farmers with death rates as high as 10 per cent during summer and autumn. Surviving weaners often become ill and take a long time to grow out. This is a multifaceted problem but it mainly caused by a lack of protein. The group has been looking at ways to lift weaner production and a number of key elements have emerged.

The main finding is that wool production in self-replacing Merino flocks is related to weaner health and nutrition, and can be improved by judicious monitoring of weaner weights during early summer and autumn. This weighing need to be at 4 – 6 weekly intervals with targets provided for supplementary feeding use. Weaners weigh, on average, 30kg at pasture senescence and 35kg at the break season. Merino weaners in most cases will lose or just hold weight during the season break while adjusting to green feed. This was demonstrated in most weightings carried out.

There is a benefit in using high protein supplements early in the weaning process, with a potential increase in long term wool productivity. This practice can also result in a more efficient use of supplementary feed.

Lambing percentages in maiden Merino ewes can be improved by using high protein supplements when ewes are fed as weaners and in ensuring ewes are more than 50kg at first mating.

Trace elements, particularly selenium, may be limiting in some areas, and the use of selenium fertiliser at rates under 500 grams per hectare may be a questionable practice in areas which are traditionally deficient in this trace element.

Supplementary Feeding:

Historically, Merino weaners on Kangaroo Island properties have performed well until pasture senescence, where, in many instances, they have lost weight rapidly, become ill and, in some cases, recorded high death rates. The traditional routine is to start supplementing during February when high quality feed has been eaten and digestibility of remaining dry feed is low. Supplementary feeding usually involves oats and hay.

This routine has the problem of providing a substitute rather than a supplementary feed source. It also means supplementary feeding starts too late to rectify severe weight losses.

Frequency and feeding rates:

The aim of the trial was to encourage farmers to start supplementary feeding early with low amounts of high protein supplements such as lupins or beans and to monitor weaner weights so advice could be given a changes to the rate and type of supplementary feeds.

More than 20 farmers in the group have monitored weights for at least two seasons, with numbers of these using differing feeding regimes such as oats, lupins and fodder crops with oats and vetch mixtures. Most farmers now start feeding in early summer using low levels of lupin grain and keep records or supplementary feeding costs to compare with traditional methods.

Weaners on most farms were more than 30kg on average at pasture senescence, with average weights reaching 35kg at the break of the season. Similar on-farm research has shown where maiden ewe mating weights have averaged more than 50kg at mating, lambing percentages can be improved by up to seven per cent when compared with ewes at lighter weights.

During 1998, one farmer reported maiden ewe lambing percentage of more than 100% for the first time. In this case, the farmer has followed through the routine of managing ewe weaners by early protein supplementation and weighing from weaning through to the break of season the following year.

The result was repeated at the 1999 lambing, with lambing percentage in adult ewes again being about 100%. This farm and others have adopted weaner monitoring and use of high protein supplements in feeding. (See table 1).

The key to this improvement was that monitoring did not stop at the break of season, but was carried through until before mating in the next year where average weight at mating was 52kg.

It was felt this is a vital part of the monitoring process and there are substantial benefits to be gained by monitoring ewe weaners through to hogget and mating stages.

The routine of using lupins to flush ewes at mating to improve conception rate is a common in Merino flocks, particularly in Western Australia. But the Kangaroo Island work suggests mating weigh is more important and demonstrates the fact that if ewes are at an adequate weight at mating, further supplements are not required.

Group Results:

With more than 60% of the group carrying out regular weaner monitoring and including rigid monitoring of trace elements and also internal parasites, these routines would appear to be partially responsible for an improvement in production results during the past four seasons. (See table 2)

Table 1: Production results on trial farm, Kangaroo Island.

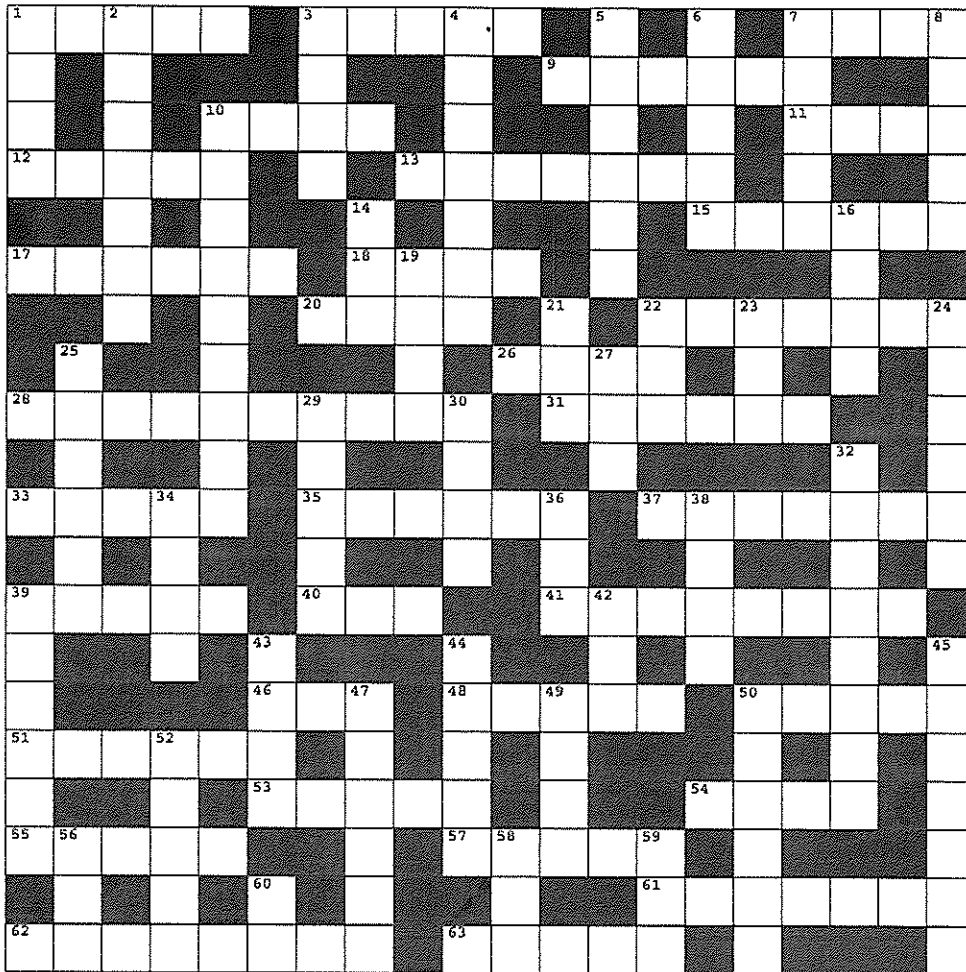
	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Gross margin (\$/ha)	65	121	162	131
Stocking rate (DSE/ha)	9.8	10.5	11.8	11.8
Sheep costs (\$/ha)	94	131	106	109
Wool cut (kg/ha)	35	45	49	58
Wool Price (\$/kg)	3.26	3.82	3.79	2.78

Source: kangaroo Island Sheep Production Group.

Table 2: Kangaroo island Sheep Production Group gross margins.

	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Stocking rate (DSE/ha)	10.4	9.9	9.5	10.8
Gross margin (\$/ha)	111	94	135	94
Gross margin (\$/DSE)	10.2	9.7	14.5	8.8
Wool cut (kg/ha)	41	39	44	51
Wool cut (kg/DSE)	4.2	4.1	4.6	4.6
Wool price (\$/kg)	5.29	5.16	4.96	3.98
Costs (\$/ha)	87	88	93	94
Costs (\$/DSE)	9.0	9.1	9.8	8.7
Supplementary feeds (\$/DSE)	2.11	2.51	1.27	1.34

feb2001



feb2001

ACROSS

1. FURRY FRUIT
3. USED TO FIX WINDOWS
7. RUBBISH CONTAINER
9. DROPPER
10. WAN
11. STRETCHED FROM ROUND
12. SOUTH AMERICAN PACK ANIMAL
13. BLACK ROAD TOPPING
15. SELL ABROAD
17. MAIN WOOL OFF A SHEEP
18. WHAT A PITY!
20. BOXING PRACTICE
22. PUB WORKER
26. MALE PARENT
28. LUCKY EQUINE FOOTWARE
31. ROUGH AND UNEVEN
33. LAMB SOUND
35. FEED VESSEL
37. PEOPLE WHO MOVE LARGE NUMBERS OF CATTLE OR SHEEP
39. COAST AREA
40. BRICK CARRIER
41. AFTERBIRTH
46. PART OF A PAW
48. USEFUL
50. MAIN INGREDIENT OF BLACK PUDDING
51. SEWING TOOL
53. UNDERWATER RANGE SOUNDING DEVICE
54. ROTISSERIE
55. ARAB TRIBE LEADER
57. STEP ON
61. IMMEDIATE
62. BURIAL PLACE
63. BEND OVER

DOWN

1. BUCKET
2. AMUSEMENT AND GAMBLING PLACES
3. HIDE
4. RAF AIRCRAFT
5. YELLOW FRUIT
6. CONDITION
7. PRY
8. AIRCRAFT FLYER
10. PAPER
14. DRINK WITH THE TONGUE
16. SOFT GEMSTONE
19. SHOE FASTENER
21. CONIFER
22. PLEAD
23. CEREAL GRAIN
24. SLEEPY
25. SHEEP DOG
27. CANE SPIRIT
29. RABBIT HOUSE
30. CLOSED
32. RED VEGETABLE
34. ISLANDS OFF ALBEMARLE
36. BEER INGREDIENT
38. GROWN IN PADDY FIELDS
39. MAKES AND TRADE MARKS
42. SKIN PROTECTING EYE
43. MONKEYS WITHOUT TAILS
44. MAP
45. TEACH
47. SMALL BOAT
49. NAKED
50. AVOID BY GOING AROUND
52. MOVE SHEEP
56. TINT OR COLOUR SHADE
58. LARGE RODENT
59. IMMERSE IN LIQUID
60. I



The Wool Press

ISSUE 136

MARCH 2001

PRICE : £1.00

**All the
regular
features
and more!**

The Wool Press is
published by the
Department
of Agriculture
and
printed at the
Falkland Islands
Government
Printing Office.

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**THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S
ANNUAL OPEN DAY
& RAM SALE**

**SOUTH JASON ISLAND FIRE:
BEFORE AND AFTER
&
SUGGESTED CUTTING TIMES FOR HAY
&
PREVENTION OF POTATO CYST EEL WORM**
By Aidan Kerr

HARVESTING GRASS SEED
By Peter Johnson and Riki Evans

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE
By Cameron Bell

EDITORIAL PAGE

Editor:
Charlene Rowland

Inside this issue:

Interest in Guanaco
Breeding is growing in
South America.
Source: Wool Record
Dec 2000

Prevention of Potato
Cyst Eel Worm
&
Suggested cutting times
for Hay
&
South Jason Island
Fire—Before and After
By Aidan Kerr

Foot & Mouth Disease
By Cameron Bell

The Department of
Agriculture's Open and
Ram Sale Day—20th
March

Plus lots more...

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Islands Development Board
(FIDB)

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The articles printed in
The Wool Press do not
necessarily represent
the views of the
DoA and FIDB.

As you can see from the opposite page The Annual Doa Open and Ram Sale Day is being held on the 20th March. If any farmer would like to come over for the day, please get intouch with me before the 15th March so that I can book your flight into Stanley on the 19th and returning on the Tamar FI to Port Howard in the late afternoon from Saladero. (You will have to inform Byron Marine if you are intending to sail). Catalogues of the Ram Sale are enclosed with the Wool Press. Please make sure that you bring your catalogue with you, we will have a few spare on the day. There will also be no barbeque this year, so everyone will have to bring your own. We will provide Tea and Coffee at the Wool Shed.

Mandy and I have started paying out the Subsistence for this year. Executive Council had made a decision to pay the Subsistence now instead of July/August. Before I can payout I must have your Account Summary Sheet. Please give two weeks from sending in your accounts for your money to arrive in your bank account. (I will accept the accounts on email).

Allan Low has arrived this week. Hopefully he will do a little report for the next Wool Press. There doesn't seem to be any staff away or changes this month. But next month the Department will be losing a lot of valuable staff with end of contracts, but more in the next Wool Press.

A GOLFING, GENIE JOKE!

A couple were golfing one day on a very, very exclusive golf course lined with million dollar houses. On the third tee the husband says, "Honey, be very careful when you drive the ball. Don't knock out any windows - it'll cost us a fortune to fix."

The wife tees up and promptly shanks it right through the window of the biggest house by the course. The husband cringes and says, "I told you to watch out for the houses!"

Alright, let's go up there, apologize and see how much this is going to cost."

They walk up and knock, and a voice says, "Come in". When they open the door, they see glass all over the floor and a broken bottle lying on its side in the foyer.

A man on the couch says, "Are you the people that broke my window?"

"Uh, yeah," the husband says. "Sorry about that."

"No, actually I want to thank you. I'm a genie that was trapped for a thousand years in that bottle. You've released me. I'm allowed to grant three wishes - I'll give you each one wish, and I'll keep the last one for myself."

"OK, great!" the husband says. "I want a million dollars a year for the rest of my life." "No problem - it's the least I could do. And you, what do you want?" the genie says, looking at the wife. "I want a house in every country of the world," she says. "Consider it done."

"And what's your wish, Genie?" the husband asks.

"Well, since I've been trapped in that bottle, I haven't had sex with a woman in a thousand years. My wish is to sleep with your wife."

The husband looks at his wife and says, "Well, we did get a lot of money and all those houses, honey. Guess if it's OK with you."

So the genie takes the wife upstairs and ravishes her for two hours.

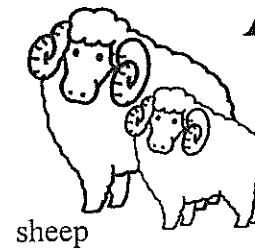
Afterwards, he rolls over, looks at the wife, and says, "How old is your husband, anyway?"

"Thirty five", replies the wife, "Why".

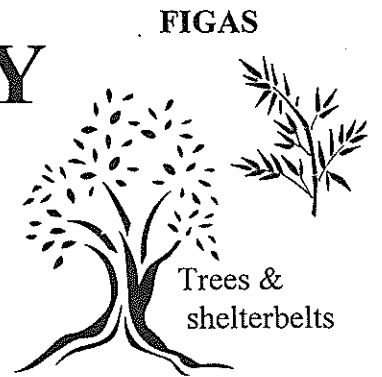
"And he still believes in genies?" he asks.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S

ANNUAL OPEN DAY & RAM SALE



sheep



FIGAS

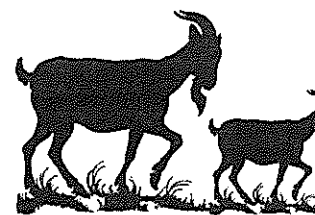
Trees & shelterbelts

VENUE: BRENTON LOCH
&
SALADERO WOOL SHED

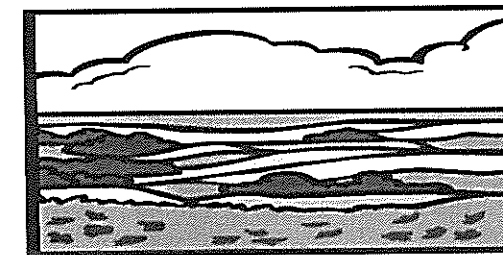
20th March 2000

Bring your own lunch
and, DoA will provide
Tea, coffee & soft drinks

Farmers fly to Stanley
on the 19th March &
transported out to Brenton
Loch on the 20th March
return to Port Howard
on the Tamar FI



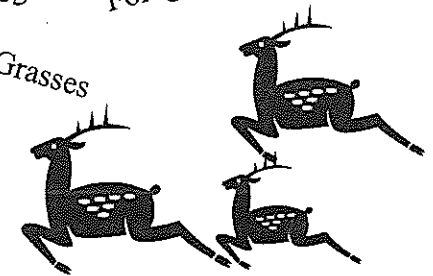
Goats & kids



Machinery

Legumes Forage crops

Grasses



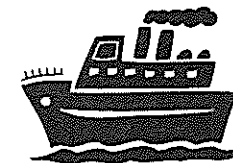
Reindeer from
South Georgia

Various displays
in the Wool Shed

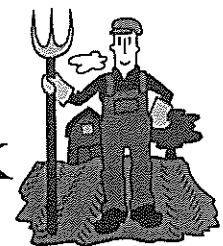
Pasture fields

START TIME:

9 O'CLOCK SHARP AT BRENTON LOCH
LUNCH AT THE WOOL SHED AT 12.30
RAM SALE AUCTION STARTS AT 1.30
FINISHING AT 3 O'CLOCK SHARP
TAMAR FI TO BE LOADED BY 4 O'CLOCK

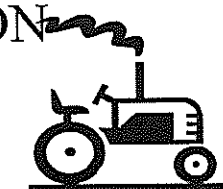


Tamar FI
to Port Howard



FOR THOSE WHO ARE NOT INTERESTED IN THE SALE
THEIR WILL BE TOURS IN THE AFTERNOON
TO SEE SHELTERBELTS ETC

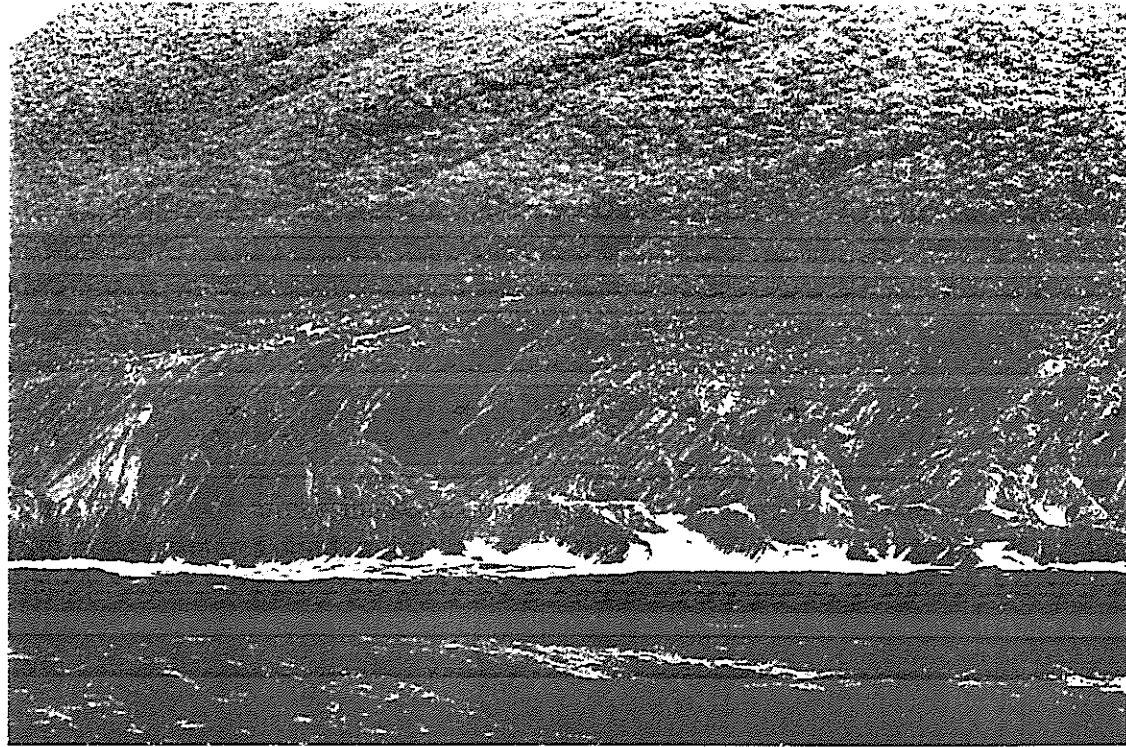
Loads to see



SOUTH JASON ISLAND FIRE – BEFORE AND AFTER.

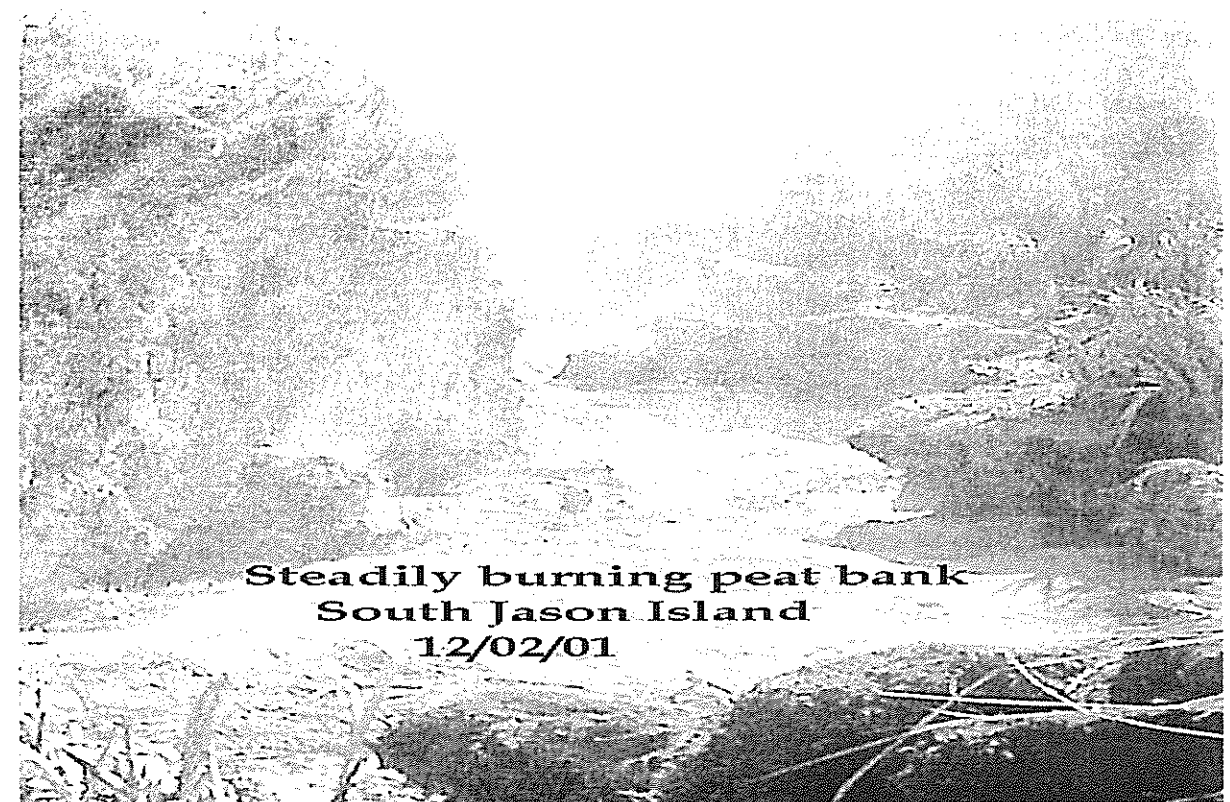
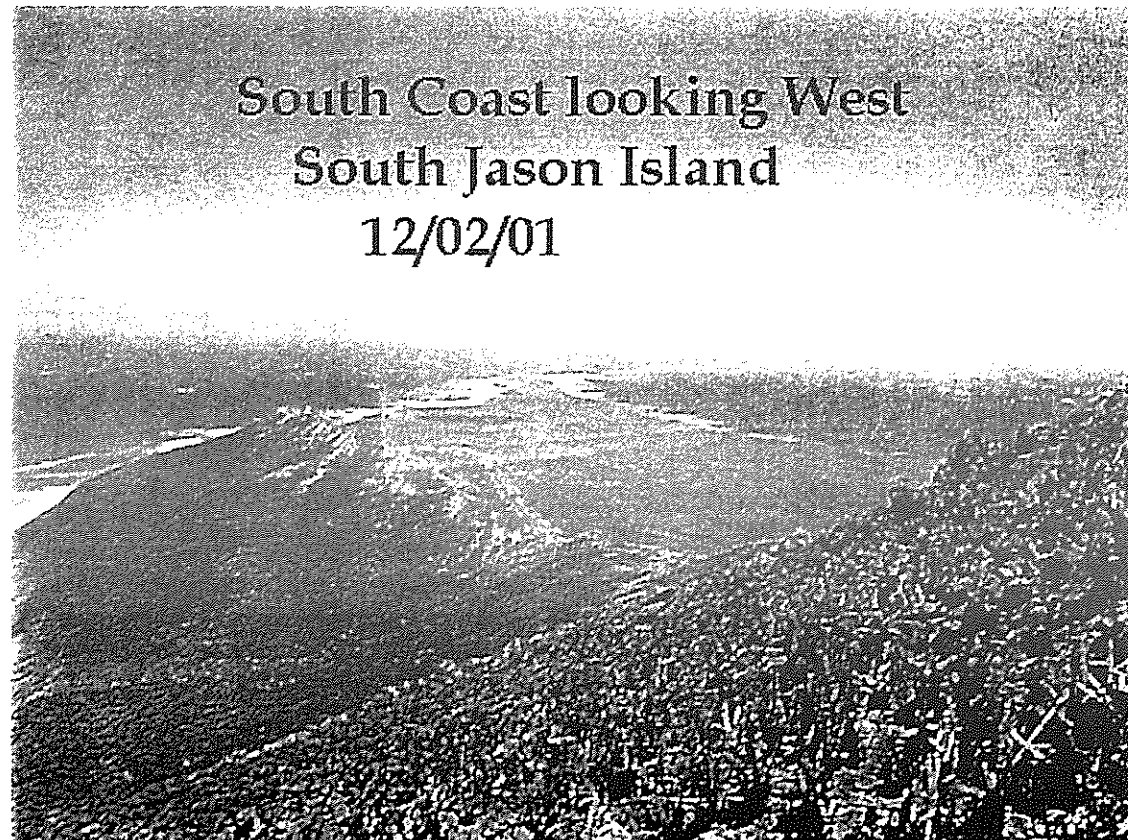
Compiled by Aidan Kerr.

Pictures courtesy of Alan Henry and Falklands Conservation



The south coast before (above) and after the fire (below).

Below burnt Tussac grass showing possible regrowth of old stalks, about a month after the fire.



INTEREST IN GUANACO BREEDING IS GROWING IN SOUTH AMERICA

Source: Wool Record Dec 2000

Increasing numbers of farmers not only in Argentina Patagonia, but in Southern and Central Chile, are keen to add guanacos to their traditional sheep-breeding programmes, reports a South American correspondent.

At the end of October, the Agricultural & Veterinary School of Buenos Aires University held the first Argentine Congress of Small Ruminants and South American Camelids, with Argentine research scientists plus others from Chile, Brazil, Uruguay and Mexico.

Dr. Vet. J.L. Riveros from Universidad Católica de Chile spoke about semi-captivity breeding of guanacos in central Chile, originally from Chilean Tierra del Fuego, where some sheep breeders keep trying this new kind of venture.

Dr. Vet. Eduardo Frank from Universidad Católica in Córdoba talked about camelids in NW Argentina, and Dr. Vet. Daniel De Lamo from Centro Nacional Patagónico in Puerto Madryn explained the "General Management Plan" which is slowly being tested and improved in Patagonia to advance with Guanaco breeding.

Micon range varies according to feeding, but so far measured values for semi-captive guanacos are from 15 to 18 microns. Fleece weight varies from 300-450 gms. Fencing two metres high is needed, and different "family groups" have to be separated from other non-reproductive groups.

In Northern Patagonia, where Merino wools obtain prices between US\$1.30 per kg and US\$2.70 or so, guanaco hair packed for export obtained US\$110 per kg, last April when sold by tender.

Legislation must be updated, especially export regulations relating to this fibre, which is raising interest from specialised Italian spinners and weavers.

REPLACEMENT OF FENCING

Hopefully, towards the end of March we should have received the 3rd consignment of fencing.

Is anyone available to assist me in sorting the fencing into farm lots ready for the collection by overlanders and shipping on the Tamar

The wages would be paid under the Labour Scheme on the usual rate.

If so, please give me a call. Charlene

A TRAINER OF EXCELLENCE

Source: Shearing Vol 16, No. 3 November 2000

Murray William Christie – Obituary

Murray Christie died at Christchurch on October 6, after bravely battling his ill health for several years. He was 51.

Brought up at Waitehuna (south Otago) at Staveley (Mid Canterbury) Murray devoted most of his working life to the shearing industry as shearer, contractor, instructor, Shearing Sports administrator and, in the past couple of years, as a gear distributor for Lister.

Murray spent several years in Western Australia as a shearing contractor before returning home in the early 1980s to an appointment as an instructor with the New Zealand Wool Board. He eventually attained the position of South Island co-ordinator, as Gavin Rowland relates: "That was a job that Murray took very seriously and to which he gave total commitment".

"Murray could bring many a trainee quickly into line with a sharp remark for not paying attention as he disliked seeing young shearers failing to reach their potential. He always got a great thrill out of seeing them do well at competitions, or in the sheds, and was always one of the first to offer congratulations when they did so".

Murray has his own moments on the competition stage, including a fourth placing in the 1989 NZ Fine Wool contest at Alexandra, and he won the South African open title in 1997. In 1994 he spent time in the Falkland Islands, employed by the Falklands Government to teach the locals how to shear.

As Gavin Rowland relates, Murray has something of a reputation for doing things at speed – "He even sleeps fast", once observed – but he knew that approach didn't work when it comes to shearing Merinos.

"The first thing you need to be a good Merino shearer is patience", Murray would explain to his trainees. "You've got to have the right mental approach. It's quite natural for a 300 a day crossbred shearer to shear 80 Merinos. If he settles down, he could soon be up to 150 a day – that's if the sheep are okay!".

Murray is survived by his wife Jenny and daughters Nicola and Melanie.

ANIMAL FEED – available mid March

Contact: Pat & Dan Whitney

Phone/fax: 31003

Corn	25 kilos @ £10.78	Mixed corn	25 kilos @ £9.00
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Pig grower cubes	25 kilos @ 9.01		

PREVENTION OF POTATO CYST EELWORM.

By Aidan Kerr

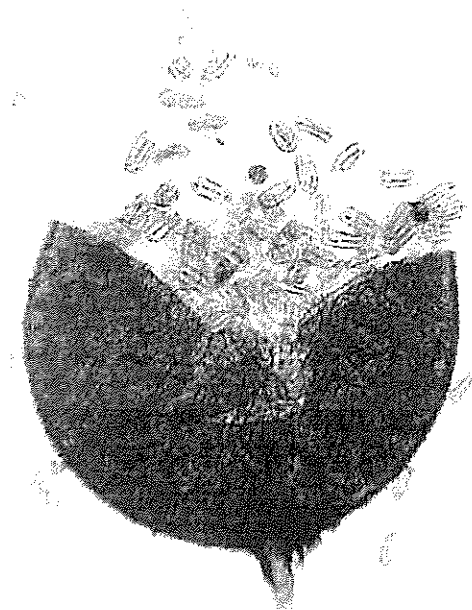
Further to my article on this subject in last month's Wool Press, probably the best form of control is prevention of its spread to your potato plot in the first place.

Many millions of cysts of the microscopic eelworm occur in infected potato gardens here. They are easily spread in soil, either that transported on its own or on potatoes, footwear, tools and machinery. It can also be dispersed by wind.

However when compared with Europe, new 'virgin' land here is in plentiful supply. If you can be certain that a new site has never had potatoes grown on it or very close to it then it is very likely that it is free from potato cyst eelworm

When a new potato plot has been planted and fenced it would be relatively easy to establish and maintain some basic quarantine 'rules' that should minimise its spread. These should include:

- Only use new seed potatoes that have been certified e.g. by MAFF UK to be free from eelworm.
- Avoid swapping seed potatoes with friends or neighbours. The cysts are so prevalent in gardens here now, that the risk of bringing infected seed to your new plot is not worth taking.
- Never take soil or potatoes from your old garden to the new one. This should include soil on spades or other tools, machinery and on your boots. Either position a hose or bucket to wash them down thoroughly before entering the new plot or keep a clean set of tools and boots there. Make sure all visitors wash their boots before entering.



The photograph above (UKMAFF) shows a ruptured cyst, about the size of a pinhead, containing hundreds of eelworm eggs.

Finally, since 1973 safeguards against the spread of the pest have been mandatory in the UK and Europe. Under law seed potatoes for sale can only be grown on land that has been tested free of eelworm. On land that has been infested with the eelworm, potatoes can only be grown under licence and special conditions. Let us hope we do not reach that stage here. Remember the easiest method of control is to avoid getting it in the first place!

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

by Cameron Bell

By now everyone will have heard about the foot and mouth disease (FMD) outbreak in the United Kingdom (UK). To provide some background, the following are some photographs and frequently asked questions taken from the UK Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) website (<http://www.maff.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/fmd/default.htm>), as well as some extra ones I have included. For those with an Internet connection, the MAFF website can be consulted for daily updates on the outbreak. It is also a useful resource for other information on the disease. Wool Press 129 can also be referred to for other information on recent FMD outbreaks.

It is interesting to review the last major FMD outbreak that occurred in the UK in 1967/68. The epidemic, which began at the end of October 1967 and lasted until 4th June 1968, caused 2346 outbreaks. The epidemic resulted in the compulsory slaughter of 433,987 animals, including 211,825 cattle, 113,766 pigs, 108,345 sheep and 51 goats. It was impossible to establish beyond reasonable doubt the origin of the outbreak, however the most probable source of the epidemic was FMD-infected meat imported from South America. This meat was believed to have been fed to pigs. If this previous outbreak is any indication of what is currently happening, then it is likely that we are only seeing the very early days of an outbreak that will have serious economic and social implications for the UK.

Q What is FMD?

It is a highly infectious viral disease in which fever is followed by the development of vesicles or blisters - chiefly in the mouth or on the feet. There are 7 main types of virus, which produce similar symptoms and which can only be differentiated in the laboratory.

Q How is it spread?

Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) is a highly infectious disease that can spread by direct or indirect contact with infected animals. Infected animals begin by excreting the virus a few days before signs of the disease develop. Pigs in particular produce large numbers of virus particles. Airborne spread of the disease takes place readily. The prevailing meteorological conditions and local topography determine the distance that the disease can travel and this may be considerable. For example, circumstantial evidence strongly suggests that the outbreak on the Isle of Wight in 1981 resulted from the airborne spread of the virus from Brittany in northern France. The disease is also spread mechanically by the movement of animals, persons, vehicles and other things, which have been contaminated by the virus. Meat from the carcass of animals infected with FMD at the time of slaughter can transmit the virus. In the past outbreaks of the disease have been linked with the importation of infected meat and meat products.

Q Which other countries have recently had FMD?

FMD is endemic in parts of Asia, Africa, the Middle East and South America, with sporadic outbreaks in disease-free areas. Countries affected by FMD in the past twelve months include Butan, Brazil, Columbia, Egypt, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Kuwait, Malawi, Malaysia, Mongolia, Namibia, Russia, South Africa, Taipei, Tajikstan, Uruguay and Zambia. The last major outbreak of the disease in the EU was in Greece last year.

Q Can people contract the disease?

Advice from the UK Department of Health is that it is very rare. In general it is not considered to be a risk for humans. There has only been one recorded case of FMD in a human being in Great Britain in 1966. The general effects of the disease in that case were similar to influenza with some blisters. It is a mild short lived, self-limiting disease. The UK Food Standards Agency has advised that the disease has no implications for the human food chain. There is however a human condition called Hand, Foot and Mouth disease, which is unrelated. It will not affect animals. If you are concerned you should contact your GP.

Q Which animals are susceptible?

Cattle, sheep, pigs and goats (all cloven footed animals) are susceptible and some wild animal such as hedgehogs, coypu, rats, deer and zoo animals including elephants.

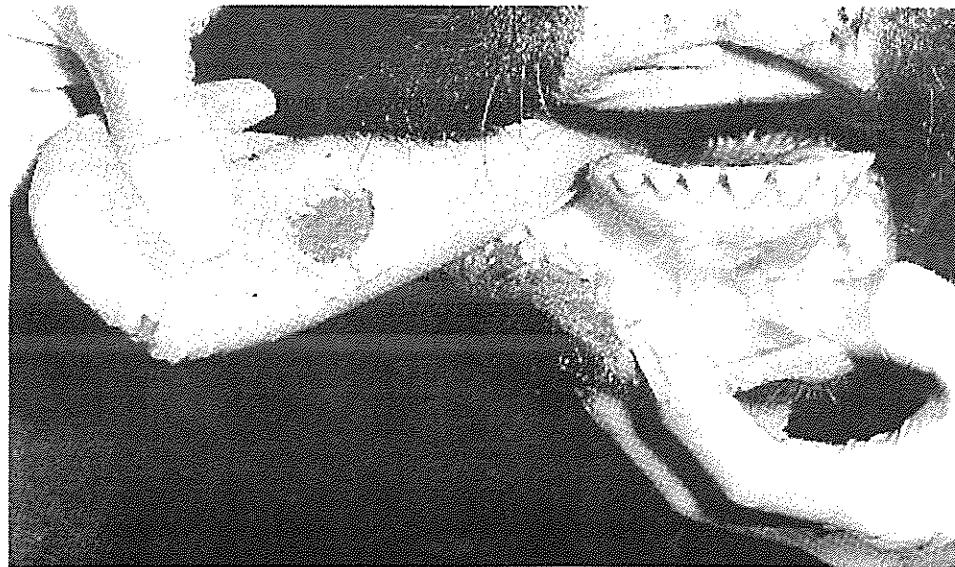
Q What are the symptoms?

The interval between exposure to infection and the appearance of symptoms varies between twenty-four hours and ten days, or even longer. The average time is three to six days. Vesicles (blisters) in the mouth and/or on the feet are what gives the disease the name *foot and mouth disease*, but the symptoms can vary as outlined below:

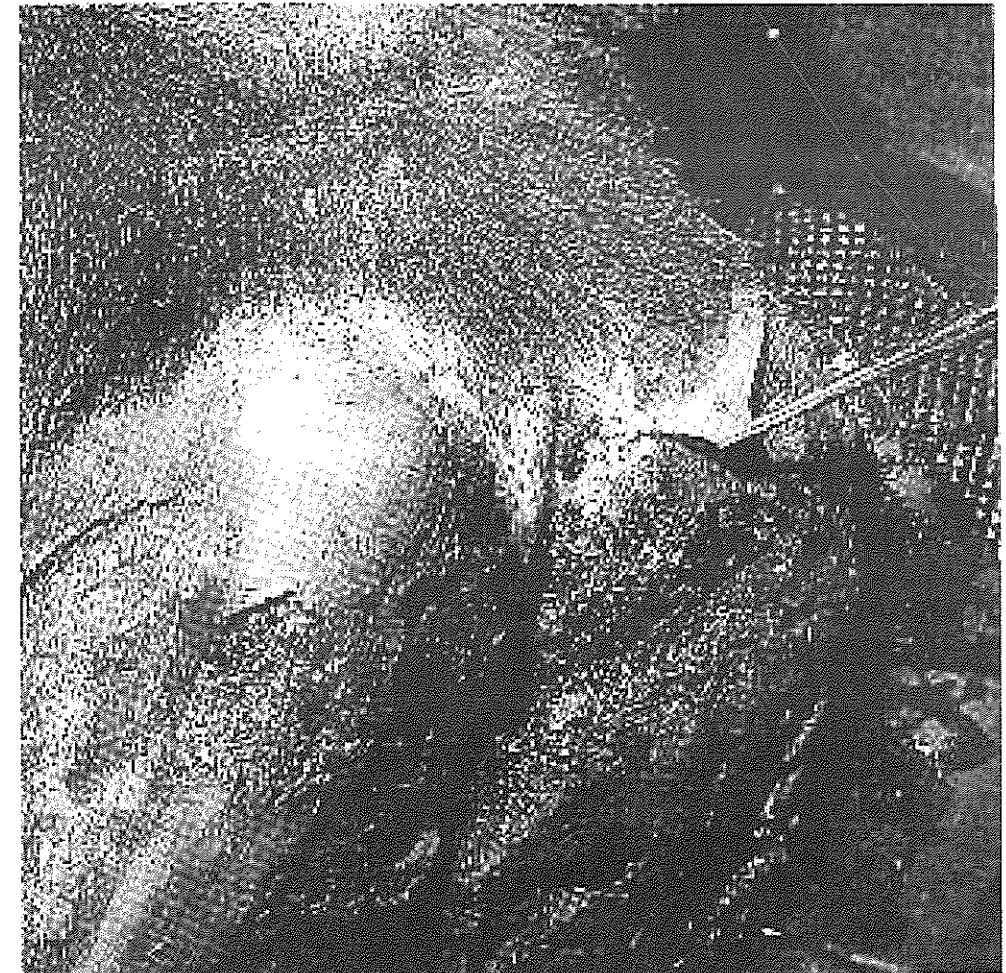
Cattle

- Slobbering and smacking lips.
- Shivering.
- Tender and sore feet.
- Reduced milk yield.
- Sores and blisters on feet.
- Raised temperature.

Two day old ruptured vesicle (blister) on tongue, lower gum and lower lip of a steer



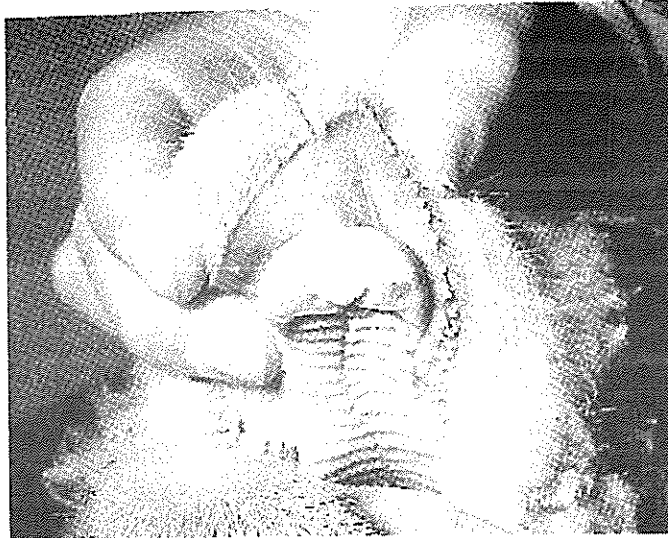
Foot of a steer



Sheep

- Sudden, severe lameness.
- Lies down frequently and is very unwilling to rise.
- When made to rise stands in a half-crouching position, with hind legs brought well forward, reluctant to move.
- Blisters may be found on the hoof, where the horn joins the skin, and may extend all round the coronet and in the cleft of the foot. When they burst the horn is separated from the tissues underneath, and hair round the hoof may appear damp.
- Blisters in the mouth are not always apparent but, when they do develop, form on the dental pad and sometimes the tongue.

Two day old lesion on dental pad of a sheep



Pigs

- Sudden lameness.
- Prefers to lie down.
- When made to move squeals loudly and hobbles painfully.
- Blisters form on the upper edge of the hoof, where the skin and horn meet, and on the heels and in the cleft.
- May extend right round the top of the hoof with the result that the horn becomes separated.
- Blisters may develop on the snout or on the tongue.

Vesicles on snout of pig (day 1)



Q How is the virus destroyed?

It can be destroyed by heat, low humidity, or certain disinfectants, but it may remain active for a varying time in a suitable medium such as the frozen or chilled carcass of an infected animal and on contaminated objects.

Q What are the effects of FMD?

The disease is rarely fatal, except in the case of very young animals, which may die without showing any symptoms.

All affected animals lose condition and secondary bacterial infections may prolong convalescence. The most serious effects of the disease however are seen in dairy cattle. Loss of milk yield, abortion, sterility, chronic mastitis, and chronic lameness are commonplace.

Q Can FMD be cured?

There is no cure. It usually runs its course in 2 or 3 weeks after which the great majority of animals recover naturally. The justification of the slaughter policy is that widespread disease throughout the country would be economically disastrous due to the effects already noted above.

Q How is the disease controlled?

The preferred method of control is a policy of slaughter of infected animals and those animals exposed to infection. Movement restrictions are also put into place to help to contain the disease. Vaccination can be undertaken, however there are international trade implications to vaccinating which can make this option unacceptable.

Q What are the likely ways FMD could enter the Falkland Islands?

Considering previous outbreaks throughout the world, the most likely route of entry into the Falklands would be through illegal importation (accidental or deliberate) of an infected meat or dairy product. Import policies and Customs inspections have stood the test of time here as FMD has long been on the back doorstep of the Falkland Islands in South America. The risk of entry of FMD on footwear or clothing is considered to be very remote, as for the entry of FMD-infected animals.

Q What are the military doing in the UK?

Like the general public, the military's outdoor exercises in the UK have essentially been closed down until further notice. As a result, there is no higher risk for UK military personnel bringing FMD virus into the Falkland Islands as there is for civilians arriving from the UK.

Q What precautions are being taken in the Falklands?

Emergency legislation has been passed to prohibit the importation of potentially infected meat, neat products, milk and dairy products from the UK. A public awareness campaign has been initiated at Brize Norton and MPA for Tristar flights, including posters and announcements prior to landing and after the mines talk. Customs Officers also question all arriving air passengers (Tristar and Lan Chile) whether they have been on farms in the last 4 weeks and footwear/clothing is inspected and disinfected as required. Footbaths have been placed at MPA for arriving air passengers, however the effectiveness of these is debatable as contaminated footwear is likely to be in luggage and the disinfectants used require a minimum contact time of

10 minutes. Footbaths are not routinely used by other FMD-free countries, such as Australia and New Zealand, which have FMD occurring in some neighbouring Asian countries.

Q What should Falkland Islands farmers be doing?

Don't panic. With the precautionary measures in place, it is unlikely FMD could enter the Falkland Islands from the UK. However, it is important to remain vigilant, check stock as regularly as possible and immediately advise the Veterinary Service of any suspicious livestock illness. Remember that in sheep, FMD signs may not be the classic blisters in the mouth and/or on the feet as seen in pigs and cattle, and can be quite vague. It could appear initially just as a few lame sheep.

If anyone would like this article email, please give me a call – Charlene

SUGGESTED CUTTING TIMES FOR HAY

By Aidan Kerr

Optimum production of hay is a balance between quantity grown and the quality for feeding livestock. Depending on the growing season leaf content is at its best in early to mid season but there may not be sufficient bulk. Generally as the season progresses more stems develop producing more bulk but the feed quality falls.

Judging the best time to cut is a compromise between these two factors, availability of labour and machinery. Farmers will know best how the latter two factors affect their own situation.

Here are some easily recognisable tips (from the Kondinin Group, Australia) for judging the stage of readiness for cutting. Maybe you have your own that you could share in Wool Press!

- Grass – pre-flowering.
- Oats – late flowering to milky stage of the seed heads.
- Clover - flowering.

**Do you have a pup or a young working dog
for sale or needing a home.**

Please call Nick Pitaluga at Salvador.

CENSUS NOTICE

From the Registrar General

The **2001 CENSUS** is on Sunday 8th April 2001. Prior to this date Census forms and notes will be delivered to everyone in the Falkland Islands.

Delivery will be by Census enumerators who will deliver and collect Census forms and also to offer guidance if need be. FIGAS will be delivering/collecting to the Islands and to certain parts of the West and will have a Census enumerator on board. Other locations on the West and East will be visited by landrover.

Timings will be placed in the Penguin News and over the radio nearer the time.

If anyone has any queries do feel free to contact me (John Rowland) on telephone 27272 or fax 27270.

BREEDING SHORT-HAIRED SHEEP

Source: Wool Record February 2000

Large scale sheep farms in Australia and New Zealand are cutting their bills for shearing by breeding short-haired sheep, reports a correspondent.

Two breeds of specialist meat sheep, originally from South Africa, have been introduced in Australia, where there are now around 10,000 Dorper and Damara sheep, after importing and breeding since 1996.

The breeds have been imported into New Zealand from Australia, and the first short-haired lambs are soon to be born there.

Embryos and sperm have also been exported to New Zealand and crossbreeding.

The Damara sheep has a short coat of similar to cattle, while the Dorper produces a small annual fleece of 400 grams of mixed hair and wool fibres, which sheds in the spring.

Agricultural scientists say the sheep, when bred with wool breeds, will produce offspring with just 1.5 kg of wool instead of the average 5 kg.

Meat NZ, the country's meat board, is likely to become an organisation representing both industries following the eventual demise of the New Zealand Wool Board.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO START UP A COTTAGE INDUSTRY

The staff of DOA/FIDC are setting up projects teams to investigate various products. I am co-ordinating a team to investigate future prospects for *Seaweed Products*, looking at its viability in all aspects including availability, markets, packaging, costs, transport and distribution etc.

I am looking for someone to investigating in a small cottage industry processes for making soaps and simple cosmetics.
Would you like to take on a challenge?

If so, please contact me for more information. *Charlene*

G & S Shearing Supplies will shortly be ordering goods for the next season, anyone wishing to place an order for any parts from Sunbeam or Heiniger or larger items such as grinders or shearing motors, please can you contact: Sue or Hew on e-mail hew@horizon.co.fk, or fax/phone in the evenings.

**WILKINS ·
KENNEDY**

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Wilkins Kennedy are offering training courses at **YOUR** farms. We will offer training in any area of accountancy, dependent on your requirements.

Our standard course will be
“DIVERSIFICATION AND ACCOUNTING”.

Assistance for the cost of these courses will be given from the Department of Agriculture. Please register your interest in attending to Karen on telephone/fax 22918 or email - wkfi@horizon.co.fk

An individual letter to each farmer is enclosed.

Harvesting Grass Seed

By Peter Johnston and Riki Evans

In late February this year Riki Evans successfully harvested over 150kg of Red Fescue seed from a re-seed at Hope Cottage. Riki used a small brush harvester towed behind his Rover to collect the seed. The harvester was made in Canada by a firm called Prairie Habitats and is based on the brush harvesters initially designed in Oklahoma by Aaron Beisel.

The harvester uses a rotating brush to “comb” the seed from the seed heads. In this way the plants are not damaged and the areas harvested can continue to be grazed. Riki’s harvester was collecting about 58 kg of seed per hectare.

The ability to produce pasture seed in the islands would greatly assist pasture improvement by:

- Reducing the Islands dependence on importing seed,
- Reducing costs of purchasing seed, and,
- Using “types” adapted to the soils and climate of the Islands.

If you have areas that you believe would be worth harvesting please contact Riki.



Riki Evans harvesting Red Fescue at Hope Cottage on 22 February 2001.

JOB CALENDARS MAKE MANAGEMENT EASY

Source: *Farming Ahead* No. 110 Feb 2001

Setting Schedules:

Farmers can save time and money by using management calendars to plan the yearly workflow.

Job calendars can help farmers minimise costly animal health crises such as work outbreaks and by implementing health strategies on time can avoid production losses. The information explosion accelerated by modern technology gives farmers tremendous opportunity for advancing their enterprises.

A management calendar enables farmers to progressively adopt new technology and information. It allows businesses to not just talk about the latest information but to implement it in a way that best suits individual farm systems.

A property manager in Australia, who owns three grazing properties near Hamilton, Victoria, has used management calendars for more than two years. This has saved him and his staff considerable time. The calendar is updated constantly and the upcoming month's activities are discussed at staff meetings. Having a management calendar in place also ensures continuity of farm operations when he and his wife are on their annual holiday.

Develop a Plan:

The process of developing a management calendar is not difficult; it just requires a few simple steps.

The first step is to document current activities for each month. Start with joining dates, calving, marking and dehorning.

Do not restrict the plan to animal health and husbandry but include all the activities of the operation such as marketing, pasture and office duties. Do not forget to slot in 2 - 4 weeks' annual holiday.

The process of documenting current activities in a calendar sequence will invariably lead to challenging many current operational activities. This is because problems with timing or co-ordinating different activities become obvious when written down in a calendar sequence.

If you have a personal computer word processor then this allows for the regular ongoing adjustments to the calendar required to achieve constant improvement of farm management. Those businesses not moving forward cannot compete and fall by the wayside. Farming businesses are no exception, particularly as most farmers rely on overseas customers who can source products from around the world.

Ensure all family and staff of the farm organisation have the opportunity for input into the calendar at an early stage - it will not work otherwise.

While not all family or staff may suggest many alterations they are far more likely to support the calendar if given the opportunity to contribute. Also seek input from all the farm's sources of information and technical support such as from agronomists, stock and wool marketing advisers, bank managers and veterinarians.

Set a date with a third party such as the farm management adviser or immediate superior to submit the calendar for assessment. This will help ensure it is completed. The third party also might be a farm discussion group.

At a farm discussion group the calendar can be the focus of a lively discussion and valuable peer group review, particularly if the calendar developer is hosting the meeting and group members have had an opportunity to walk around the farm beforehand.

Implement the Strategy:

Pin up the current month's activities in a prominent position where all family and staff of the farm organisation will see it regularly.

During the month tick off those activities that are completed and reassess incomplete tasks for rewriting or deleting. It is not necessary to write an agenda for a monthly staff meeting, simply use the calendar to compare the budgeted tasks with actual completed jobs for the previous month's activities.

Use the following month's calendar activities as a basis for planning. This ensures ongoing input from all family and staff members, which is vital for its success. Always take the calendar to seminars and make notes on how to apply the information learnt.

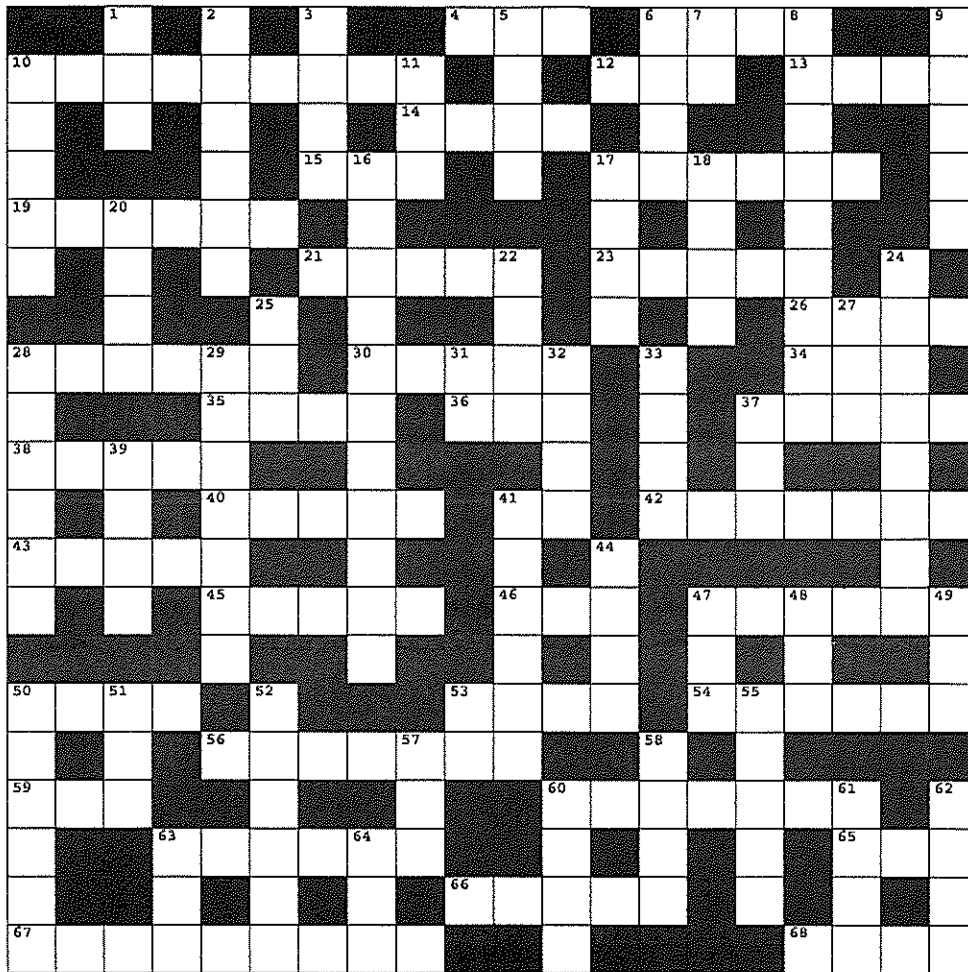
Better still; encourage the presenter to suggest ways of incorporating their cutting edge information into the management calendar.

Building a calendar:

Take the step-by-step guide to creating a farm management calendar.

- ✓ Set a date to submit the calendar to a third party for assessment
- ✓ Document current activities on a calendar format
- ✓ Use a personal computer word processor so the document can be constantly improved
- ✓ Ensure all family and staff provide input into the management calendar
- ✓ Analyse and refine the calendar
- ✓ Discuss with all farm information providers
- ✓ Place the calendar in a prominent position.
- ✓ Discuss with family and staff at least monthly
- ✓ Document on the calendar how any new information gained from reading a technical article or attending a seminar will be implemented.

If you would like to know more on how to achieve a calendar, please give me a call and I will send you whole article. *Charlene*



ACROSS

4. DRAW FLUID FROM
6. WOOL HOLDERS
10. AREA WHERE THE STEPS ARE LOCATED
12. HOLE IN THE GROUND
13. A REFLECTED SOUND
14. ALPINE WILD GOAT
15. PLUS
17. BIRTH SIGNS
19. ROTTEN - AS IN EGGS
21. WHITENESS CAUSED BY THE COLD
23. MARK IN A PIECE OF WOOD
26. AJAR
28. COMFORT
30. YOUNG BIRD
34. CROSS COLOUR?
35. WARMTH
36. THE HEAVENS
37. START
38. RECEIVING DEVICE
40. OYSTER GEM
41. EXIST
42. MEAT PATTIES
43. HIT HARD
45. BIRD OF PREY
46. BEER
47. ROAD WITH HOUSES
50. RIVERBANK RODENT
53. GO LIQUID IN THE HEAT
54. SMALL POULTRY BREED
56. FIRE STARTERS
59. PORTION OF A FELLED TREE
60. FOOT IRON ON RIDING GEAR
63. BLACK FALKLAND VULTURE
65. FROZEN WATER
66. A TYPE OF PULSE
67. DANCING SPIDER?
68. SMALL DUCK

DOWN

1. RODENT
2. GARDEN TOOL
3. SECOND LETTER OF THE GREEK ALPHABET
5. TIP
6. PEN
7. COMPUTERS, ETC.
8. SIGNAL WITH FLAGS
9. NECK LOOPE
10. GRAIN PLANT BY-PRODUCT
11. COVER
16. SOWING METHOD (6,5)
17. WHITE METAL ELEMENT
18. INFORMATION
20. HAND OUT THE CARDS
22. HORSE GEAR
24. ANCESTRY LINE
25. PIECE OF GOLF EQUIPMENT
27. TOOL USED TO HOLD CLOTHES ON LINE
28. ELF
29. AXE
31. EXISTS
32. SCOTTISH CHANNEL OF WATER
33. FLAVOURING AND MEDICINAL PLANT
37. BAN
39. PERCUSSION INSTRUMENT
41. YOUNG INDIAN MEN
44. MATTED WOOL
47. LOWER
48. FLOW, AS WATER
49. MALE CAT
50. ANTLER COVERING
51. LOWER LIMB
52. TALKING BIRD
53. I
55. SEE BYE TO EYE
57. WINTER FEED
58. FIBS
60. AQUATIC MAMMAL
61. SMOKING MOUTHPIECE
62. CALF MEAT
63. REFRESHMENT
64. LONG FISH



The Wool Press

ISSUE 137

APRIL 2001

PRICE : £1.00

**All the
regular
features
and more!**

The Wool Press is
published by the
Department
of Agriculture
and
printed at the
Falkland Islands
Government
Printing Office.

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SOUTH GEORGIA REINDEER TRANSLOCATION

By Cameron Bell

IS THERE A CURE FOR CANCER IN DIDDLE-DEE?

By Aidan Kerr

NAPALM MIGHT ASSIST DISPOSAL OF SLAUGHTERED FARM ANIMALS

Posting from ProMed

SHELTER BELT TRIALS - PROGRESS TO DATE

By Aidan Kerr

POULTRY DISEASES - KEEPING A HEALTHY FLOCK

Source: DPI, Queensland

EDITORIAL

The duty of collating the Wool Press has been handed over to myself (Glynis) with the help of Sarah and Lucy.

I would welcome any comments or new ideas that perhaps you would like to see in forthcoming editions of this magazine. A puzzle page has been added this month for the children, which hopefully they will enjoy.

A number of staff are leaving the Department within the next couple of months, therefore we would like to take this opportunity to wish Doug, Gillian, Charlene, Cameron, Jeremy & Sean good luck for the future.

Cameron's replacement, Kevin Lawrence, his wife Claire and their six-year-old daughter Brianna, will arrive in the Islands on the 16th of June.

A WORD FROM CHARLENE

By now you may have heard on the diddle-dee express that I'm **also** leaving (12th April) the Agricultural Department and working for FIDC as Personal Business Advisor (B). I would like to thank all farmers who have welcomed me over the past 8 years for work related jobs. I have thoroughly enjoyed my self, staying on your farms and exploring the parts that not many other people get to see (mountain tops, boundaries etc!) I would like to also say thank you to all the farmers who have wished me all the luck in my new job.

Replacement of Fencing for year 2000 has arrived on this FIC boat. Owen has the file on what everyone should be receiving. If you should have any queries, Owen will be able to help you (if not he will be in touch with me anyway). No doubt the fencing materials will be sent to you as soon as possible either by boat or organised by yourselves on the road. ?

Subsistence: As normal, I will still be organising your payments for Glynis to process when you send your accounts into me at FIDC.

Farming Statistics: By now you will have received your forms. Please complete at the end of May and send them in as normal. It would be appreciated if you could have them sent back as soon as possible after the 31 May so that the next person who takes on my role will not have to phone those people up to remind them.

Wool Press: Glynis, Lucy and Sarah have decided that they will organise the Wool Press. Please give them all the support that you have given me over the years. I'm sure they have some new ideas of their own.

Thank you again for all your support.

Charlene

South Georgia Reindeer Translocation

*By Cameron Bell
(Photos thanks to Sean Miller & Derek Clelland)*

Regular readers of the Wool Press would be well aware of the background to the reindeer translocation undertaken in January/February of this year. In essence, the Falkland Islands Government Department of Agriculture had the opportunity to move reindeer fawns from South Georgia to establish a herd for future commercial use.

Despite funding being approved at the last moment, we were able to organise the expedition and procure required materials in time for our departure on January 2nd 2001 on the M/V *Sigma*. Much of December 2000 was spent by myself and DoA Laboratory Technician Derek Clelland, often in our spare-time, making last minute preparations and packing crates, followed by loading. Apart from Derek and I, there were nine others in the team: Bob Dieterich (specialist reindeer veterinarian from the USA), Fiona Hatchell (veterinarian from UK), Sean Miller (DoA), Timmy Bonner (DoA), Peter Nightingale (West Falklands farmer), Chris Burt (KEMH casualty nurse), Sarah Lurcock (long-time South Georgia resident) and Mark & Fraser Carpenter (crew of support yacht R/V *Joshua*).

Some of the team did not fare very well on the voyage down to South Georgia and rarely showed their faces. I don't think Derek was sighted for the entire 3 days! The usual onboard activities such as sleeping, reading, whale watching, looking at charts, reading weather maps, watching videos and more sleeping were undertaken by us all. We arrived at King Edward Point in glorious sunshine, where we picked up Sarah who was to be our cook. Arriving at Husvik whaling station (Figure 1) the next day, we commenced unloading our supplies. This took 4 days in total as we only had a small sea-truck, the *Lady Diana*, capable of taking 2 pallets at a time, and about 15 tonnes of gear to unload. Although we unloaded the gear from the sea truck (including 12 tonnes of reindeer feed in 25 kg bags) by hand, and moved it off the beach by quad bike or hand, we were successful in getting everything stowed away safely. With the unloading completed, we said goodbye to the *Sigma*.

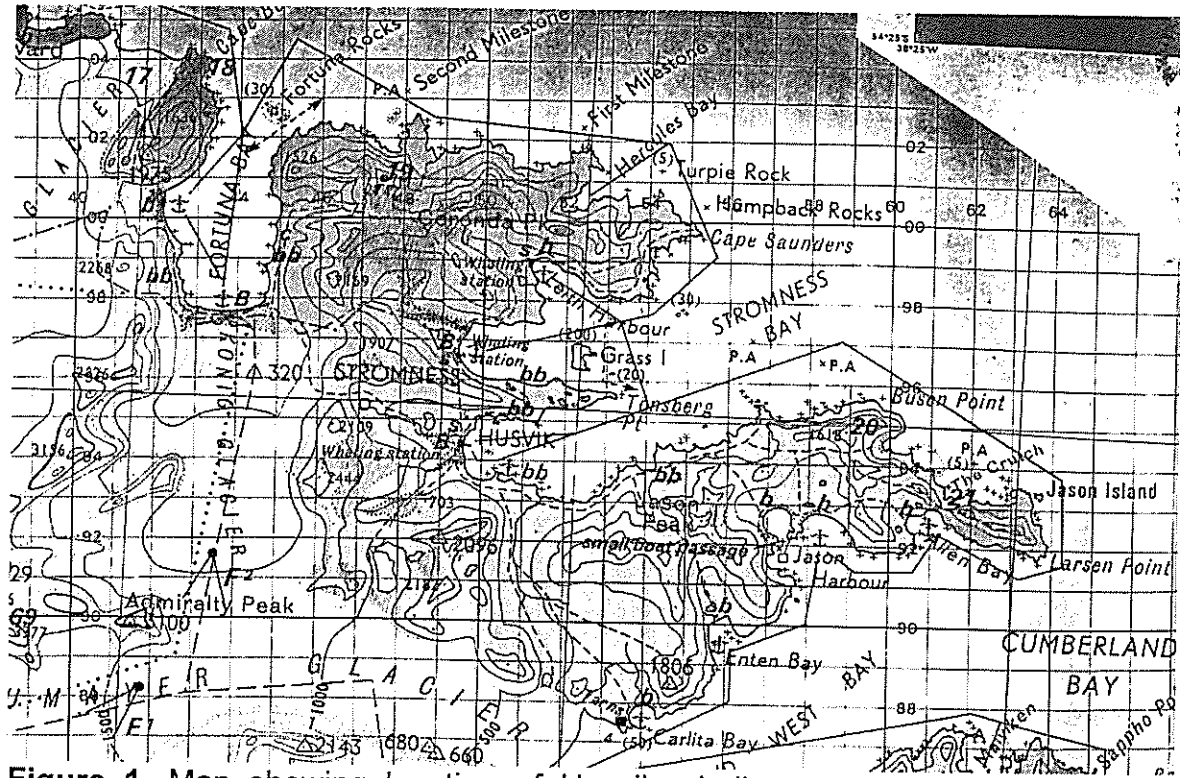


Figure 1. Map showing location of Husvik whaling station and areas where herding was undertaken (see text).

Whilst unloading, we had also commenced construction of a 25m diameter circular corral, using prefabricated aluminium panels (3 x 2 m), originally intended for cattle yards at Fox Bay. These were guyed to metal stakes and lined internally with hessian to create a visual barrier along most of the circumference. A section opposite the entrance was not covered with hessian to give a false impression of an escape route for the reindeer. The main gateway was formed with six of the panels, put into place once animals had been herded into the corral. Two pens were constructed adjacent to the corral. A sorting pen of approximately 6 m diameter opened directly into the corral, with an adjoining v-shaped chute. A fawn holding pen approximately 1.5 times the size of the catching pen was also constructed. Both pens were lined with ply-wood (2.5 m height). In the later phases of the South Georgia operation, these two pens were merged to provide increased area for the fawns and also to allow removal of fawns from the feeding area whilst troughs and water containers were being cleaned and refreshed. Wing fences were constructed using wire netting and plain wire. These would guide reindeer into the corral once we had herded them to Husvik. Plastic flagging (strips of plastic knotted around the wire) was used on most sections of the wing fences to create a visual barrier, although some parts were left unflagged to give the impression of an escape route.

All the herding was undertaken on foot as this was the only way to get around and over the rugged terrain, which included steep scree slopes, snow fields, fell fields, tussock grass, creeks and even more scree slopes. Animals were herded in the following areas (see also Figure 1): Olsen Valley, Carlita Valley, Jason Harbour, north coast of Lewin Peninsula (colloquially referred to as Busen Peninsula), Husvik Valley, Stromness Valley, Leith Valley, Tonsberg Peninsula, Cape Saunders and Fortuna Bay. We herded groups of up to 150 to 200 animals to Husvik and into the corral, separated the fawns and let the adults go (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Adult reindeer moving out the chute.

We normally herded with a team of 6 people, working in pairs. Some of the herding was undertaken as a day trip, other times it involved being away from base for 2 to 3 nights (camping or staying in a hut). We used our yacht on one trip to save time getting us to a starting point, but otherwise it was two legs for getting around. The incredible scenery and great group of people we were working closely with certainly made us forget about all the hard slogging and running up/down hills!

Once the adults were removed from the catching pen, the fawns (about 8 wks old, some younger) were caught (Figure 3) so that they could be sexed, drenched, ear tagged, have their eyes cleaned and be medicated with probiotics ('good' bacteria that assist normal gut function). Although we didn't weigh any fawns, their body weight was estimated to be between 10 to 20 kg at the time of capture.



Figure 3. Fawn waiting for treatment after being caught.

Fawns were initially fed a commercial pelleted feed and milk replacer (Figure 4). We always had some reservations that they would not eat the pellets, or would develop problems such as acidosis, however the fawns took to the pellets like they had always eaten them. By the time we departed Husvik, 20 days after the capture of the first fawns, the average daily consumption was almost 2.5 kg of feed. At the time of our departure we stopped providing milk and provided only fresh water.



Figure 4. Encouraging a fawn to drink milk replacer.

The fawns were held in two adjacent pens. Initially they were quite wary of us, but in no time they knew when feeding time was and became quite

'pushy', letting us know they were hungry. Overall, they settled down really well and in this situation, were quite easy to catch (Figure 5). We became quite attached to our 'babies' as we had much contact with them, feeding twice daily, as well as checking on them several times a day. We got to know them quite well because of this regular contact, to the extent where some were given names instead of just plain old ear tag numbers!



Figure 5. Catching a fawn for examination.

We did lose 8 fawns during our time at Husvik due to various conditions such as hair and gravel impaction of the stomach, but there was no evidence of any infectious disease. Two of these animals had been given intensive care, which included being kept inside the house on an intravenous drip, but to no avail. On the other hand, another patient brought inside one evening for intravenous drip therapy made such a good recovery that by 11 pm, we were chasing him around inside to catch him.

Of 98 fawns we observed, we captured 67. Unfortunately we had hoped for twice as many; a census undertaken at the start of December 2000 indicated there were many more. It is possible that the un-seasonal Spring snow that was about had meant pretty rough conditions for the new-borns (normally a mean birth date of 15th November) and that a higher than average perinatal mortality was experienced.

Our last few days before the return of the *Sigma* saw some fairly bleak weather, and conditions started to become quite grim for the fawns. During this period of time we dismantled most of the corral and fences, really just leaving the fawn pens standing.

HOW TO GIVE A CAT A PILL

Source: CVA News January 2001

Loading the ship only took 2 days as we had a bigger sea truck this time, operated by Michael McRae. You could literally see the smile on the fawns when we got them onboard the *Sigma*: they were in fawn paradise, *i.e.* warm pens with hay bedding, lots of room to stretch out and *ad lib* food. What more could they have wanted? The 59 fawns travelled really well on the return voyage, better than some of our team! For some of the team members, mucking out urine and faeces soaked hay in a rolling ship was a bit too much, but somehow we all got by.

After smooth sailing on the return voyage and arrival at FIPASS on February 10th, the fawns were quickly unloaded and trucked out to Saladero by Ian Bury and Mike Butcher. The fawns did really well during the 2 hours trip. Having the fawns as tame as they were really assisted making the transportation phases of the operation as smooth as possible and virtually problem-free.

Now the fawns are settled into a 40 Ha paddock, with a combination of native and introduced species to feed on. They took to the introduced species, including legumes such as white clover, and loved them (Figure 6). We were all expecting problems with the rapid dietary change, but they have coped remarkably well. One fawn was euthanased because of torn tendons in both hind-legs, however all other 58 fawns are doing remarkably well, despite rumours you may have heard, putting on weight and looking very impressive. I am sure visitors to Saladero on the recent DoA Open Day can confirm that.

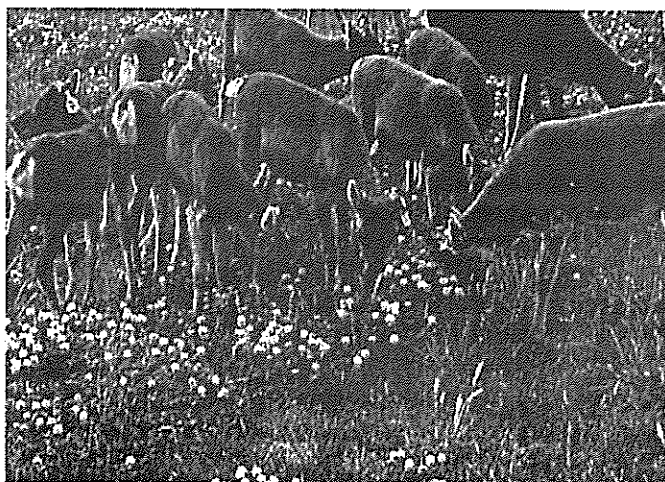


Figure 6. Fawns grazing white clover at Saladero.

1. Pick up cat and cradle it in the crook of your left arm as if holding a baby. Position right finger and thumb on either side of cat's mouth and gently apply pressure to cheeks while holding a pill in right hand. As cat opens mouth pop pill into mouth. Allow cat to close mouth and swallow.
2. Retrieve pill from floor and cat from behind the sofa. Cradle cat in left arm and repeat process.
3. Retrieve cat from bedroom, and throw soggy pill away.
4. Take new pill from foil wrap, cradle cat in left arm holding rear paws tightly with left hand. Force jaws open and push pill to back of mouth with right forefinger. Hold mouth shut for a count of ten.
5. Retrieve pill from goldfish bowl and cat from top of wardrobe. Call spouse from garden.
6. Kneel on floor with cat wedged firmly between knees, hold front and rear paws. Ignore low growls emitted by cat. Get spouse to hold cat's head firmly with one hand while forcing wooden ruler into mouth. Drop pill down mouth and rub cat's throat vigorously.
7. Retrieve cat from curtain rail, get another pill from foil wrap. Make note to buy new ruler and repair curtains. Carefully sweep shattered Doulton figurines from hearth and set to one side for gluing later.
8. Wrap cat in large towel and get spouse to lie on cat with head just visible from below armpit. Put pill in end of drinking straw, force mouth open with pencil and blow down drinking straw.
9. Check label to make sure pill is not harmful to humans, drink glass of water to take taste away. Apply Band-Aid to spouse's forearm and remove blood from carpet with cold water and soap.
10. Retrieve cat from neighbour's shed. Get another pill. Place cat in cupboard and close door onto neck to leave head showing. Force mouth open with dessert spoon. Flick pill down throat with elastic band.
11. Fetch screw driver from garage and put door back on hinges. Apply cold compress to cheek and check records for date of last tetanus jab. Throw T-shirt away and fetch new one from bedroom.
12. Ring fire brigade to retrieve cat from tree across the road. Apologise to neighbour who crashed into fence while swerving to avoid cat. Take last pill from foil wrap.
13. Tie cat's front paws to rear paws with garden twine and bind tightly to leg of dining table, find heavy duty pruning gloves from shed, force cat's mouth open with small spanner. Push pill into mouth followed by a large piece of fillet steak. Hold head vertically and pour water down throat to wash pill down.
14. Get spouse to drive you to hospital. Sit quietly while doctor stitches fingers and forearm and removes pill remnants from right eye. Call into furniture shop on way home to order new table.
15. Arrange for the RSPCA to collect cat and ring local pet shop to see if they have any hamsters.

Shelterbelt trials – progress to date

By Aidan Kerr.

- Since 1997 over 20,000 trees have been planted in six shelterbelt trials. These are on farms at Saladero, Estancia, Fitzroy, Bold Cove, Port Howard and Shallow Harbour. The co-operation of all farmers is much appreciated.

- Tree growth rates have been generally better than originally expected.

Tree growth rates in Shelterbelt Trials

TREE TYPE -	LOGDEPOLE PINES		MACROCARPA	AUSTRIAN	RADIATA	SOUTHERN	SITKA
	C. ALASKASKEENA RIVER	CYPRESS	PINE	PINE	BEECH	SPRUCE	
SEED SOURCE -	UK	UK	LOCAL & EU	UK	UK	CHILE	UK
Shallow harbour	1997-98	7	3	-	-	-	-
	1998-99	8	4	-	-	-	-
	1998-00	28	13	-	-	-	-
	2000-01	31	21	-	-	-	-
	AVERAGE/YR	19	10	-	-	-	-
Saladero	1998-99	1	1	3	2	-7	-
C	1999-00	10	6	20	3	12	-
	AVERAGE/YR	10	6	12	2	3	-
Estancia	1998-99	3	1	-	-	-13	0
C	1999-00	9	4	-	-	-3	2
	AVERAGE/YR	11	5	-	-	-16	1
Bold Cove	1999-00	4	3	5	12	4	-
C	1999-00	6	3	9	9	5	-
Fitzroy	1990-00	24	-	-	-	-	-
(UKFIT)	1997-00	16	-	-	-	-	-
C	Average	20	-	-	-	-	-
	Average/yr by type	12	5	9	8	5	-7

A= Top growth of S. Beech badly damaged by cold, strong winds.

B= Sitka Spruce adversely affected by frost and aphids

C= Growth rates for 2000-01 will be measured in October

- **Lodgepole Pine from coastal Alaska is the best-adapted tree type**, particularly to wetter peaty soils. It should be used as the main species in any shelterbelt. Generally, more than 90% of the original trees have survived and are growing satisfactorily - 15-20 cm/yr in the first two years after planting. In the third and fourth year at Shallow Harbour such Lodgepole Pines have grown about 30 cm per year. Their average height is now 90 cm and the tallest tree is 170 cm.
- Growth of 'Macrocarpa' has been adversely affected by weather damage during winters in 1999 and in 2000. However it remains the tallest species at Saladero.
- **High quality, robust, well-hardened and well-balanced planting stock is essential to achieve high survival and vigorous growth.** For most tree types seedlings grown in containers are superior to bare rooted stock. This is particularly evident for Radiata Pine, potted plants of which are the tallest species in the Port Howard and Bold Cove belts. In contrast bare rooted Radiata Pine used at Saladero performed badly. Reliable survival and growth rates of bare rooted planting stock have only been achieved with Alaskan Lodgepole Pine.

- **Practical and cost effective techniques for site preparation have been developed for most situations.** These can include various combinations of deep ripping, flail mowing, shallow rotavation, spaced plough ridges and Roundup™ application before planting. For drier sites planting pits are best prepared using a post hole borer. Subsequent weed control can be achieved using Roundup™ and Kerb™ herbicides.

Site	Total Tree losses in Shelterbelt Trials since planting								
	TREE TYPE -	LOGDEPOLE	'MACROCARPA'		AUSTRIAN	RADIATA	BISHOP	'COIGUE'	SITKA
	PINE	C. ALASKA	BR. COLUMBIA	CYPRESS	PINE	PINE	PINE	S. BEECH	SPRUCE
	ORIGIN -	C. ALASKA	BR. COLUMBIA	FALKLAND IS.	C. EUROPE	UK	NZ	S. CHILE	
NURSERY -	UK & FI	UK & FI	FALKLAND IS.	UK & FI	FI	FI		UK	
	<i>Planted</i>								
Fitzroy(UKFIT)	1990	20%	-	-	-	-	-	-	100%
Fitzroy	1997	0%	-	-	-	-	-	100%	-
S. Harbour	1997	3%	29%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saladero	1998	22%	14%	22%	47%	105%	3%	55%	-
Estancia	1998	2%	10%	-	10%	-	-	29%	10%
Bold Cove	1999	14%	2%	35%	3%	19%	0%	-	-
Port Howard	1999	12%	6%	28%	13%	12%	0%	-	-
	Average by type '97-01	9%	12%	28%	18%	45%	1%	61%	55%

Notes:

A = at Saladero original and replacement Radiata Pines died

B = 2000-01 season was first for Bishop Pine

C = At Fitzroy and Estancia all Sitka Spruce and Southern beech will be replaced by Lodgepole Pine from coastal Alaska

- **With good planning, guidance and patience shelterbelts can be successfully established here.** Site preparation, fencing and planting of a 30m by 300m 'belt' containing 4,000 trees requires a total of 25-person day's work. A belt of this size costs about £5,000 including labour. If used with improved pasture to improve the production of lambs and the survival of shorn sheep this investment could be recovered within 10 years. Shelterbelts qualify for assistance under the FIG Incentive Scheme.

- **For more information and advice please consult the UKFI Trust booklet 'Guidelines for shelterbelt planting in the Falkland Islands' or Aidan Kerr on 27355.**

Below - Alaskan Lodgepole Pine at Shallow Harbour, March 2000.



Posting from ProMED, a programme of the
International Society for Infectious Diseases Date: 24 Mar 2001

NAPALM MIGHT ASSIST DISPOSAL OF SLAUGHTERED FARM ANIMALS

As the carcasses of animals slaughtered because of foot and mouth disease (FMD) pile up on British farms, American researchers have suggested a radical solution – napalm. They say it would be a faster, cheaper and more efficient way of disposing of animals than the pyres now burning in fields across the country.

Up to 60,000 animals have been left to rot in fields and barns after slaughter to prevent the spread of FMD. Farmers are waiting as long as 10 days for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) to dispose of the carcasses. With Britain now planning to slaughter 500,000 healthy animals within a 3km radius of infected farms, the problem is set to become much worse.

Faced with a similar task during an outbreak of anthrax in Reno, Nevada, in August last year, Ron Anderson of the Nevada Department of Agriculture came up with the idea of using napalm. His experiments showed napalm, a mixture of polystyrene and an adhesive mixed with diesel or petrol, can destroy a carcass in just 60 minutes. In contrast, burning animals on a pyre of wood takes 3 days. The napalm-fuelled flame throwers can be used to boost the flames if required.

Napalm sounds dangerous, but it is actually relatively easy and safe to use, and probably safer than either petrol or diesel alone, says Martin Hugh-Jones at the School of Veterinary Medicine in Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. "Napalm does not vaporize easily and so does not produce dangerous fumes," he says. "Nor does it produce any dangerous by-products as a result of burning."

[Napalm is] cheap too. Whereas pyres can cost up to many hundreds of pounds per carcass. Anderson estimates [that] a carcass can be destroyed for just a couple of pounds using napalm. "We are talking pennies," he says, once the investment has been made in the equipment. It takes only 2 people to operate the napalm system. The equipment is light and portable and can easily be transported from farm to farm. There would be no need transport the lorry-loads of timber and old tires needed to build a pyre.

However, a spokeswoman for MAFF says it has no plans to use napalm. "It is not an option that has been looked at so far," she says. "There are likely to be safety concerns we would need to look at first, and we would need to have a lot of discussion about the risks."

Is the cure for cancer in Diddle-dee? By Aidan Kerr

Who knows, but until we look we won't find out? Did you know that eight out of the top twenty pharmaceutical drugs used world-wide were derived from plants? Their total sales are worth \$10 billion annually. For example Taxol the anti-cancer drug was derived from the Yew tree and Aspirin was derived from Willow bark.

All right, so we haven't got Yew trees but we are growing Willows. More promisingly we may well have some useful but little known (world-wide) plants in the 'camp' which until now have been generally overlooked and regarded as worthless, especially for livestock feed. Here are some ideas with commercial potential.

Novel chemical properties.

Perhaps the areas with biggest potential are the novel chemicals in Falkland plants, which could be of use to the pharmaceutical and agro-chemical industries.

- ❖ Balsam Bog can be used to treat external wounds with its anti-microbial and anti-inflammatory properties.
- ❖ Crowberry, a common heath plant elsewhere and similar to Diddle-dee, contains compounds that inhibit the growth of bacteria responsible for tuberculosis.
- ❖ Roots of, Calafate's 'relative', the Barberry were selling as herbal medicines at £19/kg on the Internet! The flowers of Fachine are reputed to improve eyesight.
- ❖ Two natural insecticides were isolated from an Andean relative of our Lady Slipper.

Horticulture is also a multi-billion pound industry world-wide, which is constantly looking for novel plants both for direct exploitation and for breeding purposes. We have over thirty plant species of potential interest.

- ❖ Tall Fern, Scurvy grass and Leathery-Shield Fern were awarded 'garden merit' by the Royal Horticultural Society.
- ❖ The native Snake Plant, found nowhere else, has been cultivated overseas but it is unlikely that the Falklands ever benefited from this exploitation.

Crop improvement. Plants such as Wild Celery, Diddle Dee, Native Strawberry and the native grasses may all have useful genetic traits that could be used to improve related crops in the Northern Hemisphere and South America.

Berry Crops. Diddle Dee, Tea Berry and Calafate produce edible berries. Traditionally jams, buns, cakes and wine have been made. Other products that could be developed using the berries might include jellies, ice cream, yoghurt and fruit cheeses. Tea Berry could be used to flavour a special Gin.

Controlled collection from the wild would be an acceptable short-term option while potential markets for products from native plants were investigated. If a viable market were found a shift to cultivation would be more desirable with obvious benefits to local growers. Whatever the method it is very important that any exploitation is conducted in a sustainable and environmentally friendly manner, so that the plant resource remains renewable. Some of the profits should be returned here to conserve the plants and improve production from them as well as adding to the incomes of those who collect or grow them.

It would be difficult and expensive to create such an industry without the co-operation of specialist expertise. For example a multi-disciplinary approach was a key factor in development of the natural insecticides from the Andean Lady Slipper. Queens University in Belfast has already provided us with scientific information on the potential novel uses of our plants. We are now also seeking commercial partners to develop the ideas further and already have interest from the UK and the USA.

If we don't try soon somebody else is probably going to get there first! Just imagine that 'the cure for cancer' was found in your Diddle-dee!

We are keen to hear from any potential local partners. Please give Aidan a call on 27355.

THIS MONTH'S RECIPE

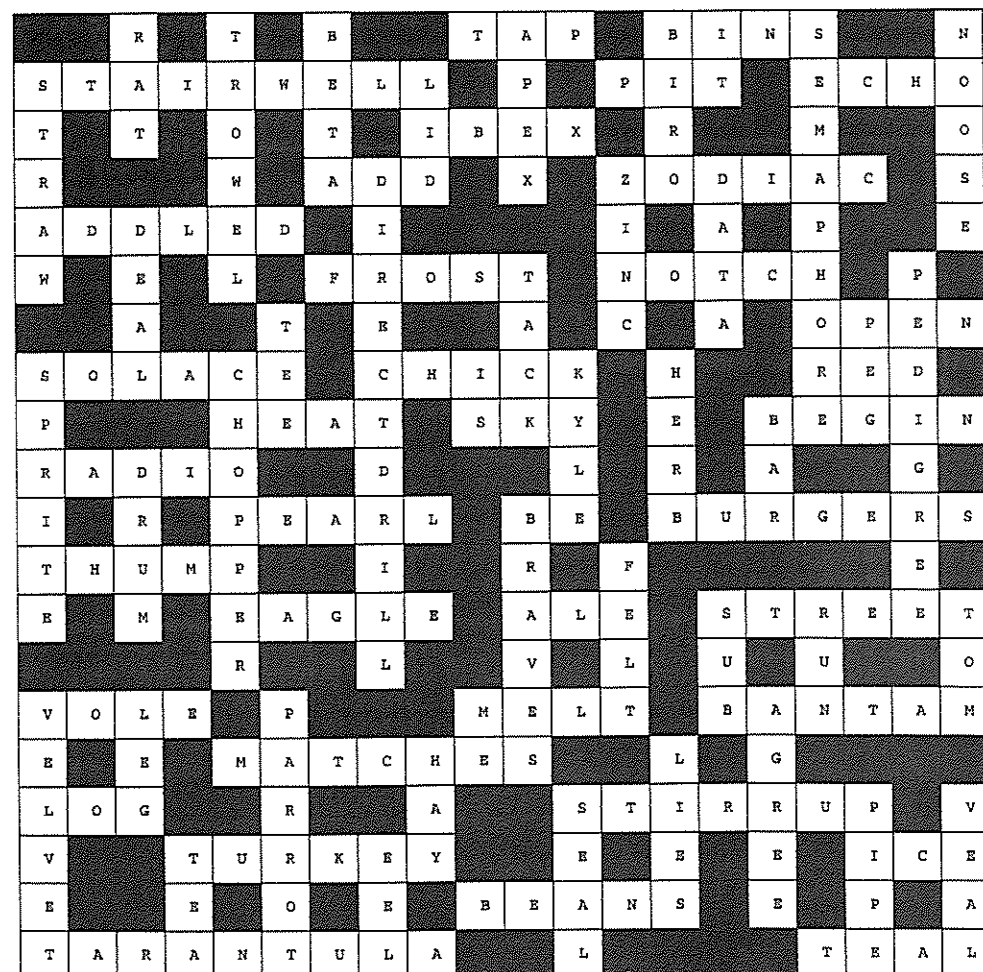
Deep and Indulgent Chocolate Cake

Serves 6 – 8

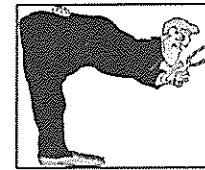
400g (14oz) plain chocolate, broken into squares
 1 tablespoon milk
 2-3 teaspoons almond oil
 150g (5oz) unsalted butter, diced and softened
 4 large eggs
 1 tablespoon caster sugar
 ½ teaspoon almond essence
 25g (1oz) plain flour

To decorate
 Whipped cream
 Flaked almonds, toasted
 Chocolate curls or shavings

1. Heat the oven to 220C/425F/Gas 7. Put the chocolate and milk in a heatproof bowl and place on top of a pan of barely simmering water. Leave to melt gently for 10-15 minutes.
2. Line a roasting tin measuring about 25 x 20 cm (10 x 8 in) with greaseproof paper or baking parchment. Fold so it fits neatly into the edges and corners. Brush paper liberally with almond oil.
3. When the chocolate has melted, add the diced butter but do not stir. Remove the bowl from the heat and leave to stand. Separate the eggs. Beat the whites until they just form the softest of peaks. Lightly beat the yolks with sugar and almond essence, then mix in the flour.
4. Mix the butter and chocolate then add to the yolk mixture, beating continuously. Gently fold in the beaten whites. Lightly re-brush the lining paper with more almond oil and pour in the mixture. Bake in the centre of the oven for 20 minutes then turn off the oven, open the door and leave the cake undisturbed to go completely cold.
5. Turn the cake out on to a serving platter or board and carefully peel away the lining paper. An hour or two before serving, decorate the cake with whipped cream, almonds and chocolate curls or shavings. Serve cut into squares.



**SOLUTION
 TO LAST
 MONTH'S
 CROSSWORD**



SOMETHING FOR THE CHILDREN

WORD SEARCH

D	H	T	O	V	D	A	Q	Z	X	P	C	D	P	D
S	D	I	V	R	T	T	R	A	C	T	O	R	V	X
G	R	A	W	H	Y	B	S	R	U	L	W	H	K	J
K	M	O	A	X	M	K	W	D	J	V	S	T	D	K
E	U	S	H	D	Y	J	R	E	I	N	D	E	E	R
N	S	H	L	A	O	A	F	T	V	X	D	J	X	V
N	G	S	A	F	R	G	N	I	R	A	E	H	S	J
E	K	N	D	K	J	T	W	K	Z	M	H	G	A	F
L	S	E	S	X	I	A	I	F	K	P	L	A	U	Z
S	A	K	B	E	E	Z	H	A	E	C	Y	H	E	T
V	T	C	I	O	B	X	R	E	J	D	Z	A	Z	N
R	G	I	T	V	H	E	H	S	K	Q	E	X	J	A
T	D	H	S	L	W	S	U	D	E	C	A	C	T	E
I	W	C	Y	P	S	F	T	J	J	K	J	W	A	U
U	W	F	M	O	T	O	R	B	I	K	E	P	Z	T

CAT
 CHICKENS
 COW
 DOG
 KENNELS
 MOTORBIKE
 REINDEER
 ROVER
 SHEARING
 SHEEP

WHICH WORD IS MISSING FROM THE GRID??

A	G	R	I
C	U	L	T
U	R	A	L
D	E	P	T

HOW MANY WORDS CAN YOU MAKE FROM THESE LETTERS??

LEAD THE MAN TO HIS DONKEY

Please send your answers in to Glynis King, Department of Agriculture. The winner will receive a small prize.

 We are looking for a new design to adorn the front cover and came up with the idea that a relevant picture drawn by the children would be different. Each month we will chose a picture for the front cover and the month that your picture appears you will receive a prize. Please ensure that your pictures are black and white only for printing purposes.

Submitting Veterinary Samples

By Cameron Bell

We have had some veterinary samples (e.g. offal or blood samples) arrive at the Veterinary Clinic recently by mail/FIGAS that have been incorrectly packaged. This can become a messy, potentially infectious problem for the persons handling such items, so please follow the instructions below.

1. All samples should be sealed in a heavy duty plastic bag or container.
2. This sealed bag/container is then placed in a second bag with absorbent material such as cotton wool. There should be adequate absorbent material to soak up any liquid in the event of the bag rupturing.
3. The second bag is sealed properly.
4. The bags are placed in a sturdy container, such as a strong cardboard box.
5. The box should be addressed:

Urgent: Veterinary Samples

Veterinary Service
Department of Agriculture
Stanley

It is preferable that samples are sent either by FIGAS or hand delivery, rather than post as they could end up sitting at the post office overnight. Please advise the Veterinary Service of the impending arrival of samples so that we can ensure they arrive promptly.

Thank you for your cooperation.

A JOKE FROM CARA NEWELL

A woman was out golfing one day when she hit her ball into the woods. She went into the woods to look for it and found a frog in a trap. The frog said to her, "If you release me from the trap, I will grant you 3 wishes". She did and the frog said, "Thank you but I failed to mention that there is a condition to your wishes. Whatever you wish for your husband will get 10 times more or better".

The woman said, that's OK. "For her first wish, she wanted to be the most beautiful woman in the world". The frog warned her, "You do realise that this wish will also make your husband the most handsome man in the world and woman will flock to him."

The woman said, "That OK, because I will be the most beautiful woman, and he will only have eyes for me." So, KAZAM – she became the most beautiful woman in the world!

For her second wish, she wanted to be the richest woman in the world. The frog said, "that will make you husband the richest man in the world, and he will be ten times richer than you".

The woman said, "That's OK because what's mine is mine and what's his is mine." So KAZAM she became the richest woman in the world!

The frog said to her what would you like for your third wish. She said, "I'd like a mild heart attack."

Moral of the story: Women are clever. Don't mess with them.

Poultry Diseases – keeping a healthy flock

Source: DPI, Queensland, May 1994

Cleanliness and isolation are the major factors in keeping a flock healthy. Irrespective of whether the flock is commercial, fancy poultry, backyard aviary or game-bird its health status is dependent on the owner. However, the application varies with the economic and sentimental value of the bird.

Many health problems are caused by poor management. The flock will be healthy if:

- The environment is right.
- Pens are periodically emptied and cleaned.
- Pens are kept clean.
- Healthy young birds are bought.
- The flock is quarantined.
- Stress is reduced.
- Parasites are controlled.
- Sick birds are recognised and treated.
- Birds are protected by vaccination.

Health management involves an integrated programme of precautions, procedures and treatments. The aim is to prevent disease occurring in the flock and to reduce the physical and financial loss should disease break out.

Hygiene procedures form an important part of any management programme and are aimed at:

- Preventing entry of disease.
- Preventing its spread if it does get in.

The two most important factors in achieving these aims are isolation and cleanliness. These go hand in hand and it would be foolish to practice one and not the other.

Diseases and their causes

Disease can be broadly defined as a change in body function, which disturbs the body's proper operation. In other words the birds are sick with breeding, showing and racing being affected.

There are as many types of diseases as there are causes, but usually a combination of factors work to make the birds sick.

'Stress' predisposes birds to disease. As flocks usually rely on people to give them feed, water and shelter, when these are not given birds suffer stress from malnutrition, overcrowding and dirty conditions. Severe physical stress such as chilling, overheating, starvation, water deprivation and concurrent infection with other disease agents can reduce the bird's ability to resist disease. When most people think of sickness, they think of disease which is infectious and can spread from bird to bird. These include 'germs' (bacteria, viruses, fungi). External parasites (lice and mites) and internal parasites (worms, coccidiosis, blackhead). As well as these, there are factors with which the birds can not cope such as nutritional deficiencies, poisons, injury and physical stress. These make the birds sick, but are not spread between birds. In many cases of infection, birds keep illness at bay and do not appear sick. These are carrier birds which do not look sick but can spread disease often without detection.

Disease spread

Disease agents can enter the property in a variety of ways:

- Live birds (whether healthy, sick or carriers) their droppings, feathers and discharges.
- People; their hands, clothing and footwear.
- Contaminated equipment.
- Eggs.
- Air.
- Feed and water.
- Animals (dogs, cats, rats, mice).
- Insects (mosquitoes, flies).

Once established on the place, disease agents can be spread by these same means. Knowing the way disease spreads helps to decide what management and hygiene measures should be taken. Some recommended hygiene procedures and precautions are as follows:

Housing and equipment

- Enough floor, feed and water space should be allowed according to the species' requirements.
- Shelter and shade as well as a sunny spot should be provided.
- Concrete floors covered with saw-dust, pine shavings, straw or sand are drier and easier to clean than dirt floors. If the litter is dry odours are reduced and disease risk to the birds is minimised.
- Fowls, ducks, turkeys and peafowl should be housed separately as each can carry disease which make the others sick.

Hygiene

- The pen should be kept clean, well ventilated, free of dampness and draughts.
- At least once a year the shed should be washed and sprayed with a disinfectant and an insecticide and all the old litter removed. Dirt floors should be raked over and sprayed with disinfectant or creosote or dusted with slaked lime. All moveable objects should be taken out and cleaned.
- The pen should be left empty for 2 – 4 weeks.
- Water bowls and feed troughs should be regularly cleaned. Water bowls should be scrubbed twice a week.
- A continuous rat control programme should be maintained. Rubbish which is a potential rat shelter should be removed and rat baits laid out.

Feed and water

Plenty of cool, clean water should be provided. Feed should always be kept dry as this maintains its freshness and prevents the growth of mould. Only enough feed for 2 months should be bought and it should be stored in a cool dry spot.

Breeding and incubation

If the parents are not fit and healthy and nesting in clean boxes then the chicks cannot be healthy. Sound incubator hygiene is necessary if healthy chickens are to be obtained, incubators should be cleaned and fumigated.

Brooding

Cleanliness is most important in young birds because they have little resistance to disease. The pen should be cleaned before a new batch of chickens is put in. Whatever the brooding system, the birds need: heat, water, feed, light and good management. Good managers are students of animal behaviour. They can tell when the chickens are too cold or too hot by their distribution and the sounds they make. They can recognise early symptoms of disease by the way the chickens move.

Introducing birds

When introducing new stock there is a danger of bringing in diseases with carrier birds.

- Birds, preferably young, should be obtained from a reliable supplier of healthy stock. The older the birds, the more likely it is to be a carrier.
- Introduced birds should be quarantined away from other birds for at least one month and watched closely for any signs of sickness, lice or mites. As a precaution they should be de-wormed. Working with introduced birds and then with those already on the farm is bad policy as disease can be carried from one to the other. Pens or cages should be cleaned before restocking.

Showing birds

From the viewpoint of disease control, showing birds is extremely risky since all birds are in close contact. In such situations disease spreads rapidly from one bird to the next. If the hygiene standards at a show are inadequate then exhibitors should make it known as the main reason for not showing their birds. On returning home show birds should always undergo a period of quarantine before re-introduction to the flock.

Parasite control

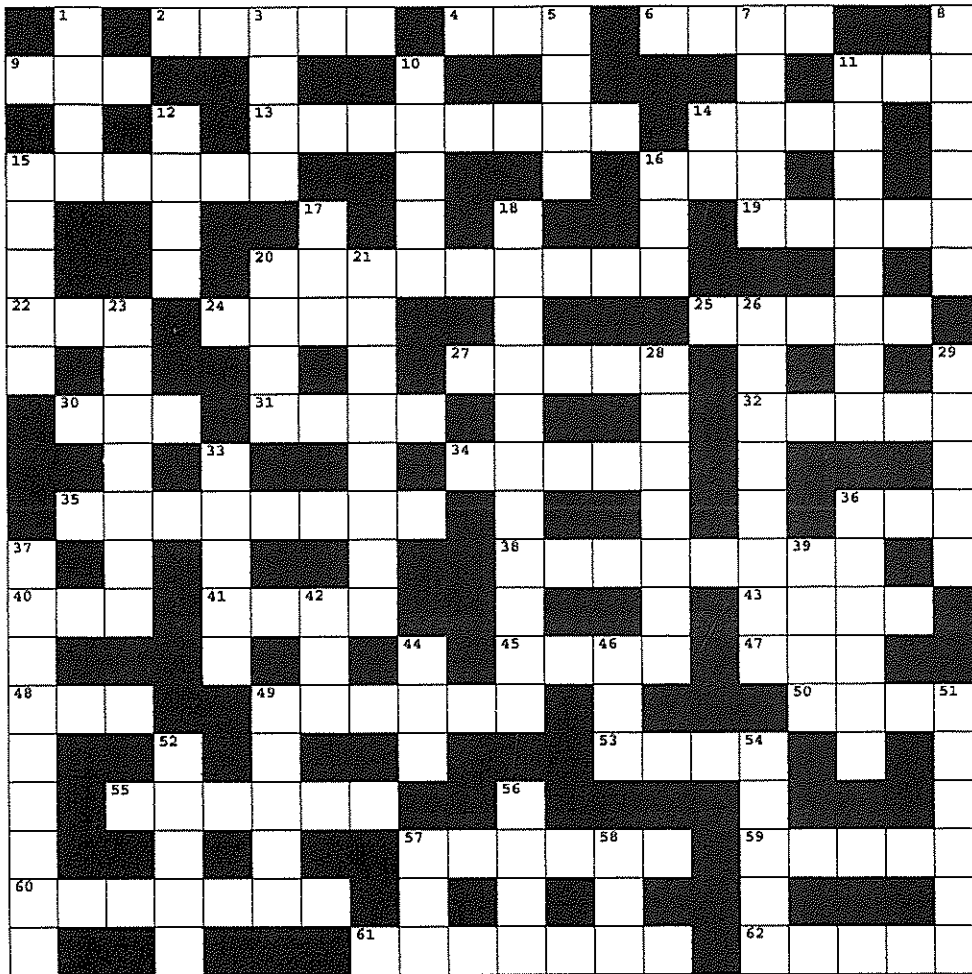
The control of internal and external parasites, along with keeping stress to a minimum helps maintain the birds in good condition so that they can resist disease.

The birds should be regularly inspected for external parasites. They should be sprayed or dusted thoroughly with an insecticide if lice or mites are seen. The shed, perches and nests should be sprayed thoroughly; making sure the spray gets into crevices. All birds need to be de-wormed regularly for roundworms which are the main problem, although tapeworms, hairworms and caecal worms can occasionally cause problems.

If birds are sick

A diagnosis from a qualified person should be obtained as soon as possible if the birds become sick. Many diseases cause similar symptoms and it can be difficult for the unskilled to make an accurate diagnosis. When the disease is identified, the right treatment can be given. Management is as important as the use of drugs in controlling and treating disease.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NEXT DOG DOSING DAY WILL BE THE 16TH MAY - DRONGIT



ACROSS

DOWN

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>2. TAILED STAR
4. FLAT HAT
6. INFANT
9. PART OF PAW
11. ENEMY
13. 2 MASTED SHIP
14. FEMALE HORSE
15. TREES SHED THEM IN AUTUMN
16. FEMALE SWAN
19. TYPE OF BARN
20. GAME BIRD
22. PART OF A CIRCLE
24. GRAPE PLANT
25. MONASTIC HOME
27. SCRUB CLEAN WITH ABRASIVE CLOTH
30. FELINE CREATURE
31. FLOOR COVERING
32. LARIAT ROPE FOR CATCHING STOCK
34. MICKY MOUSE'S DOG
35. BIRD OF PLOVER FAMILY
36. FAST AIRCRAFT
38. CAPITAL OF CHILE
40. FUEL
41. SECURE BOAT
43. LEAF GOOD FOR NETTLE STINGS
45. CLOSE BY
47. LARGE DEER
48. CHEST BONE
49. CULTIVATED VEGETABLE PLOT
50. LEGAL PROPERTY DOCUMENT
53. WHITE FLUFFY PRECIPITATION
55. FRUIT LIKE LEMONS AND LIMES
57. WELL-BEING
59. ASIAN COUNTRY
60. ONE OF THREE
61. PORT SAN CARLOS FARM
62. COUNT (AS IN SHEARING)</p> | <p>1. SIMILAR TO A RABBIT
3. CHURCH SERVICE
5. REMOVE SKIN
7. CATTLE MARK WITH HOT IRON
8. HORSE SOUNDS
10. PROMOTE, ENCOURAGE, RAISE IMAGE
11. BIRD COVERING
12. NOT ODD
14. MYSELF
15. BERRY, A BIT LIKE A RASPBERRY
16. FILLED PASTRY CRUST
17. WASH OUT GOLD
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The Wool Press

ISSUE 138

MAY 2001

PRICE : £1.00

**All the
regular
features
and more!**

The Wool Press is
published by the
Department
of Agriculture
and
printed at the
Falkland Islands
Government
Printing Office.

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FLATULENCE-FREE DIET FOR SHEEP

Source: World Food News

MACHINERY POOL REQUIREMENTS

By Peter Johnston and Owen Summers

THE FASTER WAY TO PROFITS

Source: Meat Trades Journal

IMPORT OF LIVE CATTLE TO THE FALKLANDS

By Steve Pointing

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CULLING OF SHEEP

By Steve Pointing

BOILS - COULD THEY AFFECT MEAT PRODUCTS?

By Steve Pointing

GENETICALLY-MODIFIED LUPINS LIFT WOOL GROWTH

Source: Farming Ahead

EDITORIAL PAGE

Welcome to May's edition of the Wool Press, a big thank you to all who contributed articles.

This month's editorial is due to the combined brainstorming of the 3 so-called Editors – if it is incoherent blame the other 2!!

With, what seems like, half the Department gone we're pretty thin on the ground for ideas (and pretty thin on the ground with staff). However Glynis has done a marvellous job in coercing & bullying the h**l out of her long suffering, quiet natured, hard working colleagues (Bob said this!!!), to get this month's mag' together.

We are hoping to change the format of the paper, some ideas that are being considered follow; a letters page (which has commenced this month); farm & farmer profiles - we will need your input for this to materialise; also we may be interviewing people on popular and controversial subjects, get your thinking caps on!! We will also have more updates from staff on current projects.

If you think of any new ideas or other ways to jazz up the mag' we urge you to put them forward to us as soon as possible for next month's issue. We await your ideas with anticipation!

Congratulations go out to this month's winner of the children's puzzle page, Clint Short. We hope for more entries next month, please get them in early.

Glynis, Lucy and Sarah

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However, such quotations are to be made in context and The Wool Press must be acknowledged as the source.

The articles printed in The Wool Press do not necessarily represent the views of the DoA and FIDC.

Flatulence-free diet for sheep

Source: World Food News

Flatulent sheep, and the damage their emissions are causing to the atmosphere, have brought together scientists from France and New Zealand in an effort to perfect a methane-free diet for sheep.

Agence France Presse reports. The NZ researchers are collaborating with a French science team that has discovered how to feed sheep without animals' digestive systems bubbling over with the greenhouse gas methane.

Both New Zealand based and Australian scientists had been working on ways in which animal's diet can be manipulated, or bacteria in animal digestive systems genetically modified (GM) to reduce the output of methane gas.

The breakthrough has major ramification for New Zealand as it moves to limit its greenhouse gas emissions under Kyoto protocol, due to be ratified in 2002.

New Zealand is unique among OECD countries because its major greenhouse gas is methane rather than carbon dioxide. Methane is 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide in causing global warming. And it is estimated 43 percent of New Zealand's greenhouse gases are methane. The country's ruminant livestock – including 40 million sheep and 10 million cows – are responsible for 90% of New Zealand's methane emission, with sheep accounting for half of this. Keith Joblin from *Agresearch Grasslands* at Palmerston North, who heads the New Zealand project, said the new information provided a "significant advancement".

CHARTRES

Falkland Islands

Joint statement from Bill Luxton and Tex Hobman

As from 1st July 2001 the whole of the farming operation at present carried on by Chartres Sheep Farming Co. Ltd will be leased to Mr J J Hobman.

Mr Hobman will operate his business under the name of **Goring Farm**.

Chartres Sheep Farming Co. Ltd will retain some of the settlement properties and land including the main Horse Paddock and The Old Settlement area. It will also retain the fishing rights on the Chartres River. Bill Luxton will continue to deal with CASE IH spares etc. and the existing farm retail store.

From 1st July 2001 all correspondence concerning the farming business should be addressed to Mr Tex Hobman, **Goring Farm**, Chartres. Tel: 42287.

Machinery Pool Requirements

Peter Johnston and Owen Summers

Owen and I would like to know what machinery farmers plan to use from the machinery pool for the coming season. Please contact us if you plan to use equipment in the coming season.

The table below lists the machinery available on East and West Falkland. The table also shows the deposit required before machinery can be used from the pool. This deposit is to cover the cost of repairing damage outside of the normal wear and tear. The deposit system, which started in January 1999, was not used for the season just finished. However, it will start again in June 2001. It will be the same system as that implemented in January 1999.

Conditions for using the machinery pool equipment are as follows:

1. Complete a checklist for the piece of equipment when collecting it to ensure that it is not damaged, and is functioning and safe to use;
2. The Department of Agriculture will hold the deposit (cheque only) until the equipment has been returned and checked for damage.
3. Completed checklists and deposits to be sent to the Department of Agriculture.

Each item of machinery will come with a manual and checklist. The person giving up the machine and the person collecting the machine together will complete the checklist. The person receiving the equipment will give the deposit to the person giving up the equipment. The person giving up the equipment will then return the checklist and cheque to the Department of Agriculture. The cheque will be destroyed when the equipment has been passed to the next person and a satisfactory check completed on the equipment.

Equipment	Make	Model	East	West	Deposit £
110 hp tractor	Massey Ferguson	4270	✓✓	✓	1000
120 hp tractor	Ford New Holland	County 1164-40	✓	✓	1000
90" Rotavator	Howard	90" 805A	✓		500
110" Rotavator	Dowdeswell	110"	✓	✓	500
Three-point-linkage fertiliser spreaders	Vicon Teagle	Vari spreaderPS400 XT44/46	✓ ✓	✓✓	100 100
Large trailed fertiliser spreader	Shellbourne Reynolds	Spreadall 5000	✓		400
Large trailed fertiliser spreader	Transpread	830 T4.5		✓	400
Chain harrows	Parmiter		✓	✓	200
Direct drill	Truax	FLXII 812	✓	✓	500
Einbock air-seeder	Einboch (3m)	Pneumatic Star	✓	✓	400
Einbock air-seeder	Einboch (6m)	Pneumatic Star	✓		400
Cambridge Rollers	Cousins	Contour	✓	✓	250
Rotary slasher	Spearhead	2000-3W	✓✓	✓✓	300
Offset discs	Cousins	K125	✓	✓	300

Letters to the Editor

Shelter Belts

I read your article with great interest having always understood that "trees don't won't grow in the Falklands", and being a planter of shelter belts myself on this very exposed north coast of East Anglia.

I am concerned that there is no mention in the article of any underplanting with the shrub layer. If you go to Scotland you will see only too many examples of useless shelterbelts which began life encouragingly – like yours.

I discovered here, planting mixed hard woods and pines in two metre squares, that after only five years, the canopy closed, the vegetation at ground level vanished and the wind whistled straight through the belt. All shelter had gone after only five years.

Things are better now. We have grants for afforestation permitting 25% of the new plantings to be shrubs. We also get grants for planting hedges along the outside of the belts. The shrubs include Holly, *Lonicera nitida*, wild privet and *Cotonoeaster* – all in small pots.

The results are excellent. The shrubs continue to grow even when shaded by the growing trees. The Belt remains water and wind resistant at ground level. Wildlife flourishes, and lambs or even horses keep warm under the lee.

An alternative approach used by a neighbour is to coppice the outer two rows of conifers when six foot high. The result is untidy – but it keeps the wind out. Pay me a visit if you are over here.

J H R Carver
Hole Farm, Hempstead, Holt, Norfolk. NR25 6TT
Tel: (01263) 577306 or
Fax & Answerphone (01263) 577310

The faster way to profits

Source: *Meat Trades Journal*

■ A study carried out over five months has helped farmers understand carcass quality issues more fully.

The five-month study, commissioned by the Rugby-based meat processing plant last year, evaluated the effects that breed; sex and age had on carcass quality and value.

Each month, from February to June, detailed slaughter records were taken from approximately 200 stock processed at the company's Crick site. These records were correlated with information from the animals' individual passports, and then fed into a specially designed pivot-table programme which generated data on carcass weight, overall classification, conformation, finish and carcass value. Continental breeds made up three quarters of the survey with the remaining 25 per cent coming from traditional British beef brands and dairy-bred beasts. At 246, 226 and 162 respectively, the Charolais, Limousin and Simmental breeds made up a larger percentage of the study while Belgian Blues, at 62 and the Blonde d'Aquitaines at 57 remained comparatively small. As a result, MMP highlighted that more caution was needed when interpreting this data.

Steers made up the majority of the sample at 74 percent with just over a quarter coming from heifers. In terms of age, the animals were divided into the three main categories: 12-18 months, 18-24 months and more than 24 months. Although the results of the study have not been subjected to statistical analysis, four key conclusions were drawn.

The first highlights that the greatest value in British beef is likely to come from the highest growth rates. Evidence from the study showed that growth rates were highly and positively correlated to conformation at slaughter. The growth rate was calculated by taking the carcass weight at slaughter less 35 kg (the assumed birth weight), and dividing that by the days from birth to slaughter. The average figure was 0.4kg/day.

Data from the study indicated that the younger the animal, the faster its growth rate with younger animals growing at 0.6kg/day compared with older beasts growing at 0.35kg/day.

Second, the study indicated that there were greater differences within the same sex than between the sexes. A difference of 0.26kg/day was found between the fastest and slowest growing 25 percent of steers. Similar differences were found between the fastest 25 percent and the slowest 25 percent of heifers at 0.23kg/day. In comparison only a difference of 0.05kg/per day was found between heifers and steers on average.

Third, far greater differences between beasts of the same breed were found than between different breeds. A difference of 0.04kg/day was found between the main Continental breeds on average, whereas a difference of over 0.20kg/day was found between the top 25 percent and bottom 25 percent of each breed.

The study showed that producers wishing to get the best results from British beef should focus on achieving superior growth rates by whatever means possible. Regardless of breed, age and sex at slaughter, more than three quarters of the fastest growing 25 percent of animals (average carcass gain 0.55kg/day) graded 'R' or better. This figure fell when compared with slower growing animals in the second, third and fourth 25 percent categories. A similar trend was found within both heifer and steer groups within all major breed samples. Statistics showed that average carcass weights were also positively correlated with growth rates from a peak of 357kg in the fastest growing 25 percent to 286kg in the slowest growing 25 percent.

The study showed that faster growing stock generated the best results as a result of better conformation and higher carcass weight. The fastest growing 25 percent of animals achieved an average value of £594/head at slaughter. This compared with £565 from the second quartile, £522 in the third and £448 in the slowest quartile, illustrating the commercial benefits of using the fastest growing beasts.

Study co-ordinator George Chancellor said the findings offered farmers confirmation on what they already knew. "It is comforting to people that they don't have to spend a lot of time changing their systems wildly. They just have to do it as well they can," he said. The findings were welcomed by MMP's chief executive Ron Mears who said that improving returns for beef producers and forgoing stronger partnerships between them and manufacturers was an important reason for carrying out the study. "British beef producers need to maximise their revenue in a challenging environment and we want to try and help them with the best possible information.

Our information shows ways in which producers should be fine-tuning their rearing systems to make the most of the market place," said Mr Chancellor. "This includes using the fastest growing animals to get the faster growth rates. The faster the animal is at efficiently converting feed into meat, the more financially efficient it becomes," said Mr Chancellor.

Import of live cattle into the Falklands

By Steve Pointing

This really will be a short article but has been written to answer the many telephone queries that I get on this subject. Before we proceed down the line of importing live cattle we would like to assess the risk involved to the livestock already here. This would take the form of writing up a risk assessment. This is quite a major task and would have been difficult enough to do when there were two vets in the country but is virtually impossible now that I am on my own (new vet will arrive from NZ in mid June). In the meantime I am awaiting a risk assessment report for the import of live cattle into New Zealand which is currently being carried out by MAF in New Zealand. This should have been completed last year but it now looks as though the report will reach its draft stage by mid June and will then be reviewed by MAF internally before submitting it to an overseas expert in such matters for final comments. After any recommended changes have been made it will then be available to the public. I would like to see this report before making any recommendations for the importation of live cattle into the Falklands because there are many similarities between the disease status of New Zealand and the Falklands and any concerns raised in New Zealand would also be concerns for us. The NZ risk assessment should form a good basis on which to formulate a policy for importing live cattle into the Falklands although we would not necessarily have to follow all their recommendations as the position of the cattle industry here is obviously not at the same stage of development as that in New Zealand. It would, however, be a great shame to re-introduce into the islands diseases that have already been eradicated or, worse still, diseases that have never been present here before. If farmers have any queries about this topic I would be happy to discuss them in greater depth - so please feel free to contact me at the office.

MULLET FISHING ON THE WEST

By Mandy McLeod

(Photographs courtesy of Hattie Lee)

Richard Baker and I joined Simon Hardcastle and Pete Gilding on a visit to Port Howard last month. The aim of the trip was to assess the interest and practicalities of expanding mullet fishing activities in the Falklands to encompass the West. Representing Falklands Fresh and Golden Touza, Simon and Pete are keen to employ the services of people in camp to catch mullet for Falklands Fresh. Until now, due to the limited timescale for catching and processing, this has only been a feasible option for the East, but with the future establishment of a fish processing plant and freezer on West Falkland, the opportunity of an alternative income stream for people living in Camp will be available. This will not only be from catching the Mullet, but also processing the fish ready for shipment to the East.



In last month's brief visit to Port Howard, a demonstration of fish selection and sticking (bleeding) was given by Simon. Conditions were bleak as a sharp squall hit the group, and even though the tides weren't good, about 10 kilos of fish were caught in the one sweep that took about 7 minutes.

Simon did the brave bit and donned the leaking chest waders. It was bitterly cold so we kept it to one sweep.

Simon, Peter Nightingale and myself checking the catch with Bill Pole Evans, Jimmy Forster, Pete Gilding and Councillor Luxton in the background. Below: Neil Clarke and Ken Halliday take a look to see what's caught.

Peter Gilding said that they can guarantee to buy all mullet caught as they already have a firm market, in what he and Simon are confident will be a product that will grow in value. They will pay 20 pence a kilo to anyone who catches fish for them to the required standard. If you are interested, please ensure that you contact Simon Hardcastle or Ian Doherty at the Falklands Fresh offices in Atlantic House, so that you can be correctly licensed and know what their requirements are.



Falklands Fresh supply all the equipment you need, including nets and waders, and hope that people on the West will take up this opportunity to support a new business branching out in their direction. The site for the plant is yet to be decided.

Interest was shown by the arrival of visitors from Hill Cove, Chartres, Fox Bay, Manybranch and Bold Cove with several Port Howard people attending too.



Neil Clarke, Mandy McLeod, Pete Gilding, Ken Halliday, Councillor Norma Edwards, a lodge visitor?, Councillor Bill Luxton, Sarah from the Lodge, Jimmy Forster, John Morrison, Peter Nightingale, Richard Baker, Bill Pole Evans & Simon Hardcastle.

John Morrison and Neil Clarke will be out in their waders, catching fish for trials in the next couple of months. Catches will be weighed and measured and records of tides and conditions will be taken. Fish will be released during this trial period with some of them being tagged so that they can be recorded if caught again, giving useful ecological information on their movements. Paul Brickle will be spending some time initially with John and Neil, showing them the requirements of recording catches.

People naturally have their doubts and worries in regard to over fishing and depleting stocks, but Simon assured the group that from observations of regular fishing in creeks on the East, there is no evidence to support this concern. In fact, one particular creek has been fished with a net on a regular basis for the past 30 years and continues to provide the biggest catches. There is also the misconception that mullet are a seasonal fish, but they are present in our creeks all year round, so fishing doesn't have to conflict with the busy season for stock work.



Richard Baker and Pete Gilding at the net

Pete, Simon and Ian welcome your interest in catching Mullet (on both East and West Falkland). Contact Ian or Simon at the Falkland Fresh Offices if you want to know more.

JIMMY FORSTER
BOLD COVE FARM
WEST FALKLANDS ISLANDS
Phone: 42178 Fax: 42177
Email: jimgin@horizon.co.fk

NEWS LETTER

With the range and quantity of goods I am bringing from Australia steadily increasing, I felt it time that I wrote to all farmers to advise of the farm inputs that I can import for you, at very competitive prices.

I have a contact in Australia who has a wide experience in supplying the Australian rural sector and, as such, has access to most of the items required to operate their farms. Through him, I am able to purchase everything from cattle and sheep yards to a hypodermic needle.

Some of the items, which I have already imported from Australia include:

- **WOOL PACKS** (Imported direct from China)
- **ARROW FARM QUIP CATTLE AND SHEEP HANDLING EQUIPMENT**, including cattle and sheep yards, both mobile and permanent, ramps and crushes. (Catalogue available upon request)
- **FENCING MATERIAL**, such as fencing wire, heavy duty wire dispensers to take 1500m coils; galvanized steel posts; treated pine posts and polythene droppers. **Farm field gates** will be available in the months ahead. Same design as the Cyclone gate, the ones I will be importing will be cheaper and stronger.
- **TRUETEST CATTLE WEIGHING SYSTEM**. Electric fencing systems and accessories also available.
- **ALLFLEX TAGS** (Sheep and Cattle) I am the appointed Falklands agent.
- **SHEEP EAR TAGS**, both Leader and other similar types.
- **ALL ANIMAL HUSBANDRY PRODUCTS**, including cattle dehorners, vaccinators, marking rings etc. (Catalogue available)

As you can see the range is extensive and virtually unlimited. My Australian contact has contacts throughout the rural supply chain and is able to purchase at wholesale or better prices, which he passes on to me, thus allowing me to offer items at the best possible landed price. I still have stock husbandry, cattle tag and sheep tag (with sample) catalogues available if anybody needs one.

If there is anything that you may require, please do not hesitate to let me know, as I am sure we will be able to arrange it for you.

This is how the system works:

A landed UK price in Australian dollars is supplied together with the necessary information to allow me to calculate a landed Stanley price. Once the order is placed, an invoice is forwarded from Australia and payment by electric transfer, must be made prior to the departure of the goods from Australia.

It should be noted that the Australia dollar is at its lowest against the Sterling for years, thus making goods from there very cheap. (One pound sterling will buy \$2.90 aud, at time of writing)

The shipments take approximately four weeks to UK then another four weeks to Stanley with about two weeks in transit in UK, a total of 10/12 weeks.

The sailings for the remainder of the year are as follows;

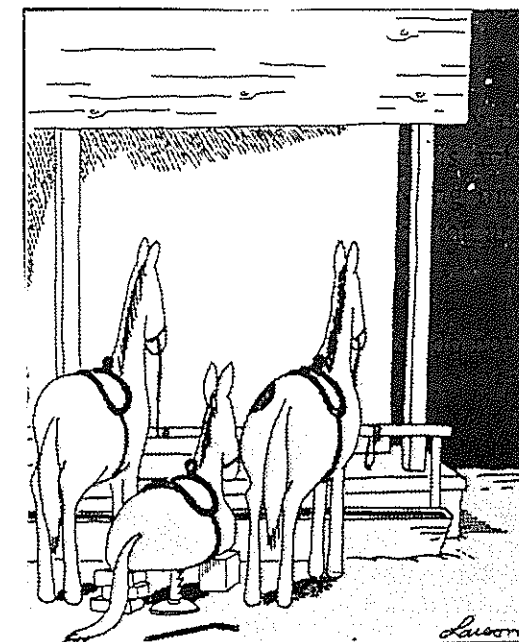
Ex UK	02/08/2001, arriving Stanley	02/09/2001
	05/10/2001	07/11/2001
	07/12/2001	09/01/2002

However, remember that you would need to place your order at least two months prior to the sailing dates from UK to guarantee the goods catch the Australian schedules.

Freight rates will vary depending on the volume per shipment, however we mainly ship in containers from Australia, which minimises the freight costs from there.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with your enquiry.

Jimmy Forster



Never park your horse in a bad part of town.

Culling of sheep by Steve Pointing

This is just a brief article prompted by some recent communications with a GAP student who worked in the Falklands some years ago. The recent mass culling of sheep in the UK as a result of the Foot and Mouth outbreak has brought back unpleasant memories to one GAP student of the part he played in an annual cull on one of the farms here in the Falkland Islands. I know you are all very experienced at culling sheep and think that there is nothing you don't know about the business but I would be grateful if you could spare a few moments to consider whether you always treat the sheep as humanely as you should. After all, they've produced the wool which has provided you with a living (not so good at present but that's not the sheep's fault) so you owe them a swift and humane end when they have outlived their usefulness.

The Falkland Islands has a Code of Practice for the Welfare of Sheep (this has legal standing) and section 6 of this code is concerned with culling. All farmers should be familiar with the contents of this welfare code and copies are available from the Veterinary section of the Department of Agriculture. The section on culling states the following:

"All pre-planned slaughter of sheep must be carried out by shooting with a firearm or captive bolt pistol followed by throat cutting.

If throat cutting is not carried out in, for example, mass cull situations then it is essential that a careful check is made to ensure that each animal is in fact dead. In any animal where there is a degree of uncertainty it should be shot again. Complete dilation of the pupils and the absence of regular breathing movements are useful indicators of death.

Slaughter of an individual animal in camp by throat cutting is permissible where a firearm is not readily available. The neck must not be broken."

The next section in the code has diagrams of where a firearm or captive bolt should be used on a sheep's head in order to kill it or stun it prior to throat cutting. All farmers should be familiar with the optimum position and direction of fire when killing a sheep.

You are probably all asking yourselves why is the vet making such a big issue over something that happens weekly (killing for home consumption) and annually as far as the larger culls are concerned. Well the abattoir will soon become operational and the hope is that much of the meat processed there will be exported to the UK. If we want to export meat to the UK we have to meet the same standards as apply on farms and in slaughterhouses in the UK – and this includes issues connected with animal welfare. How old sheep are culled and disposed of on farms in the Falkland Islands may seem irrelevant to the business of selling mutton overseas but the fact of the matter is that to many would-be consumers in the UK how the sheep are cared for is as important as the quality of the meat or the "clean, green" image we are trying to portray. Next time you are involved in a mass cull take a few moments to check whether you are doing the job as efficiently and humanely as possible. If a tourist or GAP student was looking on would they be horrified at what they were seeing or would they realise that a necessary job was being carried out in a professional manner?

It is my intention to show a video on humane slaughtering techniques during Farmer's Week at the end of June. I would be grateful if as many farmers as possible could attend the session as part of a continuing education programme.

Boils – could they affect meat exports? by Steve Pointing

The new abattoir is rapidly taking shape and is already becoming a feature on the horizon on the Stanley- MPA road just beyond the quarry. It is hoped that construction will have finished sometime in June so that the plant can become operational in early July. The abattoir operations manager, Brian Corner, has recently raised concerns about the incidence of "boils" in cull ewes and wethers and is concerned that their presence in carcasses could affect the potential export of meat from these animals. Does he have cause for concern and what are boils anyway?

The Disease

In the Falklands the disease is most commonly called "boils" while in Australia (where it is also very prevalent) it is more commonly known as "cheesy gland". Its scientific name, caseous lymphadenitis, is often shortened to CLA. The disease is caused by a bacterium *Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis* and after infection this spreads via the bloodstream to form abscesses in the lymph nodes of the body and internal organs, especially the lungs. This condition is the most common bacterial disease of sheep in Australia and this would be true for the Falklands also. It is relatively difficult to detect boils in live sheep, but the abscesses are obvious in the carcass.

Nearly all new infections occur at shearing. The boil in the lungs does not indicate that the infection was necessarily inhaled; but pus is coughed up and onto the shearing board, or onto skin wounds in other sheep nearby. The bacteria then enter the body and circulate through the bloodstream leading to abscess formation in organs and tissues where they are deposited. The skin often shows no obvious sign of being the place where the infection entered the body. The older the sheep, the more likely it is to be infected. It is actually a toxic infection with the bacteria killing the body's white blood cells and escaping the sheep's natural defences, producing the "cold" abscesses which remain infectious for many months.

The costs of the disease

Boils costs the sheep industry in Australia about \$29 million each year. This cost to the industry is through lost wool production, total or partial carcass condemnation and carcass trimming. Inspection costs and the trimming of carcasses due to cheesy gland abscesses have resulted in lower returns to the producer.

Wool production

The largest loss due to cheesy gland is suffered by wool producers. The major problem is that losses in wool production in large numbers of sheep often go unnoticed. Research on a number of commercial flocks has shown the most significant effect of boils is the loss of clean fleece weight in the year that the sheep are first infected although micron diameter is not affected. Infected sheep lose between 4- 7% in clean wool production in the first year of infection.

Mutton production

In Australia boils is the largest cause of reduction in carcass quality in sheep and accounts for 40% of all condemnations. About 1% of adult sheep carcasses are condemned at the abattoir due to infection with boils. Much of the cost associated with boils comes as a result of the time taken

by meat inspectors to inspect and trim carcasses where necessary. This is likely to be the case in the Falklands also.

Prevention and control

Management practices should be designed around preventing the spread of boils from infected to uninfected sheep.

The starting point for best practice is the fact that new lambs are ALL uninfected. As they grow older they are more likely to be exposed to the disease because they are increasingly in contact with older sheep. Lamb marking and shearing all provide opportunities for infection through new and existing breaks in the skin and through close contact with other animals.

These factors, combined over time, result in older sheep becoming the most infected and therefore the most contagious group of animals.

When shearing Ensure the lambs and young sheep are done first so only the cleanest equipment and facilities are being used.

Pay careful attention to the cleanliness of sheds, boards, floors and races and to all shearing gear, especially the combs and cutters.

After shearing Keep the shorn lambs and hoggets apart from older sheep. Do not hold freshly shorn sheep in yards or counting pens unnecessarily but get them onto pasture as soon as possible. Counting out pens are usually the most contaminated area of the farm.

Vaccination Might have a role to play in the future once we know the true incidence of the disease when the abattoir has been operational for a period of time. Vaccination is used widely in Australia with great success where it has been used properly. The aim of vaccination would be to provide sheep with immunity to boils before they are exposed to the disease. In effect, this would mean two doses of vaccine as lambs and an annual booster prior to shearing.

Conclusion

- Boils are already costing you money from loss of wool production and this will increase when older sheep are being killed in the abattoir for mutton.
- The incidence of the disease on your farm could be reduced just by changing some of your current management practices.
- Vaccination may have a role to play on some farms in the future where the incidence of the disease is particularly high.

Genetically-modified lupins lift wool growth

Source: *Farming Ahead* – April 2001

New research has shown genetically-modified lupins can increase wool growth and liveweight in Merino sheep.

The lupins, containing a sunflower gene which stimulates production of a by-pass protein were fed to sheep in a CSIRO trial. The results showed an eight percent increase in wool growth and a 7% increase in liveweight gain.

Researchers believe such an approach to plant breeding could offer a valuable boost to wool growers by reducing costs, increasing profit margins and improving productivity and efficiency.

Further improvements are being made to the transgenic lupin and consideration for commercial release is at least five years away.

Increased nutrient supply

Wool and muscle has a high demand for sulphur amino acids such as methionine and cysteine, which are absorbed through the sheep's small intestine but the sheep's first stomach, the rumen, tends to break down up to 40% of these essential nutrients before they reach the intestine.

Up to two-fold increases in wool growth have been reported in response to supplying supplementary methionine in feed to the small intestine.

It is difficult to increase the proportion of sulphur amino acids reaching the intestine by feeding normal dietary ingredients unless the protein containing the extra sulphur amino acids is protected against degradation in the rumen. Most fishmeals meet this requirement but they are too expensive to feed to sheep.

Therefore an ideal protein for sheep is one which is high in sulphur amino acids, resists degradation in the rumen and is inexpensive.

While lupins are the major grain legume fed to ruminants in Australia, their value as a source of undegraded protein is limited by high rumen degradability and low methionine content.

For example, Australian sweet lupins, *L. angustifolius*, on average contain only 7.4 grams of methionine per kilogram of crude protein compared with more than 14g/kg of crude protein for most cereal and oilseed proteins.

CSIRO Plant Industry scientists modified the Australian narrow-leaf lupin, *L. angustifolius*, cv *Warrarah*, to contain a sunflower gene which produces a protein rich in sulphur amino acids (23g/kg of crude protein) that is also stable in the sheep's rumen.

The protein acts as an efficient package for delivering the extra sulphur amino acids to where they are needed to achieve higher growth rates.

The development of this modified lupin has taken more than 10 years of research, including a stringent environmental safety assessment.

All CSIRO gene technology research is carried out according to the strict guidelines of the Federal Government's Genetic Manipulation Advisory Committee.

Feed trial

The CSIRO Livestock Industries feeding trial compared the nutritive value of genetically-modified lupin seed, containing the sunflower seed albumin, with unmodified (parent) lupin seed.

The trial was also carried out to determine whether any differences between the modified and parent lupin seed were consistent with the modified lupin supplying extra rumen-protected methionine.

The trial was carried out over six weeks with 80 Merino wethers which were divided into two groups.

The wethers were fed 796g of dry matter per day of a cereal hay-based diet containing 350g/kg of either the modified or parent lupin seed, *L. angustifloius cv Gungurru*, 620g of oaten hay and 30g of Siromin mineral mix.

Wool growth and liveweight gain measurements were taken during the trial.

Scientists also took urine and faeces tests to measure the digestibility organic matter and protein and urinary Purina metabolites were measured as indicators of the amount of protein synthesised from the amino acids.

Blood samples were taken from all sheep at the start and end of the trial and analysed for amino acids and plasma metabolites.

Growth response

A chemical analysis of the grains showed there was little difference between them in terms of most nutritional components but the modified lupin seed contained a 2.3-fold higher methionine concentration and a 1.3-fold higher cysteine content compared with the parent seed.

There were no significant differences between grains in organic matter digestibility, rumen microbial protein synthesis or degradability of dry matter.

Sheep fed the genetically-modified lupin seed achieved significantly higher rates of liveweight gain and wool growth than those fed the parent – 7% and 8% respectively.

Wool sulphur concentration was also significantly higher in the sheep fed modified lupins (see TABLE 1). All sheep in the trial maintained good health.

The observed responses in wool growth and liveweight gain in the trial are consistent with almost all of the extra methionine in the modified lupin seed being protected from breakdown in the rumen. This indicates it was the extra supply of sulphur amino acids to tissues which gave the growth response.

The results showed genetic modification of a feed grain can improve to nutritive value for ruminants.

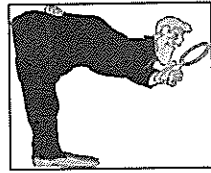
Future potential

The breakthrough will yield lupins of higher nutritional value for livestock, with a resulting improvement in animal productivity. About 200,000 tonnes of the 1.2 million tonnes of lupins produced annually in south-western Australia are used on-farm as supplementary feed for sheep during the dry summer and early autumn period.

The increase in liveweight gain and wool growth from the transgenic lupins could be expected to improve weaner survival and reduce the incidence of tender wool, adding further to the value of the modified lupin seed. The grain could also be particularly beneficial for fine wool Merinos because of their susceptibility to tender wool.

TABLE 1 Effect of parent and modified lupin seed feed on liveweight and wool

Response	Parent lupin seed	Modified lupin seed Wool
Clean wool growth (days 1-2) (milligrams per square centimetre per day, mg/cm ² /day)	0.718	0.772
Clean wool growth (days 22-42) (mg/cm ² /day)	0.770	0.832
Wool sulphur (days 1-21) (g/kg)	35.9	36.6
Wool sulphur (days 22-42) (g/kg)	37.5	38.5
		Liveweight
Liveweight gain (days 0-42) (kg)	90	96
Final weight (kg)	36.2	36.5



SOMETHING FOR THE CHILDREN

WORD SEARCH

S	E	K	O	Y	T	Y	J	R	B	B	S	H	M	K
F	R	T	T	J	K	L	E	V	C	E	C	X	Z	X
G	R	A	W	E	Y	H	S	R	C	L	H	H	T	J
Q	E	A	S	S	C	G	I	N	Y	U	N	N	R	C
P	U	R	T	T	E	W	E	H	L	G	W	F	A	H
S	O	F	I	H	Y	F	W	B	R	O	V	G	C	O
H	X	D	V	B	N	M	O	J	R	A	S	S	T	P
T	R	O	U	G	H	B	C	R	S	T	K	K	O	P
D	S	B	M	A	L	H	A	K	K	A	V	I	R	E
D	T	S	T	Y	U	B	H	B	K	S	D	T	R	R
J	R	Y	T	R	L	R	O	T	A	V	O	T	O	R
S	A	E	W	E	N	R	T	K	L	O	P	E	X	D
G	W	J	E	R	A	H	A	M	A	Y	W	N	R	E
H	Y	H	A	O	P	K	U	R	E	T	N	H	D	F
U	W	B	N	Y	E	L	B	A	T	S	E	P	Z	T

- BARN
- CHOPPER
- DITCHER
- FENCES
- FORKS
- GOAT
- HORSE
- KITTEN
- LAMBS
- MUTTON
- PEAT
- ROTOVATOR
- STABLE
- STRAW
- STY
- TRACTOR
- TROUGH
- WHEELBARROW
- YAMAHA
- YOKE

WHICH WORD IS MISSING FROM THE GRID??

S	A	L	A
D	E	R	O
W	O	O	L
S	H	E	D

HOW MANY WORDS CAN YOU MAKE FROM THESE LETTERS??

WHICH IS THE ODD PICTURE OUT AND WHY??

Please send your answers in to Glynis King, Department of Agriculture. The winner will receive a prize.

Tiramisu Cheesecake

(Makes 10 – 12 portions) (10" tin)

- 450g (1lb) Soft Cream Cheese (full or low fat) (Philadelphia)
- 568ml (1pt) Double Cream
- 50g (2oz) Castor Cane Sugar
- 16 Chocolate Digestive Biscuits (crushed in a plastic bag)
- 50g (2oz) Melted Butter
- 50g (2oz) Chopped Nuts
- 100g (4oz) Plain Chocolate, broken and gently melted
- Camp Coffee to taste
- Cocoa Powder (sifted)

To make base, mix the crushed biscuits and chopped nuts with the melted butter. Spoon into base of the cake tin, press crumbs to give a firm base, refrigerate while the cheesecake cream is being made.

Beat together the cream cheese and cane sugar until smooth.

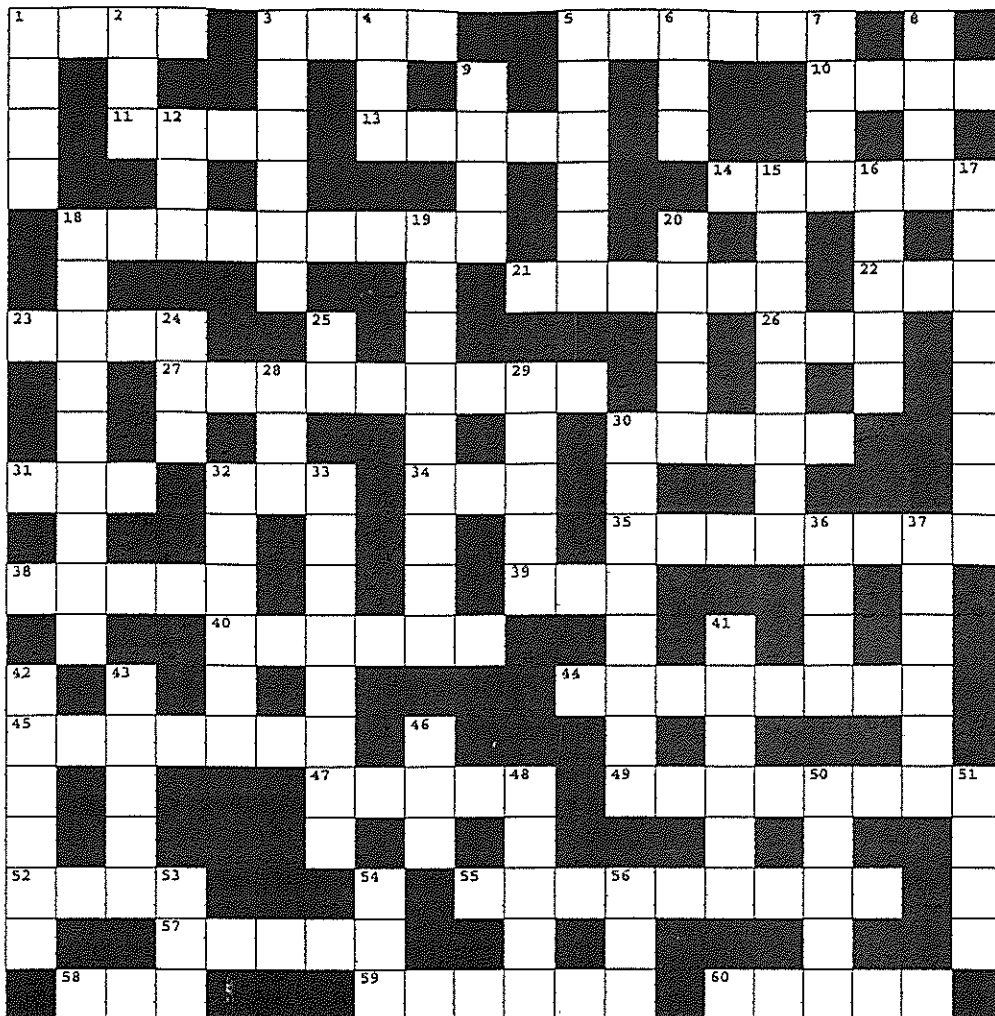
Divide mix into 3 bowls, add the melted chocolate to the first bowl, then fold in a third of the whipped cream, spread over the biscuit base.

In the next bowl, fold in a third of the whipped cream. Giving you a basic cheesecake cream, carefully spread on top of the chocolate mix already in the mould. Refrigerate for at least 20 minutes, allowing it to set.

For the third bowl, add enough Camp coffee to colour and flavour, make it quite strong before adding remaining whipped cream. Spread on top of other layers, refrigerate until set, before removing from mould loosen the cake with a small warm knife. Dust with cocoa powder until completely covered. DELICIOUS!!!!!!

	H		C	O	M	E	T		C	A	P		B	A	B	Y		N	
P	A	D		A		B		E				R		F	O		B		
R		E		S	C	H	O	O	N	B	R		M	A	R	E		I	
L	E	A	V	E	S		O		L		P	E	N		A		G		
O		E		P		S		L		I		D	U	T	C	H			
G		N		P	A	R	T	R	I	D	G	E				H		S	
A	R	C		V	I	N	E		N			A	B	B	E	Y			
N		H		L	I		S	C	O	U	R		B		R		C		
	C	A	T		L	I	N	O		O			L	A	S	S	O		
	M		S		D		P	L	U	T	O		G				L		
	D	O	T	T	E	R	E	L		N		S		R		J	E	T	
A		I		A		E		S	A	N	T		I	A	G	O		S	
G	A	S		M	O	O	R		I		E		D	O	C	K			
G			P		V	O		N	E	A	R		B	E	L	K			
R	I	B		G	A	R	D	E	N		S			D	E	E	D		
E			N		O		E			S	N	O	W		Y		R		
G			C	I	T	R	U	S		H			R						
A			P		S			H	E	A	L	T	H		I	N	D	I	A
T	R	I	P	L	E	T		A		I		I		S					R
E			Y				S	M	Y	L	I	E	S		T	A	L	L	Y

SOLUTION
TO LAST
MONTH'S
CROSSWORD



MAY01

ACROSS

1. The Union Jack perhaps
3. Stiff paper
5. The final bow
10. God of thunder
11. Goldfish
13. Parasites
14. Wax light
18. Greek goddess of love
21. An imperial measurement of length
22. Drink made from leaves
23. Scottish lake
26. What you do when you are hungry
27. Three under par on a golf course
30. Stallone character
31. Easter treat
32. Sack or purse
34. Two
35. Clean fuel
38. Royal racecourse
39. Decimal unit
40. Song bird with speckled breast
44. A close thing (4,4)
45. Method
47. Moral belief
49. Sheep gatherer
52. Tail-less monkeys
55. South West settlement (4,5)
57. Common greeting
58. Fifth month
59. Type of shellfish
60. Small sailing boat

DOWN

1. You put shoes on them
2. A curved line
3. Someone who captures a person or animal
4. A rodent
5. Navy flag
6. Bovine animal
7. Well known public school for boys
8. Idiot dessert?
9. Out of date land measurement
12. Type of tree
15. Fit together
16. Duplicate
17. Looked at closely
18. Say sorry
19. This child has far to go
20. Fine crockery
24. Dried grass
25. Childlike thankyou
28. Sheep sound
29. Talent spotter
30. Team game played with hard bat and ball
32. Combat
33. Type of sweater or cattle breed
36. Against
37. Rubber
41. A companion or mate
42. Of the backbone
43. Equine animal
46. Coconut stand at the fair
48. It tells the time
50. Pumps blood around the body
51. Proof of title
53. Coconut stand at the fair
54. Argue
56. Ball support (golf)



The Wool Press

ISSUE 139

JUNE 2001

PRICE : £1.00

**All the
regular
features
and more!**

The Wool Press is
published by the
Department
of Agriculture
and
printed at the
Falkland Islands
Government
Printing Office.

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By Zoe Luxton

MINIATURE HORSES AT MAIN POINT

By Susie Hansen

TAXIDERMIST VISITS STANLEY

By Anne Johnson

&

Megan Eggeling

BALE BRANDING

By Lucy Ellis

EDITORIAL

Welcome to June's edition of the Wool Press. Over the coming months we hope you will notice and approve the changes that will be happening within the paper. These changes are due partly to the lack of staff; the result of which is a dearth of DoA contributions (mainly because there are so few of us and therefore we are all very, very busy). Also we would like more reader participation; much more local flavour with ideas, events, farm updates (expect a phone call mid month!!), what's on, where and why – anything that you think will interest others.

Inside there is a great article from Anne Johnston about the visiting Taxidermist, Stephen Massam. On our wanderings through the Lab, we have been watching (with some amusement to start with) our resident "chicken stuffers". This soon change to startled amazement at the finished result – gob smacked doesn't cover it!! A huge well done to the trainee taxidermists (Megan Egging, Fred Clark, Margaret Cripps, David Fyfe and Rob Yssel) and an even huger round of well deserved applause to Stephen (can you do Reindeer?!11).

Don't forget that Farmers Week is looming up – we look forward to seeing you on our Open Day.

Until then, Cheers.

Sarah, Lucy and Glynis

Farmers Week Programme Outline

Sunday 01 July Rural Business Association Meetings

Monday 02 July Rural Business Association Open Discussions, QFW Meeting, FIG Pension Meeting

Tuesday 03 July Cable and Wireless Questions & Answers Session, Civil Aviation Fire Training. Donna and Jo will have Body Shop merchandise on show in the afternoon.

Wednesday 04 July DoA Workshop, Humane killing & Abattoir. Sheep Owners Association Meeting

Thursday 05 July 2 Group visits one to the Abattoir one to Conservation Offices. DoA workshop, Stanley Sports Association AGM.

Friday 06 July Meet Councillors and Chief Executive. Medical Department discussion on Mental Health and Social Services.

Social Events include Country and Western night in the Globe, CBFFI Buffet Supper, FIC Lunch, Variety Show, Government House Reception, & Camp Education Dance.

For a full programme of events and times please contact Leeann Harris at the RBA on Tel: 22660 or Fax: 22659

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However, such quotations are to be made in context and the Wool Press must be acknowledged as the source.

The articles printed in the Wool Press do not necessarily represent the views of the DoA and FIDC.

Timothy

By Bob Reid

After seeing the experimental plots of Timothy at the Brenton Loch Open day this year a number of farmers have expressed interest in sowing this grass. It certainly looked good, exhibiting high yields, compatibility with some legumes, and, most importantly, the geese left it alone as they preferred the ryegrass.

Timothy is not new to the Islands having been introduced a number of times by both farmers and the DoA equivalent. It has always initially performed well but disappeared rapidly, as soil fertility declined and farmers were unfamiliar with its management requirements. Now, however, with the introduction of legumes into pastures helping to improve soil fertility and the recognition by some farmers of the need for special purpose grasses, Timothy will come into its own.

A few basic facts

Timothy (botanical name *Phleum pratense*) is native to Northern and Central Europe and was brought under cultivation in the early 1700's in North America on a farm owned by a Mr Timothy.

Its growth habit is such that is better suited to cutting than to intensive grazing. It is very acceptable to grazing animals and is the preferred hay grass by dairy farmers and racehorse owners in Canada and the USA.

Timothy is able to grow on soils that are cold, wet and peaty provided that the fertility regime is high. It will not persist under low fertility situations. It is very winter hardy but should only be grazed lightly over the cold season.

The quality of Timothy is very high. In the United Kingdom, the digestibility of Timothy under pasture management has been found to be equal to that of cocksfoot, although the liveweight gain by lambs was greater with Timothy than with cocksfoot, ryegrass and tall fescue. In short a grass of high feeding value.

So what is its place in the Falklands? – As a hay grass certainly, and even more so when it is grown with lotus on wet sites and red clover on drier sites. Not only do both these legumes combine well with Timothy but they require a similar level of management.

As early spring feed it would make excellent pasture for ewes with lambs and after a summer rest, cut for hay, with the occasional light graze over winter.

Cultivars have been developed in all the cool/cold temperate climate countries and the Department will be evaluating a number over the next few years. Almost certainly the most adapted material will come from places like Iceland or the Faroe Islands and already the Icelandic cultivar "korpa" has been superb. Unfortunately seed of it, is very expensive and we may have to look at producing it here ourselves. Fortunately Timothy is a good seed producer and although the seed is very small, yields are high.

If you are not sure about it, why don't you give me a call and I'll be happy to give you a small sample for trial this coming spring.

KEY PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIC FARMING

This is a leaflet that was given to all the farmers who came to the last Road Show. So far I have had a good response from Farmers who are interested in obtaining more information and requesting a visit once I have had my training in the UK later this month. If you are interested in knowing more, please call me so that the necessary arrangements to visit your farm can be arranged. Charlene

- Organic farmers work with natural systems rather than trying to dominate them.
- Organic farmers encourage biological cycles involving micro-organisms, soil flora and fauna, plants and animals.
- Organic farmers maintain habitats to ensure bio-diversity is encouraged.
- Organic farmers take care of the welfare of their livestock.
- Organic farmers avoid pollution and take into account the environmental impact of their activities.

What is organic farming?

Organic farming means growing things without using most artificial fertilisers or pesticides and in a way that emphasises crop rotation, recycling, and good animal husbandry using minimal medicines and chemical treatments.

In the Falkland Islands, the rules that must be followed in order to label foods made here as organic are laid out in the Organic Foods Ordinance 2000. Copies of this legislation can be obtained from FIDC.

Why go 'organic'?

Some people want to farm organically as a matter of principle – there is a view that the use of chemical fertilisers, pesticides and medicines has upset the delicate balance of nature and organic farming is the way to recover the balance.

Others see the potential of commercial gain in organic farming. Organic foods (and other products) are in short supply and discerning consumers around the world are willing to pay a premium for them.

What will it cost?

Very little to the majority of farmers in the Falkland Islands; because of the way that farming is carried out in the Falklands with low levels of fertilisers, pesticides and medicines, in most cases there is little to change.

-There are no fees to be paid to the Falkland Islands Organic Certification Service (FIOCS) for inspections.

-There are no fees to be paid for using the FIOCS device on your products.

So what do I do next?

Give Charlene Rowland a call at FIDC who will then arrange to visit your farm to talk you through the whole process and to carry out a preliminary audit which you can use to decide whether you want to start farming organically.

Telephone: 27211

Fax: 27210

Email: crowland@fidc.co.fk

To be or not to be

Organic farming – *its your choice.*



FICBA

Falkland Islands Cattle Breeders' Association

c/o
Whyteways, James Street
Stanley
Phone/Fax +500 22156

mike.and.donna@horizon.co.fk

The Falkland Islands Cattle Breeders' Association was formed in 1997 by a small group of concerned farmers. Our primary goal was to help implement a proven method of importing cattle with minimum risk of disease to fast track the Falklands beef industry.

Recent events have highlighted our previous concerns and at a meeting held on the 12/04/01 it was decided that we do have a role to play in shaping the future of the Falklands Cattle Industry.

Do you need advice or information. Maybe we can help.

FICBA Working Group

**M. Ashworth
M. Evans
S. Poole
J. Forster**

**Beckside Farm
Newans Station
Race Point Farm
Bold Cove Farm**



At the front line of Foot and Mouth

From Zoe Luxton

The title makes my time spent working for the Ministry over Easter sound a lot grander and more important than it actually was! We were, however, quite literally, at the forefront of the Devon outbreak and saw new cases every day.

It all happened quite suddenly one Monday morning when I was strolling around college resting comfortably in the knowledge that MAFF would not be organised enough to call us up for work until at least Thursday. The next minute I was caught up in the organisational whirlwind that was later identified as my friend Nancy and by Monday evening 8 of us were in a hotel just outside Exeter wondering what the next morning would bring.

It actually bought chaos. Orientation at 8.15am consisted of a very busy woman trying to explain do's, don'ts and disinfectants to us at top speed followed by another equally harassed lady telling us what forms we needed to serve to farmers and the protocol to follow if we did actually find ourselves on a farm with foot and mouth (FMD). Luckily we were only being employed as technicians to help vets as we don't officially have MRCVS after our names yet (roll on July and Graduation!) but as the new influx of vets looked just as confused as us we were trying to make a conscious effort to concentrate too in the vague hope we may just muddle through together.

So, off we went, armed with a million ordnance survey maps of Devon, a set of waterproofs, bucket and paper oversuits and a big tub of disinfectant. Basically everyone starts out on foot patrol and carries out routine visits to farms to check the animals. Visits are generally classed as tracings, 3km patrol or report visits. Tracing visits are done when there is a history of a milk tanker or feed lorry for example being on that farm after it has been on a premises that has now gone down with FMD. If the farm is clear it is not visited anymore if it is more than 3km away from an outbreak. All farms within 3km of a FMD outbreak are visited every 2-3 days although it is rare to pick up a case of FMD on such a routine patrol as there are not many farmers who do not notice when some of their livestock is not well. Sheep are much harder to spot the disease in than cattle but most farmers are so worried that they are checking their sheep twice a day anyway! Those with cattle are actually luckier in a way because cattle get very sick very quickly with FMD so immediate action can be taken if FMD is suspected.

The story goes that if you are suspicious of a cow going down with foot and mouth, go and have a cup of tea and when you come back you will know for sure or not – that is how quickly they apparently start drooling and go very lame! Report visits are in response to a farmer ringing up worried that his stock is showing symptoms of FMD so a vet is dispatched ASAP to go and check. If it is a positive case you are immediately “dirty” and involved in slaughtering that farm and the cleansing and disinfecting afterwards. Some people then chose to stay “dirty” for a bit and join a slaughter team, others chose to spend 3 days working in the office to get “clean” and then go back out on routine patrols. After a day and a half in the office you are generally desperate to get out but somehow I found myself a small niche in the Jobs Allocations office without even being dirty and was loathe to go back out on patrol. I found being in the midst of a phone answering frenzy, answering questions from farmers and vets and actually being able to sort some problems out far more rewarding than being on foot patrol and being able to do nothing more than lend a sympathetic ear to a farmer and in some cases simply pacifying them enough to actually let us onto their farm to do the inspection. Emotions were running very high and we had to deal with some fairly tense situations but am glad to say that none of us lot actually did get threatened with a shotgun!!

The days were very long and the scrubbing up at the farm gate before and after the inspections actually took longer than inspecting the stock in some cases. All the protective gear actually made walking quite difficult as well but it did cheer the farmers up a bit seeing two extras from a Science fiction film stomping up their drive.

So, I don't think I am particularly emotionally traumatised by the whole experience just a bit knackered and stink of disinfectant. We all learnt a lot though and have become very well trained; none of us can see a bucket these days without dipping our feet in it!

Machinery Pool Requirements Peter Johnston and Owen Summers

Owen and I would like to know what machinery farmers plan to use from the machinery pool for the coming season. If you have not already spoken to us please contact us if you plan to use equipment in the coming season.

A table listing the machinery available on East and West Falkland appeared in the last Wool Press.

You know you're a farmer if ...

Source: Agricultural Science 2001

- Your dog rides in the ute more than your wife.
- You convince your wife that an overnight trip to Perth/Melbourne for machinery parts is a holiday.
- You wear specific hats to clearing sales, livestock auctions, farmer meetings and holidays.
- You've had to wash off in the back yard with a garden hose before your wife would let you in the house.
- You've never thrown away a five-gallon bucket.
- You've used fencing wire to attach a licence plate.
- You know the fertiliser, seeding, herbicide rates and yields on a farm you leased 10 years ago, but can't remember your wife's birthday.
- You've fibbed to a mechanic about how often you greased a piece of machinery.
- You've driven off the road while examining your neighbour's crops.
- You've buried a dog and cried like a baby.
- You've used a tractor front-end loader as scaffolding for roof repairs.
- You've used the same knife to make bull calves steers and peel apples.
- You wave at every vehicle whether you know the occupants or not.
- You always look when a vehicle passes your house, even at night.
- You've used something other than paper as a toilet tissue.
- You refer to farms by who owned them 50 or more years ago.
- You give directions to your farm by using landmarks, not road names.
- Your wife agrees to observe Mothers Day after seeding.
- You've animals living in buildings more expensive than your house.
- More than 50% of your clothing came from chemical or seed dealers.
- Family weddings and special events are planned around seeding, spraying and harvesting.
- The rusted out areas of your old truck are sealed off with old T-shirts.
- Your family goes silent when the weather comes on the news.
- The meaning of true love is that you'll ride on the tractor with him.
- Your husband drives a friend home from the bar when he only lives three houses away.
- Your excuse for getting out of school is that the cows got out.
- Your early morning prayer covers rain, wheat and sheep.
- You listen to 'The Country Hour' every day at noon.
- Your other vehicle is a John Deere.
- You've enough caps to match every shirt you own, but you only wear one so you don't get the others dirty.
- And' finally, if given £1,000,000, you would keep right on farming because that is who and what you are!

Miniature Horses at Main Point

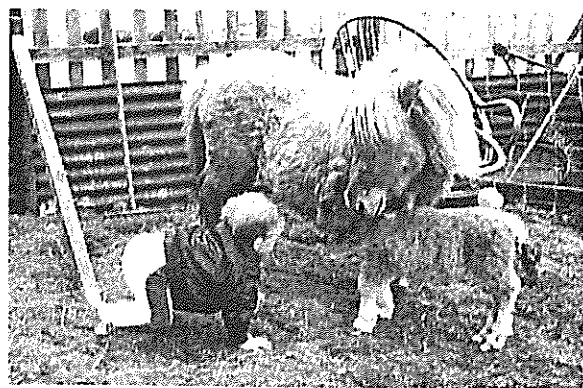
Since we started breeding Miniature Horses at Main Point we have bred 11 foals and to date have sold six miniatures. We always intended to keep all the fillies for breeding purposes, at least for the immediate future.

Out of 11 foals we have had one foal dead at birth due to a difficult foaling. This could have been saved had we been there at the right time. The really small mares often have foaling problems and the biggest fatality in foal losses is that they suffocate in the birth sack. We have probably been very lucky to get 10 live foals, one would have suffocated had we not been there to break the sack and one was given some assistance at birth. Otherwise we have managed to miss most of the foalings even with nightly watches and close circuit TV! Any mini owner will tell you that the mares seem to have a way of holding on for hours or days until you turn your back for five minutes. They can show no sign of foaling and just as quickly drop the foal as soon as you turn your back. This even happens to breeders with years of experience and not just beginners! While we were in UK last time the breeder we got ours from had watched a mare all night and nothing happened and in the time she took to have a cup of coffee and walk across to the stable the mare had foaled and the foal suffocated in the bag. I correspond with many breeders in the US who have similar stories to tell.

We were rather unfortunate this year to have bred a dwarf filly. She is not as badly affected as some dwarves but her legs are rather stiff and not correct and she is very very tiny. At 8 months old she is 20.5 inches tall. I say we were unfortunate only from a breeder's point of view that we will be unable to breed from such a pretty filly. She is actually an adorable little cute bundle that anybody would fall for (isn't she Sarah!)

Dwarves in miniatures are comparable to dwarves in people, many times having limbs

out of proportion and almost no neck, and often many physical handicaps. Often some are so bad they have to be put down at birth. But for those that have fewer handicaps, they can be wonderful pets. Anyone, who breeds minis on a large scale for very many years, will eventually produce a little dwarf be it in a mild or severe form. This is probably partly because in the past dwarves were sometimes used in breeding programs, as size reducers, when that was more the focus instead of good conformation. Because many miniatures probably carry dwarf genes, which are thought to be recessive, it is a good idea not to breed again the same pair that produced a dwarf. It takes both parents carrying the gene to produce a dwarf.

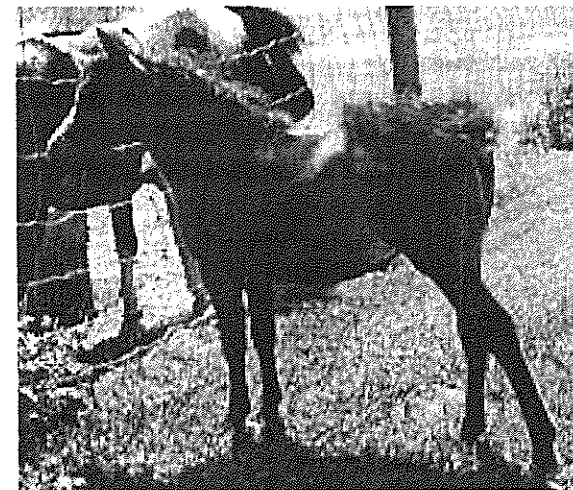


People often make the mistake of thinking that miniature horses are smaller and daintier than they are. Or at least than they appear, this is mainly due to the fact that most pictures you see in magazines (or on the Internet) show miniature horses clipped.

You would be quite amazed at what a fine boned little horse lies under what looks like a heavy hairy body! I have some photos of friends' horses to demonstrate what I mean.



Unclipped foal.



Clipped foal.

When the mini horse is shown, hours (in fact days) of work go into making them look like you see them looking in glossy magazines! They are exercised and trained every day to keep them looking trim and fit, they are clipped, shampooed and scrubbed. They even have their nose whiskers shaved off and their eyebrows! They are polished and not just their hooves but their coats too, with special attention around the head area to make that look even smaller. I would

very much like to have one of ours clipped and done up just to see the transformation but I doubt they or I would have the patience to get to the end result and of course once they are clipped they have to be kept indoors all the time. Imagine being turned out naked and polished in our weather!



Finally if anyone would like to own one of these gorgeous little horses as a lawn mower we have a colt soon ready for weaning and 8 mares due to foal in the summer!

Contact Main Point:

Phone: 41008 or E-mail:
shansen@horizon.co.fk

FROM POWERSENSE

To all owners of 24 hour power systems –

Top tip from Clive

Keep your battery tops clean and dry – a piece of 3 ply covering will help

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor

I wonder if the Vets or any of your readers can help me to understand the seemingly illogical response of the British Government to the Foot and Mouth outbreak.

I believe I am correct in saying that the main reason Britain chose the grotesque option of mass killing of infected animals and those in adjacent farms rather than vaccination was to protect the export market.

We were repeatedly told that if the animals were vaccinated farmers could not export the meat.

However, the Penguin News of May 18th carries a Mercopress report stating that Uruguay has chosen to control their outbreak by vaccinating all 12 million cattle, and that 1 month after the vaccination programme is complete they will be allowed to recommence exports of beef to EU!

Am I missing something here?

Yours sincerely

Barry Elsby, Moody Brook House, Stanley

Reply to Barry Elsby from Senior Veterinary Officer Steve Pointing.

Like Barry, I was surprised at the speed at which imports from Uruguay were going to be allowed back into the EU after completing their national vaccination campaign against Foot and Mouth Disease. On closer inspection only certain types of fresh meat products will be permitted to be imported. All meat will have to have been deboned. The rationale behind this is that after death the pH of muscle (meat) falls for several hours usually ending up somewhere between pH 5.5 and 6. Foot and Mouth virus is very susceptible to acid environments and will not survive for very long at this sort of pH. In "bone-in" meat the pH within the bone marrow often remains at a more neutral level (around pH 7) and this doesn't change dramatically after death. The FMD virus can, therefore, survive in bone marrow for very long periods after death and this is extended by the freezing process. If any of these bones are taken out prior to cooking or not cooked properly and then fed to pigs there is a risk of passing the virus into a new host.

So trade in carcasses and "bone-in" meat will be affected by the use of FMD vaccination. In reality this would also be extended to include "boned-out" meat by some FMD free countries (e.g.; USA, Australia, NZ, and Japan etc) but for their own particular reasons EU agricultural ministers have decided to adopt a more relaxed approach.

I intend writing to the CVO of the UK asking him for his opinion on the quick resumption of beef imports from Uruguay. I'll let you know what he has to say on the matter in due course.

Stephen Pointing
Senior Veterinary Officer

Taxidermist visits Stanley

British Taxidermist Stephen Massam is currently half way through a two-month visit to Stanley. Employed by the Falkland Islands Museum and National Trust and Falkland Islands Conservation, Stephen's remit is twofold: to prepare and mount birds held by the Museum for display and storage and to train five residents in the art of basic taxidermy. The Museum would like to thank the Department of Agriculture for kindly giving over a section of its laboratory for teaching purposes for the duration of Stephen's visit.



Stephen with one of his pupils – Mr Fred Clarke

Contrary to the traditional image of the profession, Taxidermists (known in the USA as 'Wildlife Artists') are not simply concerned with 'stuffing' specimens but rather with creating imaginative dioramas that portray birds, fish and mammals within their natural habitat. Stephen explains how he is 'trying to get away from the old Victorian way of displaying static rows of poorly mounted specimens, opting

instead for a far more realistic setting that not only depicts a specimen in action but also takes into consideration the habitat and environment in which the species lives'. Much of Stephen's initial work in the islands has therefore concentrated on the problems of preserving and modelling samples of unfamiliar vegetation and marine life which form such an intricate part of his displays. Like most visitors to the Falklands Stephen was immediately struck by 'the bleak and barren landscape' describing how it 'was only when I took my eyes away from the spectacular panoramic views to look at the wealth of flora and fauna at my feet that I came to realise the true nature of the islands. I'm also truly astounded by the trust shown by most of the birds here, even when approached by a taxidermist wielding a camera!' The Museum is most grateful to everyone who has generously donated specimens. Those, which Stephen is unable to mount during his present visit, will be wrapped in plastic and stored deep - frozen for work to continue another time.

Training sessions are progressing well: 'I am sure all the students were unaware of what they had let themselves in for' says Stephen 'there is far more to preparing a specimen than most would imagine. All, I am pleased to say, have stuck with the course and are pleased with what they have accomplished'. Megan Eggeling, one of Stephen's students takes up the story.....

So, what does all this mean for the raw recruit to the art of Taxidermy whom Steve has taken under his wing? Well, total bewilderment, not only at being confronted with an impressive array of implements – scalpels, tweezers, forceps, scissors, bone-snips, clamps – which would grace any surgeon's

trolley and home-made gadgets the non-engineer (like me) cannot begin to appreciate, but by the awful apparition from the depths of the freezer of our trial subjects – five very dead chickens with gory signs of inexpert wringing about the neck. Gulp! "Cut" orders Steve. Rubber-gloved, clinically-gowned and armed with razor-sharp scalpels, we cut – from breast bone to vent. 'Vent'? We are already into taxidermy/anatomy speak as Steve chivvies us along, seemingly oblivious that at least one of us is blanching and beginning to totter on Ag. Dept. bench stool. Kidneys, liver, gizzard, crop and other unmentionables are extracted in one solid lump with some timid tweaking at surrounding tissue (happy tearing in Fred from Fitzroy's case!). Emptied of all that gave them life, the chickens are subjected to further assault – the dislocation of thighs, the pulling of tendons from legs and feet, the sucking out of tricky bits like the brain, the total turning inside out of once recognisable pieces of poultry.

We've come to the conclusion that it's not just a case of removing the meaty bits and stuffing the resulting vacuum with kapok. There's de-greasing (ugh, that fat!) and washings and white spiritings and wiring and muscle-moulding and whole body-building and eye-making and artistic evaluation to do. It's all too much to take in. We photograph and tape-record in a desperate attempt to capture the relentless sequence of instructions that Steve, ever reassuring, heaps upon us. And then.....oh miracle!.....he brings it all together. Wings are where they should be, the head emerges from the dark tunnel of the inverted neck it's lain hidden in, the legs, clay-stuffed and sturdy, now support a richly chestnut-plumed chook (or dashing dappled-grey in the cock's case). A deft tweak of the head and the stuffed

shadows of former selves become distinct individuals of the fowl-kingdom. To strut or not to strut.



Chicken reassembly

The question is – will we ever be able to recreate such wondrous works of art out of a freezer-full of precious prize species of Falklands' birds on our own? Steve will have to come back!

Stephen will be based at the Museum until July 10th and is happy for visitors to observe him as he works, but please give the Museum a ring first, on 27428, if you wish to come along.



Washing chicken in detergent

FOR SALE

3 X SUZUKI MOTOR BIKES, 4WD 250CC

Bike 1 4252 miles, in good working order, with a 'razz up the sheep exhaust'

Bike 2 5090 miles with similar exhaust to No. 1 bike

Bike 3 12620 miles, partly dismantled, for spares

Would prefer to sell as one lot but can negotiate to sell singly. Offers please to Knight, Coast Ridge Farm, Fox Bay East, Tel: 42094

FOR SALE

1 FUEL BOWSER, HOLDS 5000 LITRES, WITH HAND PUMP AND NEW TYRES.

OFFERS TO P WHITNEY, GREEN PATCH, TEL/FAX 31003

Bale Branding

By Lucy Ellis

Many of you, especially those involved with the core – sampling, will know that Doug wanted to try and get some sort of uniformity to the bale branding of the F.I clip.

You may ask, “why do we need to change?” below is, hopefully, some food for thought.

At the moment everyone brands how they like, so some bales are written on all sides and both ends while others have one side and maybe one end branded.

Through handling the bales ourselves, at F.I.P.A.S.S, we discovered it to be a real pain in the butt trying to figure out whose bale it was, what it's number and contents were -especially when there was no branding on the ends, only one side written on, and that side was usually face down!

We asked the men who handle and load the bales their ideas, without fail they said that branding on the ends would be very helpful, especially with the way the bales have to be stored in the Wool Warehouse. Also the shippers said branding on both ends would be very helpful.

Doug then approached some of the overseas buyers for their comments on branding on both ends only (this saves time and you would have to buy fewer of those very expensive marker pens!).

Ian Pattison of Bower Green said that he could see no problems with it as long as the bales were clearly marked.

John Milne of DB Holdsworth said the same.

Robert Hall of Falkland Wool Growers Ltd said that he would prefer to see the branding stay as it is i.e.: marked on two sides and two ends with farm brand and bale number. The bale description should be on the two sides.

He says that when bales get dirty and damaged in transit the branding can be almost impossible to read.

He has also discussed it with customers and, I quote “All wished for at least one side to be branded”, unquote, with only one customer requesting branding on 2 sides and 2 ends.

Robert recommends branding to continue with just that: 2 sides and 2 ends.

So the question is: what do we do now?

We all know how expensive those pens are and writing on waxy bales doesn't let them last long,

So, if you're covering the bale in hieroglyphics you're going to have a very big pen bill.

If you are required to only brand the top and bottom your pen will last a lot longer and you won't have so much faffing about rolling the bales over and over to get to all sides and you'll save time.

But the problem of the marks being indecipherable at the other end also needs consideration...

If anyone has given this any thought or has strong feelings either way or can come up with an alternative idea, please contact me, or better still, write to the “Wool Press”, maybe a lively written debate is what is needed!

This subject will definitely be brought up at the Q.F.W meeting held sometime during Farmers Week...get your thinking caps on!

Recipe Page

Healthy alternatives to normally naughty dishes!

Chicken and Apple Burgers

Preparation: 20 mins + chilling:
Cook: 15 mins

- ❖ 4 skinless chicken breast fillets, diced
- ❖ 6 spring onions, chopped
- ❖ 2 tbsp fresh chopped coriander
- ❖ 1 tbsp lemon juice
- ❖ 50g/2oz fresh white breadcrumbs
- ❖ 1 eating apple, peeled, cored and diced
- ❖ 1 medium egg, beaten
- ❖ tomato salsa and green salad to serve

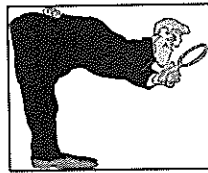
1. Blend the chicken, onions, coriander and lemon juice in a food processor until finely minced. Transfer to a bowl; add breadcrumbs, apple and egg; season. Mix well. Shape into 8 large or 12 small burgers. Cover; chill for 30 mins.
2. Preheat grill to medium. Place the burgers on a greased baking sheet. Grill for 6-8 mins each side until cooked through. Serve with salsa and salad.

Chinese-Style Meatballs

Preparation: 20 mins
Cook: 20 mins

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| ❖ 500g/1lb 2oz lean minced beef | Sauce |
| ❖ ½ onion, peeled and grated | ❖ 6 tbsp pineapple juice |
| ❖ 1 garlic clove, peeled and crushed | ❖ 2 tbsp malt vinegar |
| ❖ pinch of Chinese five-spice powder (optional) | ❖ 1 tbsp soft brown sugar |
| ❖ 4 tbsp vegetable oil | ❖ 2 tbsp tomato purée |
| ❖ 1 bunch spring onions, trimmed and sliced | ❖ 2 tsp cornflour |
| ❖ 300g/11oz mixed greens such as chard, spinach and spring greens | ❖ egg noodles to serve |

1. Mixed the mince beef, onion, garlic and five-spice powder, if using. Shape into 16 meatballs. Heat 3 tbsp oil in a wok or deep frying pan; stir-fry the meatballs, in batches for 8 mins until browned and cooked. Remove with a slotted spoon; set aside. Discard oil.
2. Heat the remaining 1 tbsp oil in the wok or pan. Add the spring onions and mixed greens; stir fry for 2 mins until just wilted.
3. SAUCE: Blend all the ingredients for the sauce in a bowl or jug; add to the wok or pan with the meatballs. Stir-fry for 2-3 mins until the sauce has thickened and the meatballs are piping hot. Serve with egg noodles.



SOMETHING FOR THE CHILDREN

WORD SEARCH

D	F	H	J	K	L	P	H	S	U	R	H	T	W	W
M	N	I	V	D	R	E	H	F	E	E	B	H	E	E
K	G	N	V	C	W	A	R	D	R	N	H	A	Y	L
K	O	V	K	D	S	E	Y	U	O	X	T	P	V	E
I	D	E	M	L	D	O	T	R	T	H	G	E	A	C
T	P	R	J	D	E	L	T	T	E	E	E	A	C	T
C	E	T	U	I	U	H	T	R	Q	N	L	T	G	R
H	E	O	Q	C	E	C	V	O	K	S	C	S	V	I
E	H	R	I	R	K	A	K	O	J	E	I	H	B	C
N	S	R	L	L	N	G	H	S	A	R	H	E	H	F
S	G	Y	G	E	S	E	W	T	C	X	E	D	N	E
A	W	F	G	Y	T	K	U	E	K	B	V	C	X	N
G	F	L	A	O	F	J	I	R	A	V	C	X	Z	C
L	K	J	G	H	U	I	O	N	S	S	M	A	R	E
J	K	O	U	P	G	R	A	S	S	B	G	D	R	G

- AGRICULTURE
- BEEFHERD
- DUCKS
- ELECTRICFENCE
- FOAL
- GRASS
- HENS
- INVERTOR
- JACKASS
- KITCHEN
- MARE
- NORTHERLY
- OILSKINS
- PEATSHED
- ROOSTER
- SHEEPDOG
- THRUSH
- UDDER
- VEHICLE
- WEATHERVANE
- WHEAT

WHICH WORD IS MISSING FROM THE GRID??

V	E	T	E
R	I	N	A
R	Y	O	F
F	I	C	E

HOW MANY WORDS CAN YOU MAKE FROM THESE LETTERS??

ODD ONE OUT

Please send your answers in to Glynis King, Department of Agriculture. The winner will receive a prize.

Is your tractor off the road awaiting spare parts held up in the mail?

Most models of Ford-New Holland, Case and Massey-Ferguson parts are readily available in Chile and can be in the Falklands in a few days.

If you are stuck for that vital part unavailable locally we can probably find it for you.

Contact: Tim Miller, Stanley Growers, Tel: 21499 – Fax: 22618, with make, year, model, serial numbers etc.



MAY 01

F	L	A	G	C	A	R	D	E	N	C	O	R	E	F
B	R	A	A	A	N	O	T	H	O	R				
E	C	A	R	P	T	I	C	K	S	W	O	O		
T	S	T	R	I	C	A	N	D	L	E				
A	P	H	R	O	D	I	T	E	G	C	S	I	X	
P	R	H	I	N	C	H	E	S	T	E	A			
L	O	C	H	T	U	I	E	A	T	M				
L	A	L	B	A	T	R	O	S	S	N	M	O	I	
O	Y	A	S	C	R	A	M	B	O	N				
E	G	G	B	A	G	D	U	O	O	L	E			
I	A	U	A	U	U	N	L	E	A	D	E	D		
A	S	C	O	T	E	Y	T	E	N	N	R			
E	T	H	R	U	S	H	D	F	T	A				
S	H	L	N	N	B	A	R	M	I	S	S			
P	R	O	C	R	S	S	S	R	I	E				
I	R	B	T	H	I	C	S	H	E	P	H	E	R	D
N	S	Y	Y	L	N	E								
A	P	E	S	R	P	O	R	T	E	D	G	A	R	E
L	H	E	L	L	O	C	B	R						
M	A	Y	W	I	N	K	L	E	K	E	T	C	H	

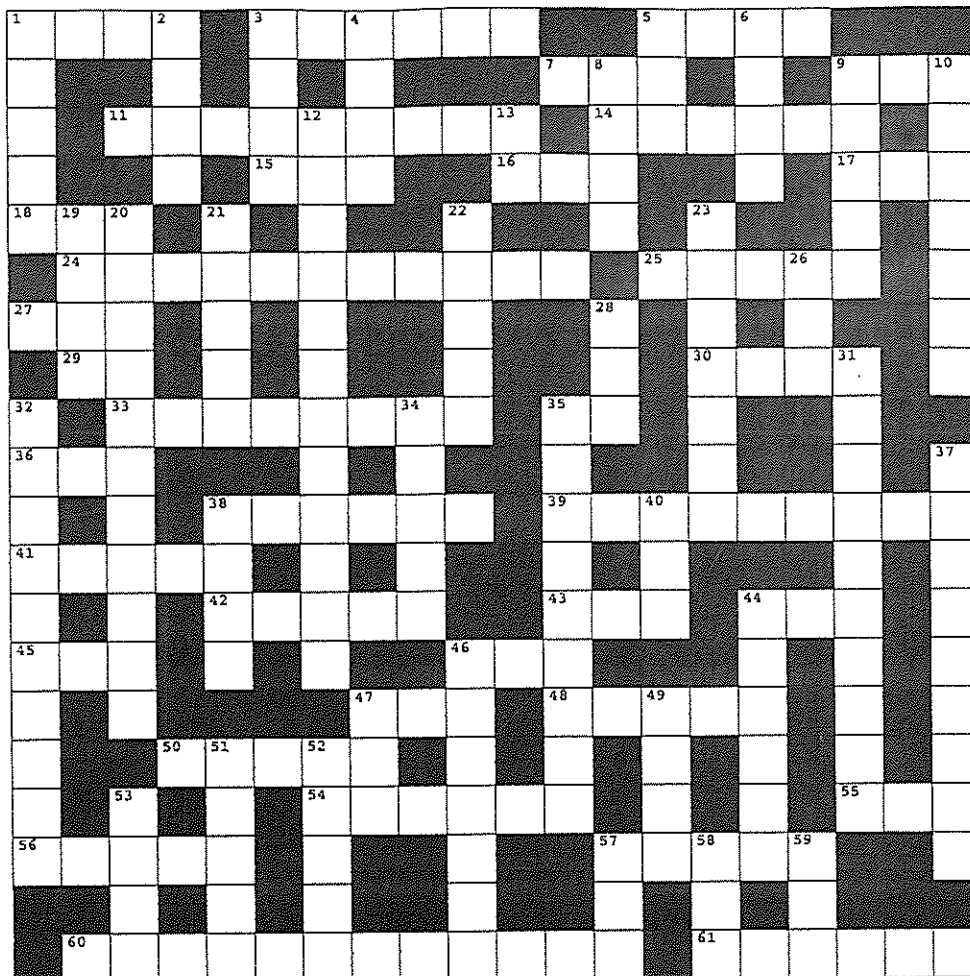
SOLUTION

TO LAST

MONTH'S

CROSSWORD

JUNE01



JUNE01

ACROSS

DOWN

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. FUR ANIMAL | 1. DAMP |
| 3. NOT EXCLUSIVE | 2. TIE |
| 5. ACID ENGRAVING | 3. TABLET |
| 7. WARTY PIG? | 4. SHARP PIECE ON WIRE STRAND |
| 9. TWO BY TWO BOAT | 5. SELF PEELING OR IMAGE |
| 11. LOCAL MAG | 6. LOVABLE, SWEET |
| 14. LOCKED | 8. FOLLOW COMMANDS |
| 15. THROW | 9. SPANISH FAREWELL |
| 16. MINERAL SOURCE MATERIAL | 10. DOG HOMES |
| 17. HOSTELRY | 12. WEST SETTLEMENT (4,8) |
| 18. THREE | 13. ARROGANT QUESTIONING REMARK |
| 24. LOSS OF SENSATION WHEN APPLIED | 19. SKIN CONDITION |
| 25. FALKLAND'S WINTER ACTIVITY | 20. CHEMICALS FOR KILLING PESTS |
| 27. LONG EARED BEAST OF BURDEN | 21. THE THIGH BONE |
| 29. A MALE PERSON | 22. NOT BELONGING TO ANYONE |
| 30. ICY WHITE FLAKES | 23. CASED SEASONED MEAT (USUALLY) |
| 33. TYPE OF MONEY USED IN COUNTRIES | 26. ... OF A KIND |
| 35. VIA | 28. WINTER FEED |
| 36. COAL MINE | 31. ANUAL PIBS KNOCKOUT (6,4) |
| 38. GREENPLY | 32. SAID SORRY |
| 39. TRIED | 34. SYMBOLS USED IN COMMUNICATIONS |
| 41. THE REGULAR PUB | 35. NICK-NAME FOR OIL (5,4) |
| 42. NASAL CAVITY | 37. SCHOOLING |
| 43. SLEEP | 38. AS WELL AS |
| 44. MANNER | 40. FAUCET |
| 45. THE ALMIGHTY | 44. NOT AWAKE |
| 46. INDIVIDUAL GAME IN A DARTS MATCH | 46. NEW DRIVER |
| 47. TAKE LEGAL ACTION AGAINST | 47. COY |
| 48. INTERNAL ORGANS | 49. BURNING MASS |
| 50. BREAK IN PIECES | 51. PERHAPS |
| 54. SPECIALLY BRED ANIMAL OR PLANT | 52. HEAVY, POWERFUL BREED OF HORSE |
| 55. ANIMAL EXHIBITION PARK | 53. JUMPING PARASITE |
| 56. DAWDLE | 57. MAKE FAST |
| 57. SPEED OR RHYTHM OF MUSIC | 58. MALE SPECIES |
| 60. HALF MARATHON (4,8) | 59. BOAT MOVER |
| 61. OF SLIM DIMENTIONS | |



The Wool Press

ISSUE 139

JULY 2001

PRICE : £1.00

**All the
regular
features
and more!**

The Wool Press is
published by the
Department
of Agriculture
and
printed at the
Falkland Islands
Government
Printing Office.

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By Kevin Lawrence

A WEEK WITH AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANTS

By Lucy Ellis & Tim Bonner

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By Susie Hansen

SALADERO/BRENTON LOCH UPDATE

By Peter Johnston

WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL TRUST

By Fred Clark

SALADERO GOATS

By Viv Bonner

SCIENCE, LOGIC AND ECONOMICS

By Robert Hall

EDITORIAL

Welcome to July's edition of the Wool Press. Apologies for the lateness of the paper this month.

Inside there is an "interesting" introduction from our new Veterinary Officer. Upon reading Kevin's application for the post we were expecting a very quiet chap – Kevin arrived instead!!! We hope he and his family are settling in well. (Don't worry Kev' the Department usually have left over Xmas cards – we'll see you right!!)

Hope you all had an enjoyable Farmers Week, please feel free to write in with your comments on the week and any suggestions or new ideas for next year.

Until next month, cheers.

Sarah, Lucy and Glynis

WANTED

1 X RADIATOR FOR A 6000/600 FORD TRACTOR.

PLEASE CONTACT MARK GLEADELL AT EAST BAY FARM IN
THE EVENINGS ON TEL: 42003

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Introduction – by Kevin Lawrence, Veterinary Officer

When I said I had to write my life story, Claire, my lovely dinkum kiwi wife said that wouldn't take me too long.

I grew up in Hereford, England, a small tight knit community where a family reunion is a good place to pick up girls, as we say the closer the kin the better the skin.

My father and brother are both farmers, my dad was once asked what he'd do if he won the lottery he said he'd carry on farming until it was all gone.

I went to college in London, which was a real culture shock to a wurzel, couldn't get a pint of cider anywhere.

After qualifying I worked in Wales and Worcester before setting off around the world. I don't know how James Herriot did it but I didn't accumulate many good tales but then Herriot didn't work in Wales!

Although, there was a pub near where I worked that straddled the English/Welsh border and in the old days, when Powys was dry on a Sunday, a policeman was sent to sit on the Welsh side of the lounge bar.

The caseload in Worcester where I stayed for 7 years was very mixed with dairy, sheep, small animal and horse work.

The cathedral at Worcester is very beautiful and I can recommend a visit to anyone.

Travelling around the world I visited South America, New Zealand, Australia and Indonesia.

When I settled in New Zealand I met and married Claire in Tokoroa, her mother had a sign out 'LAST GIRL BEFORE THE MOTORWAY'!

We have a 6-year-old daughter Brianna who loves her new school in Stanley.

After Tokoroa we moved to Southland the very bottom of New Zealand a predominately dairy/sheep/deer practice.

We had a small holding and ran sheep and calves – needless to say we made absolutely no money from them – so what's new!

The opportunity to work in the Falklands is a great adventure for us and we both look forward to meeting you all.

Since things are tight at the moment – Kevin Claire and Brianna would like to take this opportunity to wish all their new Falkland friends a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year!!!!

A WEEK WITH THE AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANTS

By Lucy Ellis and Tim Bonner

At 6a.m on a freezing Monday morning, Tim Bonner picked me up to go to Saladero. Not the best of weather to be sorting out ewes to go to the rams but the thought of Vivs fine cooking lessens the pain considerably!

It was a long and cold old day, fiddly too as each ewe had to be sorted by pedigree, as did the rams, to ensure the bloodlines would not cross too closely. At about 8.30p.m we finished and after a cuppa Tim and I headed for home, leaving John the job tomorrow of taking the different mating mobs to their separate paddocks, most probably in the snow.

Tuesday morning was equally as grim as Mondays' so I was not too upset to be in front of the computer entering the NSF data from yesterday.

Poor old Tim, meanwhile, was tearing around sorting out fencing materials for farmers who were waiting to collect it. When the rush was off we went down to FIPASS and fought a bale of wool into the 130 and brought back to the Dept. for a core-testing demonstration.

Sarah stopped me on our way through and asked if I'd hold a cat for her, as there were no vets around. I don't mind cats but I'd like them better if they'd keep their claws to themselves!

Gordon tracked down Tim and asked him to lend a hand to sort out the heating problem in the glasshouse. No sooner had that been sorted then we got a message to say that a section of the common fence was down and could we go and fix it pronto.

The first thing the next morning was to tackle a heap of e-mails that were starting to stack up. They were mostly about the sale of wool and core-test certificates, weight notes and checking a few figures to clarify payments.

Quite a busy day 'phone-wise, farmers asking me to chase up on the Cashmere as they are waiting to see what the results are before opting for meat AI rather than fibre AI.

Steve, Kevin and I got all the sheep AI kit out, laid it out and ran through the procedures to make sure all the kit was working ok.

Tim was away just about all day at Estancia, checking and re-planting trees and changing the tatter flag.

Had a bit of time here and there to play around with some ideas for posters for our open day display.

Sam Sinclair was on the 'phone first thing on Thursday wanting all the Corriedale ram and ewe breeding information as those rams are going out soon. I'd done a fair amount of sorting the data out when, once again, all the computers crashed so as I couldn't do any more on that until the computer people decided to turn up, I answered the phones while Glynis was out of the office.

Tim was back down at the FIC yard sorting out fencing with farmers.

Kevin, our new vet, and I finalised the running order of the goat AI for next week and ran through the equipment once again. I've never done this before and Kevin's only done it a few times so we're both as nervous as hell!

I got a call to go see Gordon Ewing, Financial Controller FIDC, about some core-testing payments and sort out QFW payment forms with Mandy. Did that then Tim and I went and put a new gate system in at the Quarantine station to make the access easier for those who are feeding the reindeer.

Hadn't been 5 mins back when Sarah roared up and said the police had rung to say there were 2 cats stuck in a fan belt, could one of us go and give her a hand. Tim had vehicles to take down to Megabid so I went. Not the most pleasant of jobs, but at least they were both alive and not too badly hurt.

Once Tim had got back from megabid, he and Owen started sorting out all the different types of fencing we now have and putting it up for the fencing display.

I did some more posters, QFW and crutching this time. It's just occurred to me that this is the first winter that not one of us has had any Lab work to do, and great joy of joys, no grass separating, long may it continue!

Both Tim and I had e-mails to deal with before anything else on Friday; Aidan was wanting tree information from Tim and there were the usual queries, requests for info, demands and questions on core testing, QFW and sheep breeding programmes for me to sort out.

Gave Tim a hand sorting his stuff out for his trip to Port Howard next week – there's more trees to plant plus spray the weeds if the weather's fit and various maintenance jobs to the shelters and fences.

Sorted out all the data sheets for Owen that are needed for sorting out the Corriedales next week, he's kindly offered to go and give Sam a hand until I get finished with the goat AI, Prill's also going, as scribe.

We caught up on some small jobs that had got neglected during the week e.g.: vehicle maintenance, cleaning and washing them: tidying up the big shed and checking that all tools were back and available for next week.

Tim went with Owen and Peter to sort out tractor spares and see what needed ordering but was then called away back to the FIC yard to load up more fencing.

I got on with more data input of the Corriedale and Polwarth Stud flocks plus more poster work.

The last jobs of the day for Tim and I were to check all vehicles were fuelled up, in case someone was using one the next day, and lock them up.

Guide Horses by Susie Hansen



A small chestnut horse lies stretched across the floor in a front row on an aircraft heading for Atlanta. Her name is Cuddles, and she carries a heavy responsibility on her 2-foot-high shoulders.

Cuddles a 55-pound miniature horse and one of more than 120,000 registered in the United States is no ordinary little horse. The words printed on a blanket fastened across her back reveal what makes her unique: "Service Animal In Training. Do Not Touch."

Janet Burleson, who has trained 18-month-old Cuddles for the past seven months, says that she is the first horse to go into full-time service as a guide animal and the first allowed to fly in the passenger cabin probably on any airline.

Seated next to Cuddle's is her new owner, Dan Shaw. The 44-year-old has suffered from retinitis pigmentosa since he was 17. It has left him with pinhole vision.

Shaw, Cuddles and her trainers, face a busy day in Atlanta. They chose Atlanta because of the rapid rail system. Shaw, a graduate of the Carroll School for the blind in Boston, often returns there to visit friends and family. He uses the subway and wants Cuddles to experience a similar environment. Besides riding on the subway, Cuddles will guide Shaw through the vast airport terminals and lead him onto elevators and escalators.

As Shaw moves along the International Airport, his left hand grasps the little horse's reins and metal harness. People turn to stare. Cuddles looks straight ahead, sure-footed in the white leather trainers she wears for grip on the slippery floor.

Cuddles trainers the Burlesons are convinced that horses can be a reliable alternative to dogs for the visually impaired that they have established the Guide Horse Foundation (www.guidehorse.org).

They have more than 40 applicants on the waiting list who have given various reasons for preferring a horse to a guide dog: allergy to canines, fear of dogs, needing an animal with more stamina etc. Horses live 35 to 40 years, to lose a dog after eight to 10 years, and then have another to train, and have to do that three or four times in my lifetime can be very emotional.

THE POD LICENSED GUEST HOUSE PORT SAN CARLOS FALKLAND ISLANDS

**TEL: 00 500 41018 FAX: 00 500 41019
PROPRIETORS: PATRICK BERNTSEN & PAT PRATLETT**

THE POD GUESTHOUSE PROVIDES HOMELY ACCOMMODATION IN THE PICTURESQUE SETTLEMENT OF PORT SAN CARLOS. THE GUESTHOUSE COMPRISES OF; DOWNSTAIRS: FOUR BEDROOMS ACCOMMODATING UP TO EIGHT ADULTS, (WE ALSO HAVE A COT AND A FOLD OUT BED FOR CHILDREN WISHING TO SHARE A ROOM WITH THEIR PARENTS), TOILET AND SHOWER ROOM.

WE ALSO HAVE A SELF-CATERING BUNGALOW WHICH SLEEPS UP TO EIGHT PEOPLE, SLEEPING BAGS AND TOWELS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE SELF-CATERING ACCOMMODATION BUT EVERYTHING ELSE IS PROVIDED I.E. GAS COOKER, MICROWAVE, CROCKERY, CUTLERY ETC. THERE IS A BATH/TOILET ROOM AND ALL ACCOMMODATION IS FULLY CENTRALLY HEATED.

RATES ARE:

<u>ACCOMMODATION</u>	<u>ADULTS</u>	<u>CHILDREN 5-15 YEARS</u>
FULL BOARD	£38.50 PER NIGHT	£25.00 PER NIGHT
B & B & E,M	£33.00 PER NIGHT	£20.00 PER NIGHT
BED & BREAKFAST	£22.00 PER NIGHT	£15.00 PER NIGHT
SELF-CATERING	£21.00 PER NIGHT	£5.00 PER NIGHT

CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS ARE ACCOMMODATED FREE.

THE POD IS OPEN ALL YEAR AND HAS SPECIAL CHEAPER RATES UNTIL END OF AUGUST. WE HAVE A LARGE BOOK AND VIDEO LIBRARY TO KEEP YOU AMUSED DURING THE BAD WEATHER. PATRICK CAN PROVIDE TRANSPORT FROM EITHER STANLEY OR MPA IF REQUIRED (**MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PASSENGERS IS FOUR**). HE ALSO DOES GUIDED WILDLIFE TOURS TO CAPE DOLPHIN (ALL YEAR) AND FANNINGS HEAD (NOVEMBER - APRIL). OTHER TRIPS AVAILABLE ARE TO BLUE BEACH CEMETARY AT SAN CARLOS AND AJAX BAY.

THERE IS GOOD TROUT FISHING AVAILABLE IN THE SAN CARLOS RIVER FROM SEPTEMBER UNTIL END OF APRIL EACH YEAR. LICENSES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE POD. MULLET FISHING CAN BE DONE ALL YEAR LONG. FISHING RODS, SPINNERS AND BAIT ARE AVAILABLE FOR HIRE AT THE POD.

BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT PATRICK WILL BE HAPPY TO DO SHEEP-SHEARING AND PEAT-CUTTING DEMONSTRATIONS.

THE POD ALSO PROVIDES A CAFÉ SERVICE FOR DAY TRIPPERS AT WEEKENDS WITH HOT AND COLD SNACKS AVAILABLE SET LUNCH CAN BE HAD BY GIVING AT LEAST 24 HOURS PRIOR NOTICE.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING CUSTOMERS OLD AND NEW!!!!

Thank you to Pat & Pat for sending us this advert. Eds.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS PAGE

Dear Lucy

Debate on wool bale branding

We at Green Field Farm have been branding our bales on both ends and two opposite sides since we started baling wool.

We use the same marker pens that you mention, but with a difference. When the pen runs out of ink, instead of throwing it away and buying another costly one, we simply refill it with permanent ink (sold in the FIC Pastimes) filling it using a syringe and a needle through the felt into the barrel.

By carefully drawing rather than text writing, the pen will write effectively for a very long time on the Australian type waxed packs. The real trick is buying the right edged felt pens and not to use them for up-hill writing or against the shaped edge. We have been able to make one pen last for two seasons, or the equivalent of 250 bales.

I think it is very important to brand the 2 ends and both sides. Not only for the better chance of someone being able to read at least the number on any part of the bale in any position, but to ensure, as Robert Hall correctly points out, that there are several alternative places to identify ones bales after they are covered in grime.

The preferred system we use is to brand the farm mark (GGF) and number on each end, the farm mark and type of wool and number on both sides as in the example following:

2 ends:

GGF

109

2 sides:

GGF

WETH

A

We have often received praise for the clear branding of our bales, both from haulers and agents. We also underline the numbers to assist tallymen.

It doesn't matter how well you brand your bales if you don't look after them when storing. It is not always the hauler or shipper/docker who gets the bales dirty, but carelessness on the farm.

I have seen on some farms, bales of wool stored under tarpaulins on pallets OUTSIDE their wool sheds, or on trailers awaiting haulage. I have even seen bales of wool on a trailer once, on the side of the North Camp road, with no covers on them.

That comment will no doubt cause more debate than the branding itself, but the fact is that it is not only in the sharpness of the lettering, but the condition of the bale itself.

I hope the above is of interest to you

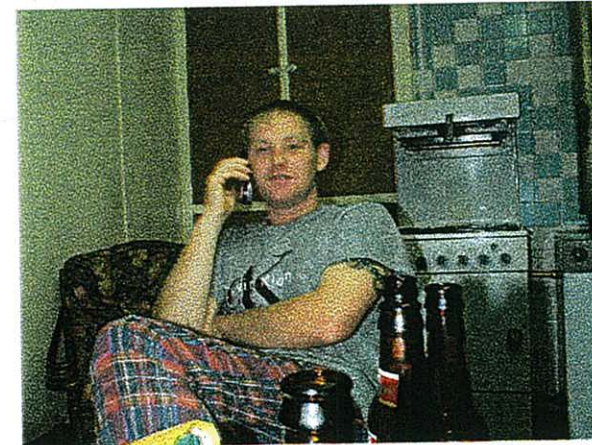
Regards

Robin Goodwin
Greenfield Farm

Saladero/Brenton Loch Update

New Agricultural Assistant at Goose Green

Mr Gerard Ford (Ged) is the new agricultural assistant at Goose Green. Ged will be working on a number of projects for the Department of Agriculture at Saladero and Brenton Loch. One of his main roles will be maintenance of equipment in the machinery pool.

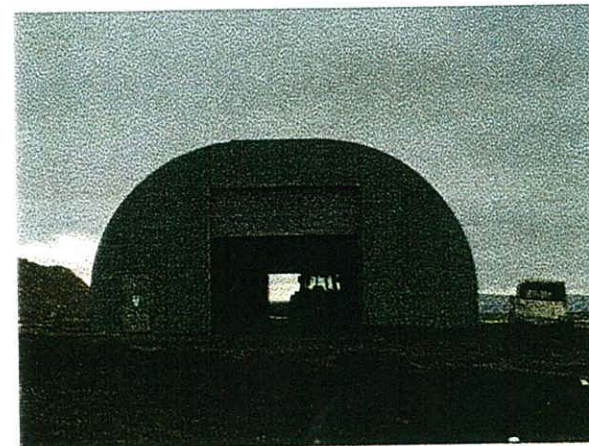


Ged busy answering calls at his Goose Green office.

Shed Near Completion

A shed at Brenton Loch has nearly been completed. The shed will be used for storing machinery pool equipment, hay, fertiliser and fencing materials.

The shed will be ideal for storing the machinery pool equipment under cover while it is not in use.



Forage Oats for Heifer Calves

A 15 ha field of Bass forage oats is supporting 52 six month old heifer calves and 10 eighteen month old heifers at Brenton Loch this winter. The high quality feed will give these calves a good start.

The oats were sown in January this year at 100 kg/ha and fertilised with 240 kg/ha of 20:10:10 fertiliser. The field was originally Whitegrass ground and was rotavated two years ago. The piece failed to burn after the initial rotavation and we had to re-think our plans. In December 2000 the area was ploughed using the offset discs to try to breakdown the trash to prepare a suitable seedbed.



Bass forage oats at Brenton Loch on 4 April 2001.

The calves were weaned in late May and have been strip grazed on the forage oats since 4 June 2001 using a temporary electric fence.

The area will be sown to improved pasture in Spring 2001. The improved pasture will capitalise on any remaining fertiliser as well as the added nutrients from the heifer's dung and urine.

While the development of this piece did not follow the original plan, it has provided us with some high quality winter feed and a suitable seedbed for improved pasture.



WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL TRUST

**By: Fred Clark, Hawkbit –
A Churchill Fellow of 1998**

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust is more than just a grant-making organisation and are concerned to ensure that each Fellowship is planned to extract the maximum value for the individual, for the country, community and the Trust. There are 100 awards made each year in different fields, the subjects changing each year. The subject for which I applied was Naturalist and Wildlife Conservation in 1997.

I was pleased to be given a Fellowship in 1998 to extend my studies on the Red Backed Buzzard (*Buteo polyosoma*). I had, by that time, completed a 10 year study of these beautiful and fascinating birds here in the Islands and during that time I have received a lot of help and encouragement from everybody. My Fellowship was to take me through the complete breeding range of the Red Backed Buzzard in South America and on to Robinson Crusoe Island in the South Pacific.



Female Red Backed Buzzard

I followed these birds from the coastal plains of the Atlantic and Pacific to the heights of the Andes. Although various colour forms are found, my studies would seem to confirm my view that only one species exists. The range, extending from Juan Fernandez Islands in the West to the Falkland Islands in the East and from Bolivia/Paraguay borders in the North to Cape Horn in the South. Further studies to establish genetic reasons for the colour variations are needed but were beyond my remit for this trip.

The most interesting and important aspect of this study from my point of view was the discovery of how stable the population of these birds seems to be in the Falklands compared to the rest of its extensive range.



Male Red Backed Buzzard

We in the Falklands have a great treasure in these birds. This is the only place in the world that there are so many breeding pairs and nest sites. Everybody can see them without the need for special equipment and binoculars. Most places I visited on my travels needed a hide and a lot of time and patience to get as close to the birds as we take for granted here. In Chile I once spent 8 very uncomfortable hours crawling over rocks and scree just to get to 65 feet of a nesting female.

If you are going to look at these birds I will warn you; they fight back if upset and my head still has the scars from encounters with angry parent birds. On one occasion I was watching a pair of breeding birds confident that as long as I could see them I would not be attacked, what I did not know, but soon found out was that there was another female in the area. This bird was possibly related to the pair I was watching and took exception to my presence attacked me from behind, raking my head with its sharp talons as it passed, a stunned and bloodied Fred beat a hasty retreat.

If you have any questions about these birds contact me some time and we can have a chat.



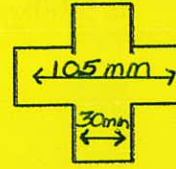
**YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!!
Happy bird watching.**

**HAS ANYONE BORROWED
A COPY OF THE
AUSTRALIAN HORSE
TRAINER VIDEO FROM THE
AGRICULTURAL
DEPARTMENT VIDEO
LIBRARY?**

**IF SO COULD YOU PLEASE
RETURN IT AS WE HAVE
PEOPLE WAITING TO
BORROW IT.**

THANK YOU

**WANTED FOR WINEGLASS
STATION PROP SHAFT FOR
ROTOVATOR**

UJ SIZE 

**CONTACT BOBBY SHORT ON
PHONE/FAX: 32280**

SALADERO GOATS

By Viv Hobman

The first 33 does arrived at Saladero from Pebble Island via MV Tamar on the 17 November 1999. An additional 71 consisted of 37 does, 2 bucks and 32 kids arrived on the 25 May 2000.

Approximately 100 were shorn on the 19 September 2000. Each goat's fibre was bagged separately and sent to Bradford for testing. The results showed that only 5 had any commercial value.

On the 07 June 2001 an AI programme commenced. Boer semen (a meat-producing breed) imported from New Zealand was used on 60 selected does from the main herd of 85. The gestation period for a goat is 145 to 152 days.

34 Kids were born between July 2000 and December. Some were weaned in January 2001 and the rest in March 2001. The average bimonthly weight gain since weaning is 5.50kg.



Saladero kids born between Jul & Dec 2000

The kids are fed a few nuts on a daily basis to make handling easier. This has proved quite successful, as now when they see the rover approaching or hear the beep of a horn they will come to meet you.



Feeding Time!

Report from Kevin Lawrence on Goat AI.

60 Saladero goats were inseminated with frozen semen using a cervical technique.

AI was performed post CIDR removal, 3 Boer sires were used and randomly allocated each day. On the final day an assessment of AI technique was made:

11/25 (44%) Inseminated through cervix
9/25 (36%) Inseminated mid cervix
5/25 (20%) Inseminated at/on the OS.

Penetration of cervix in maidens was found to be impossible.

Literature gives conception rate of up to 60% for transcervical AI. Given conditions and operator inexperience a conception rate of 30% would be a good result?

In total 64 straws were used.

Science, Logic and Economics

FINE WOOL: SHEEP GENETICS

Last year in response to an unscientific Penguin News article of 14 April 2000 (V12 No3) "More money in pooling fine wool" by the Department of Agriculture's Doug Cartridge, I wrote:

"Good marketing, like good scientific research is based upon facts. The statements that 'Every farm will have some wool that is less than 20 micron' and 'a rough initial estimate suggests that there could be more than 30,000 kilograms of 20 microns or less available' are unsubstantiated by any published data."

If every farm has wool less than 20 microns, the "Fine" Wool Pool has failed to identify one kilo of the 30,000 kilograms claimed to be in existence, with

928 kg 'Fine' = 20.6 microns

613 kg 'Fine/Medium' = 21.7 microns

1657 kg 'Medium' = 22.0 microns

totalling 3198 kilograms with an average of 21.5 microns.

Given these Fine Wool Pool results, I re-iterate what I wrote last year: "To 'maximise wool income from individual farms and capitalise on the high premiums currently payable for fine wool', I propose that rather than search for many super fine fleeces that don't exist it would be more scientific to grow super fine fleeces that could exist. A development project to produce a substantial weight of super fine Falkland wool should be considered using sheep with super fine genetics. Given the global demand and prices for super fine wool are rising, Falkland wool of 18.8 to 20.0 microns can be grown, management skills and suitable farm infrastructure largely exist, as does the wool marketing system: a super fine development project has relatively few risks with serious and very real potential."

There are clearly a significant number of farmers very interested in producing super-fine wool; I would therefore encourage the Department of Agriculture/FIDC to undertake more work on improving sheep genetics, probably through the importation of some super-fine sheep. Indeed the genetic quality of ALL Falklands livestock should be kept in focus to maximise their production objectives.

QFW: ALL FARMS ACCREDITED?

It now seems illogical to all those farmers in the QFW scheme that it was proposed that Stained Pieces were to carry a Quality Falkland Wool label; yet it took time for the Falkland Wool Grower's view that the QFW label should only apply to fleece wool to be fully accepted, as indeed it now is. All work towards a stain-free clip must be maintained and the QFW scheme is potentially a very important contributor to future Quality Control and the minimisation of contamination throughout the Islands.

It is logical that eventually all farms should be QFW accredited at least at the basic level. Whilst the total number of sheep and fleeces involved increased significantly last season, this objective has some way to go in terms of farm numbers involved. I would therefore encourage limited Department of Agriculture/FIDC resources and incentives to be used to prioritise the adoption by and maintenance of all farms within the basic QFW scheme over and above the advanced scheme.

WAREHOUSING

The uneconomical RBA proposal of 12th October 2000 presented to the Chief Executive without the knowledge of the majority of farmers, written with the assistance of DoA (Doug Cartridge), had very serious practical and financial errors. Errors such as the discrepancy of £105,720 RBA income perhaps only being £33,600: ie a short fall of £72,120, under estimated costs; non-existent savings; issues of independence; ignoring shipping constraints and the fact that Stanley is no wool distribution hub; and being unable to meet the wide variety of customer needs.

“The customer is always right” thus meeting customer requirements is of vital importance. **Lotting is the foundation and basis of wool marketing**, it is also the point of Lotting commitment. It is through **experienced and integrated** lotting that customers' specific contract requirements are met and the clip value maximised. For some people to hope that the RBA can make money by lotting and sampling the clip without knowledge of our customer's requirements is ridiculous: no valuable specialist felt contract would be met unless one knew exactly what wool one was looking for and had to deliver; more simply no fine 5 tonne Bellies and Pieces contract would be met if all were mixed farm tested in 10 tonne lots. Marketing is about delivering what the customer wants: the past warehousing/testing proposals would restrict the choice of options and flexibility currently open to farmers marketing wool through Falkland Wool Growers Ltd from Europe.

In the early 1990's The Wool Adviser and Farmers Association Secretary made regular visits to FIPASS to check farmers' wool was being correctly handled and discuss improvements with FIC. I propose that RBA re-adopt this policing and partnership role with all those handling farmers' wool into Stanley, in FIPASS and onto the ships, making sure farmers receive a top class service from those companies that have the experience of economic delivery.

DEVELOPMENT FOR FARM PROFIT

As the Falkland Islands develop more agricultural enterprises: (sheep for wool, sheep for meat, cattle for beef etc), there is an increasing need for more enterprise accounting. FIDC/DoA could develop and disseminate Gross Margin accounting systems for farmers in order to help maximise revenues covering Fixed Costs and maximise farm profits. Farmers will need such objective information to decide their most profitable enterprise mix.

The delayed Organic Accreditation scheme should be advanced, particularly as farmers consider options for the production of foods for export and the need to maximise product value. Any market for organic wool cannot be tested until such a scheme is in place.

In addition to the improvement of animal genetics, the work on grassland improvement and the development of legume establishment across the Islands will benefit almost all profitable animal enterprises. Additional successful legume and grass research and on farm grassland establishment could have the most fantastic, beneficial impact on farm finances in terms of economic cost:benefits and is to be furthered and fully encouraged; again with the objective of maximising farm profits.

Robert H B Hall
Falkland Wool Growers Ltd
18th June 2001

Greetings from Down Under

By Cameron Bell

Hello and greetings from Australia. I thought it was about time I wrote something for the Wool Press, now that I am settled in southern Tasmania. After the return trip to Australia, with time spent in Chile, Easter Island and Tahiti, Jenny, Fergus and I finally reached the island state of Tasmania to find that the weather wasn't much better than what we had left behind!

Although not as windy, we have had some cold temperatures and lots of rain. There have even been a few snowfalls on Mt. Wellington, a 1100 metre mountain immediately behind the capital, Hobart. The rainfall is making up for the drought experienced over the last several months. Although Tasmania doesn't experience the wind as the Falkland Islands do, winter weather can be bleak with snowfalls. The Hobart area has an average annual rainfall of 450 mm, and temperatures ranging between 0°C and 35°C. It certainly gets below zero in many other parts of Tasmania.

Tasmania, a state of Australia, has a population of just under 500,000 people, with about 190,000 in Hobart and surrounds. To put you in the picture, the state has about 3.9 million sheep and over 700,000 head of cattle (1999 data). In terms of animal industries, wool, sheep meat, beef and dairy products are the big ones, and account for over 50% of the gross value of production of agricultural commodities. In 1998-99, the gross value of Tasmanian agriculture was AUD\$684.3 million (approximately UK pounds 273 million).

I commenced work in late May with the Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment, based in Hobart. The department has a staff of approximately the Stanley population, and looks after everything from national parks and agriculture through to water quality and environmental planning. The section I am in is quite small: I am one of a team of only 8 field veterinarians (plus 2 that work primarily in animal welfare and 4 veterinary pathologists) that cover the entire state. I look after southern Tasmania. Unlike the Falkland Islands, there are private veterinarians who do clinical work, ie. look after the primary 'sick' animal work. The advantage of that is that I am not on call and don't get lots of phone calls during the day about sick animals! That is a big change for me. As a government veterinary officer, I look after the regulatory side of things, undertaking investigations of notifiable diseases of livestock, certifying animals and animal products for interstate and overseas export, being prepared in the event of exotic disease outbreaks (such as foot and mouth disease) and fielding general inquiries.

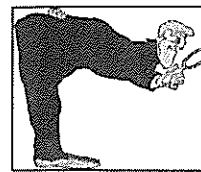
I am the state coordinator for a control program for a chronic, wasting disease of sheep called ovine Johne's disease (OJD). It is a bacterial disease, which has a long incubation period, usually of two or more years. It doesn't spread rapidly nor is it highly contagious like foot and mouth disease, but the fact that it is unintentionally spread by animal movements can really impact on properties that sell sheep, particularly studs. Some properties have experienced quite high mortality rates. Although only detected in Australian sheep 20 years ago, there are now over 500 infected flocks across Australia. In our state, it is present only on an offshore island called Flinders Island (in Bass Strait, the stretch of water between Tasmania and mainland Australia), where there are 85 sheep flocks, of which 23 are recognised as being infected. A six-year Australia-wide OJD program is currently in operation and has two main objectives: evaluate the unanswered questions about the disease and control the spread of OJD during the evaluation program. I am coordinating the Tasmanian part of the program, so this means accumulating data, providing information and putting together budgets at one end of the spectrum, and undertaking farm investigations at the other end of the spectrum. Hopefully I should be able to get out to Flinders Island on regular jollies.

I had meant to write this article earlier, but wanted to say thank you both to farmers and departmental staff who made myself, Jenny and Fergus feel at home. I really enjoyed my time working with you, visiting the far-flung corners of the Islands, as well as getting to more remote locations such as South Georgia. I observed many positive changes in agriculture during the three and a half years I spent in the Falklands, and believe these will have a long-term benefit. Agriculture is tough EVERYWHERE in the world, but it is the innovative, forward planning and enthusiastic people that are doing well. The rural sector of the Falkland Islands has a lot going for it, particularly the unique marketing potential, and I believe this needs to be targeted.

I look forward to hearing news from the Falklands, in particular developments in agriculture, and look forward to seeing people who might be visiting Tasmania.

I can be contacted at:

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Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment
13 St Johns Avenue
New Town, Tasmania, 7008
AUSTRALIA
Tel : +61 (0)3 6233 5356
Fax : +61 (0)3 6233 3843
E-mail : Cameron.Bell@dpiwe.tas.gov.au
Web page: <http://www.dpiwe.tas.gov.au>



SOMETHING FOR THE CHILDREN

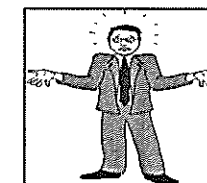
WORD SEARCH

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- THERMALS
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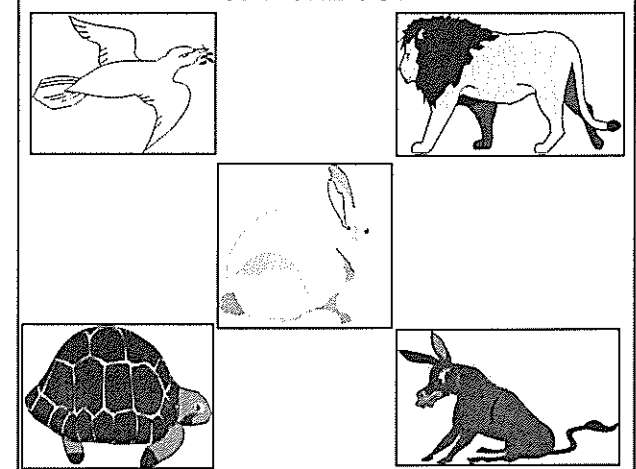
WHICH WORD IS MISSING FROM THE GRID??

F	R	O	S
T	Y	T	H
E	S	N	O
W	M	A	N



HOW MANY WORDS CAN YOU MAKE FROM THESE LETTERS??

ODD ONE OUT



Please send your answers in to Glynis King, Department of Agriculture. The winner will receive a prize.

RECIPE PAGE

JACKET BANANA WITH CHOCOLATE MARSHMALLOW SAUCE

Serves 4

- 4 Medium Bananas
- 50g (2ozs) chocolate polka dots
- 24 mini or 4 large marshmallows
- Cream or Ice-cream, to serve

1. Pre-heat the oven to 160°C/325F/Gas 3. Trim the ends off the bananas, leaving on the skins. Using a sharp knife, make a length ways slit in each one.
2. Gently prise open each banana and fill with chocolate polka dots and marshmallows, (if using large marshmallows snip into six with dampened scissors), then wrap each one in foil. Bake for 15-20 mins. Serve hot with cream or ice-cream.



BRIE TOPPED TOASTED CIABATTA ROLLS

Serves 6

- 6 Ciabatta Rolls
- 25g (1oz) Butter
- 1 Tablespoon Wholegrain Mustard
- A Large Handful of Salad Leaves
- 2 Tablespoons French Dressing (optional)
- 175g (6ozs) Wafer Thin Ham Slices
- 200g (7ozs) Brie, rind removed

1. Cut the rolls in half. Toast bottom halves on both sides and the tops on the cut underside only.
2. Melt the butter in a small pan and stir in the wholegrain mustard. Arrange the toasted bases on a serving dish and liberally brush each one with the melted butter and mustard mixture. Top with the salad leaves and some dressing (if using) then put slices of ham on top.
3. Pre-heat the grill to high then transfer the Ciabatta bases to the grill pan. Cut the Brie into thin slices and place a few on each roll. Place under the grill for about one minute or until the Brie just melts and begins to run. Put a lid on top of each filled base and serve at once.

FARM MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK

The fifth edition of the Farm Management Handbook is currently being prepared.

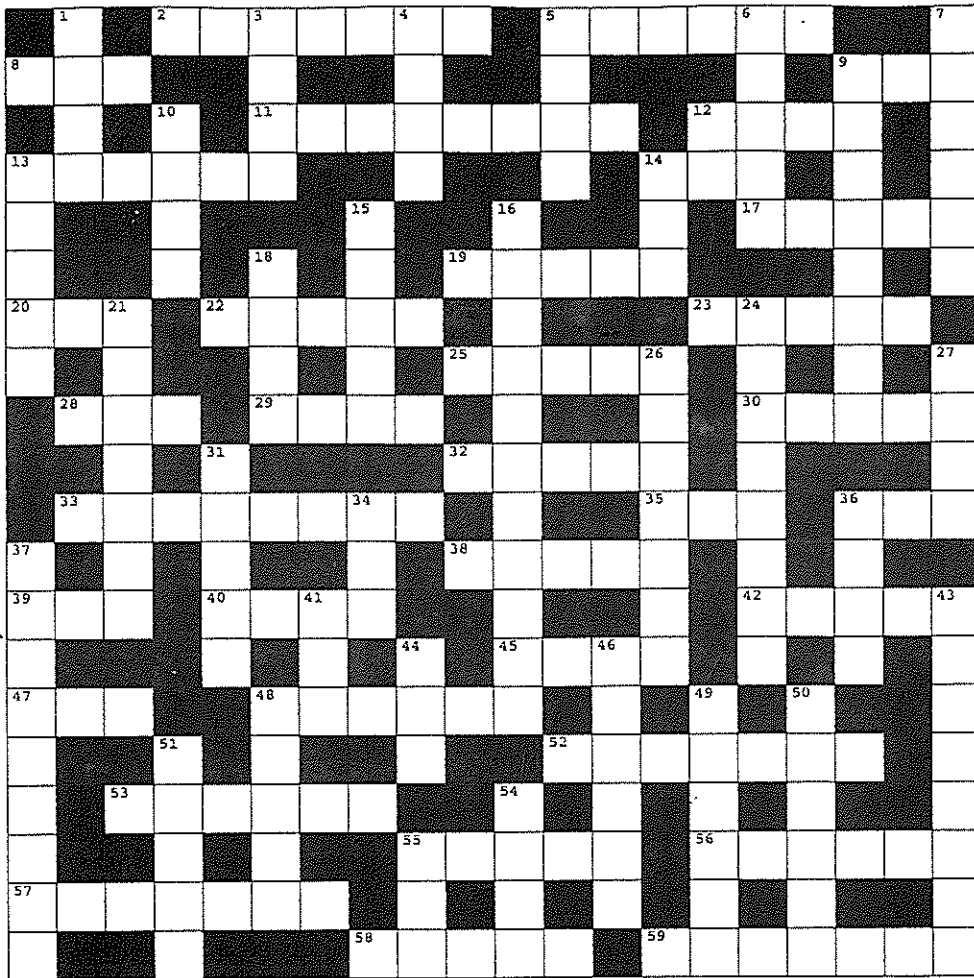
Your ideas on how the handbook could be improved would be very welcome.

Please contact Owen Summers or Peter Johnston at the Agricultural Department.

JUNE01

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L	O	C	A	L		E		E				C		A					E	U	
O		I		S	I	N	U	S				K	I	P		A	I	R	C		
G	O	D		O		S			L	E	G				S		Q		A		
I		E				S	U	E				O	F	F	A	L			U	T	
S			S	H	A	S	H		A			L		I		E		I	I		
E		F		A		H	Y	B	R	I	D		R		E		Z	O	O		
D	A	L	L	Y		I			N			T	E	M	P	O			N		
			E		B		R		E			I		A		A					
			C	A	P	E	P	E	M	B	R	O	K	E		N	A	R	R	O	W

SOLUTION
TO LAST
MONTH'S
CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 2. LACTATING GLANDS
- 5. GIVE UP
- 8. FELINE
- 9. ENEMY
- 11. FAIL TO NOTICE
- 12. FEMALE HORSE
- 13. AQUATIC MAMMAL
- 14. LIONS HOME
- 17. BANDED RABBIT BREED
- 19. LONG CREST OF LAND OR ROCKS
- 20. FAINTING AND DRAWING FOR INSTANCES
- 22. ANNOYED
- 23. MONASTIC HOME
- 25. SCRUB CLEAN WITH ABRASIVE
- 28. NOCTURNAL BLIND MAMMAL
- 29. CONNECTION
- 30. STOCK ROPE
- 32. THE OUTERMOST PLANET
- 33. WALKWAY
- 35. KNIGHTED MAN
- 36. FAST AIRCRAFT
- 38. VERY SMALL ISLAND
- 39. DOMESTIC FUEL TYPE
- 40. SECURE BOAT
- 42. SPECIALIST MARKET
- 45. CLOSE BY
- 47. CHEST BONE
- 48. CULTIVATED DOMESTIC AREA
- 52. NOT SWEET
- 53. ACIDIC, ZESTY FRUIT
- 55. MOORLAND PRIME MINISTER?
- 56. PLANE ACCOMODATION
- 57. ONE OF THREE
- 58. SMALL LOCAL FISH
- 59. CHANNEL COWS

DOWN

- 1. TEMPER, ANGER
- 3. SECURE BOAT
- 4. NOT COMMON
- 5. LARGE BLACK BIRD
- 6. EXCRETORY ORGANS
- 7. MEASURE OF HEAVINESS
- 9. PLUMAGE
- 10. BAD
- 12. I
- 13. LAMB CRY
- 14. PASS AWAY
- 15. NATURAL ORGANIC IMAGE
- 16. ANNUAL RECEPTION IN LONDON (8,3)
- 18. PHONE A NUMBER
- 21. SPOUTED REFRESHMENT HOLDERS
- 24. SHIP SUNK IN 1982 CONFLICT
- 26. MALE CHICKEN
- 27. LIGHTENING STRIKE OUT OF THE BLUE
- 31. PUT FOOT DOWN FIRMLY
- 34. BLACK ROAD TOPPING ELEMENT
- 36. STEEPLE CLIMBER
- 37. TOTAL SCORE OF HOME AND AWAY
- 41. EGGS
- 43. STATION NOTCHES
- 44. DEDICATED SONG OR POEM
- 46. INDIAN HELICOPTER
- 48. YELLOW FLOWERED BUSH
- 49. EDWARDS WIFE
- 50. MALE BEES
- 51. A BIT COLD
- 54. LARGE ROOM
- 55. CURED PORK



The Wool Press

ISSUE 140

AUGUST 2001

PRICE : £1.00

**All the
regular
features
and more!**

The Wool Press is
published by the
Department
of Agriculture
and
printed at the
Falkland Islands
Government
Printing Office.

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AGRICULTURAL WORKBOOKS

By Mandy McLeod

MEDICINE RECORDS, DRUG IMPORTS AND RESIDUES

By Stephen Pointing

HISTORY OF THE MINIATURE HORSE

By Susie Hansen

TEASER RAMS

By Kevin Lawrence

CSIRO TO TEST ITS 'BURP BUSTER' VACCINE

By Kevin Lawrence

SIGH OF RELIEF

By Zoe Luxton, BVetMed MRCVS

EDITORIAL

Welcome to August's edition of the Wool Press. Apologies for the lateness of the paper again this month, due to a heavy workload and staff shortages.

Apologies on behalf of the Printing Department for the 2 mistakes on the front cover of last month's edition, no Viv has not married Tim!!

Zoe Luxton, BVetMed MRCVS, has been working with us for the past three weeks having qualified. Well done Zoe and good luck in your new post as a Veterinary Surgeon with Smith, Ryder-Davies & Partners in Ipswich, from all of us here.

That's all from us this month as this has to get to the printers asap.

Until next month, cheers.

Sarah, Lucy and Glynis

FOR SALE

Skin Curing Equipment Ex. Hill Cove

**Interested persons please contact Susan or Tony Hirtle,
The Peaks, Tel: 41095 or Fax: 41088**

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AGRICULTURAL WORKBOOKS

By Mandy McLeod

I have a selection of 'home study' workbooks available to those of you who want to keep the grey matter exercised. Some of you may have seen them on show at the open afternoon during Farmers Week. These workbooks are used in Agricultural Colleges and are assessed as they form part of the syllabus for agriculture based certificates and diplomas.

The workbooks are designed to be fun and interesting. They start on page one with the absolute basics, developing gradually through the book to give a good foundation of understanding of the subject being covered. You can start them at whatever level you want, although I would advise working through from the beginning anyway. This has two main advantages. One being that it gets your mind back into the swing of learning, and two, it's surprising some of the things that you think you know, but don't, or aren't even aware of. If you know it anyway it won't take long, and you are assured of not missing anything that may crop up later.

At the end of each section of the workbook there is an exercise to do and you don't move on until you have a full understanding of that section. There is no race or prize for finishing the book in the shortest time, so everyone can work at his or her own pace. Titles available are as follows, with the ones in stock being in italics. Any others I can order for you.

WORKBOOK TITLE	COST (£)
The living plant	7.00
Calf rearing	7.00
Breeding and calving cows	6.00
<i>Calculations</i>	6.00
<i>Health and safety</i>	7.00
<i>Introduction to pig farming</i>	4.00
<i>Introduction to farm animals</i>	7.00
<i>Machinery workshop skills</i>	5.00
<i>Root and catch crop production</i>	8.00
<i>Suckler calf production</i>	8.00
Animal health and welfare	7.00
Introduction to poultry rearing	10.00
Building construction	9.00
Maintenance around the farm	5.00
Sheep production and management	10.00
<i>Grassland machinery</i>	6.00
Our soils and its management	6.00
Tractor maintenance	7.00
<i>Farming and the environment</i>	10.00
Production and marketing of beef cattle	10.00
<i>Grass production</i>	8.00
<i>Grass conservation</i>	7.00

Anytime you are in Stanley, come and see them for yourself with no obligation. Quite a few people are working on them already

Because the books are written specifically with the Falkland Islands in mind, there are some points raised in them that are of no direct concern to us, but as survival these days means more involvement in the global marketplace, it won't do us any harm to have a better understanding of the terminologies and methods used elsewhere.

To give you a better idea of the content of these workbooks and how they build up your skills and knowledge gradually, I've taken a couple of examples and listed the subjects they work up through.

Grass Production

How a grass plant grows and what affects it (basic biology).

How a legume grows and what affects it (basic biology).

Management factors of grass growth (fertilisers, lime, water, grazing systems and budgeting).

Grass, legume, seed and weed identification.

Reseeding methods (seed bed establishment, grass and legume varieties and mixtures).

Calculations

Basic calculations and the correct use of a calculator (addition, subtraction, etc., decimals, fractions, brackets, yields, live weight gains, Food Conversion Efficiencies, stocking rates).

Percentages and weights (Gross, Net and Tare, kill out percentages).

Area calculations, fertilisers and rations (application rates etc.,)

Tables, graphs and charts.

Accounts (simple interest, compound interest, depreciation).

I would like to establish a distance-learning link between people living in Camp and Stanley, so that help is available on a firm and regular basis. Until then (and I am working on it), anyone having a problem with any part of a workbook can contact me and I'll have a go at it. Hopefully, between us, we'll crack it.

There are no answers provided as the answers to the sections are all within the text of the book. You need no other reference material. Basically, the theory is that if you have worked through the book, only moving on when you feel absolutely confident that you understood the last section, your answers will be correct.

Give me a ring on 27211 or e-mail me at nmcleod@fidc.co.fk if you want to ask about a specific book or place an order. When a workbook is finished you can send it to me for comment if you wish. When I return it to you a 'Certificate of Completion' will be attached. Whilst this is not a formal 'qualification', should you ever want to embark on a diploma or certificate, some authorities could accept the completed books as proof of competence for entry onto a course in the absence of any other relevant formal qualification.

WOOL-HANDLING COURSES

Two wool-handling courses will be held this year, one on the East and one on the West.

The West course will be on Saturday 20th October and, by kind permission of Nigel Knight, will take place in the afternoon in the Coast Ridge shearing shed.

The East course, by kind permission of Terrance and Carole Phillips, will be on Saturday 27th October at the Hope Cottage shearing shed at about 9 a.m.

The courses, as in previous years, are intended as a refresher for all those farmers, shearers and anyone handling wool this season. It is also there to provide beginners and the less experienced with some valuable teaching on how to use best practise wool-handling techniques and those handy hints that make the job just that bit easier.

Paul Phillips will be at both courses, to shear sheep for the wool handling demonstration, plus he will be available to answer any questions you may have regarding shearing, caring for and sharpening your shearing gear.

Hopefully, the new Wool Advisor, Mr Neil Judd, will be here and will participate in the courses and will give us the benefit of his ideas and experience. It will also be a good opportunity, for those of you who have not yet had the chance, to meet him.

We hope to see a good attendance at these courses, they are for your benefit and, in the long term, it would be great if everyone was preparing their clip to the one high standard.

So don't be shy, come along, share your experience with everyone and have a good day out.

Everyone wishing to attend the courses, please contact Paul Phillips or Lucy Ellis.

Medicine Records, Drug Imports and Residues

By Stephen Pointing

A slightly odd combination of subjects but they are related. With the abattoir becoming operational and, hopefully, in the not too distant future meeting with EU export approval certain things will have to be done on farms. One of EU's main concerns is the problem of drug residues in meat and meat products. In order to satisfy the EU that the meat from the Falklands is residue free (or, at least, below the permitted limits) samples will be taken on a regular basis from carcasses passing through the abattoir. These will be analysed for a whole range of veterinary drugs ranging from antibiotics to anthelmintics. Generally speaking I would not expect to have many problems with livestock in the Falklands but as well as testing for these substances post mortem an accurate record should be kept of all veterinary medicines used on the farm.

Medicines record book

If you are not already doing it, I would be grateful if all farmers could get into the habit of keeping a record of any veterinary medicines they use on their farm. The essential bits of information to keep are as follows:-

- 1) Name of product
- 2) Date used
- 3) Identification of animal/group of animals treated
- 4) What product was used for
- 5) Withdrawal period before meat and milk from that animal can be eaten or drunk (this can usually be found on the label)
- 6) Date from which meat/milk is OK for human consumption
- 7) Comments column – for any extra comments you might have

Initially these records could be kept in a daily diary on the day the treatment is given. Ideally a special booklet designed just for this purpose could be used. I have written to DEFRA in the UK asking them to send me a copy of the Medicines Record book currently in use there and I will use this template to produce a Medicines Record book for the Falklands.

Drug imports

Related to the above is the question of drug imports. The vast majority of veterinary drugs are imported by the Veterinary Section of the Department of Agriculture and we can account for these whether used in the surgery or dispensed to farmers. There are, however, several farmers who import certain veterinary medicines (mainly anthelmintics and some pour on treatments) directly from the manufacturers or from veterinary wholesalers, mainly in Australia and New Zealand. I would be grateful if anyone importing such products could contact me giving me a list of what products they are importing and from where. It is not necessarily my intention to prevent those imports from taking place but I do need to know what types of products are circulating within the Falkland Islands. Any EU visiting veterinary inspector would expect the state veterinary service to have this knowledge – so please don't hold back or it could have repercussions for meat exports in the future.

HENGRAVE RAT PROOF POULTRY FEEDERS AND DRINKERS

We have just received the following information from HENGRAVE of their Feed and Drinker systems.

You may be interested in these useful products, in particular the feeder system, which is rat proof and HENGRAVE claim that you get up to 50% savings on lost feed.

They are 100% galvanised, can be enamelled, holds up to 100kg. Waterproof lift off lockable lids, three leg settings for poults and adults and is suitable for all granular feeds.

If anyone is interested we are shortly placing an order for the HENGRAVE enamelled, rat proof, poultry feeder and the HENGRAVE enamelled drinker.

Manufacturers prices quoted (provided an order for 5 units) delivered to UK docks are currently:-

<u>Type</u>	<u>Price</u>
Green Stove Enamelled Feeder with standard Leg settings of 16/19/21 inches and measures 29"L x 19"W x 19" D. Holds 100kg of feed supplied ready to bolt together	£99.00
Plain Galvanised as above	£89.00
Additional set of legs size 21" 24" 27"	£18.00
Additional set of legs size 6" 9" 12"	£16.00
Green Enamelled Galvanised Drinker Size 2"L x 16"W x 12"D and holds 10.5 gallons water	£52.00

These are suppliers costs. Freight and Insurance to the Falklands is extra.

Because we are offering to supply at cost plus freight, we ask that the initial cost be paid at the time of order. We will be collecting our own items from the warehouse therefore we will collect all items and will store them until they can be collected or arrangements made to be shipped to you.

Anyone wanting more details or would like to place an order for any of the above units you are invited to contact **Robin Goodwin at Green Field Farm** on Tel: 21456 Fax: 21478 or email: corrindale@horizon.co.fk

**THE POD LICENSED GUESTHOUSE
PORT SAN CARLOS
FALKLAND ISLANDS**

TEL: 00 500 41018 FAX: 00 500 41019

PROPRIETORS: PATRICK BERNTSEN & PAT PRATLETT

THE POD GUESTHOUSE PROVIDES HOMELY ACCOMMODATION IN THE PICTURESQUE SETTLEMENT OF PORT SAN CARLOS. THE GUESTHOUSE COMPRISES OF; DOWNSTAIRS: DINING AREA, COMFORTABLE LOUNGE/BAR AND BATHROOM AND TOILET.

UPSTAIRS: FOUR BEDROOMS ACCOMMODATING UP TO EIGHT ADULTS, (WE ALSO HAVE A COT AND A FOLD OUT BED FOR CHILDREN WISHING TO SHARE A ROOM WITH THEIR PARENTS), TOILET AND SHOWER ROOM.

WE ALSO HAVE A SELF-CATERING BUNGALOW WHICH SLEEPS UP TO EIGHT PEOPLE, SLEEPING BAGS AND TOWELS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE SELF-CATERING ACCOMMODATION BUT EVERYTHING ELSE IS PROVIDED I.E. GAS COOKER, MICROWAVE, CROCKERY, CUTLERY ETC. THERE IS A BATH/TOILET ROOM AND ALL ACCOMMODATION IS FULLY CENTRALLY HEATED.

RATES ARE:

<u>ACCOMMODATION</u>	<u>ADULTS</u>	<u>CHILDREN 5-15 YEARS</u>
FULL BOARD	£38.50 PER NIGHT	£25.00 PER NIGHT
B & B & E,M	£33.00 PER NIGHT	£20.00 PER NIGHT
BED & BREAKFAST	£22.00 PER NIGHT	£15.00 PER NIGHT
SELF-CATERING	£12.00 PER NIGHT	£5.00 PER NIGHT

CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS ARE ACCOMMODATED FREE.

THE POD IS OPEN ALL YEAR AND HAS SPECIAL CHEAPER RATES UNTIL END OF AUGUST. WE HAVE A LARGE BOOK AND VIDEO LIBRARY TO KEEP YOU AMUSED DURING THE BAD WEATHER. PATRICK CAN PROVIDE TRANSPORT FROM EITHER STANLEY OR MPA IF REQUIRED (**MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PASSENGERS IS FOUR**). HE ALSO DOES GUIDED WILDLIFE TOURS TO CAPE DOLPHIN (ALL YEAR) AND FANNINGS HEAD (NOVEMBER - APRIL). OTHER TRIPS AVAILABLE ARE TO BLUE BEACH CEMETERY AT SAN CARLOS AND AJAX BAY.

THERE IS GOOD TROUT FISHING AVAILABLE IN THE SAN CARLOS RIVER FROM SEPTEMBER UNTIL END OF APRIL EACH YEAR. LICENSES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE POD. MULLET FISHING CAN BE DONE ALL YEAR LONG. FISHING RODS, SPINNERS AND BAIT ARE AVAILABLE FOR HIRE AT THE POD.

BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT PATRICK WILL BE HAPPY TO DO SHEEP-SHEARING AND PEAT-CUTTING DEMONSTRATIONS.

THE POD ALSO PROVIDES A CAFÉ SERVICE FOR DAY-TRIPPERS AT WEEKENDS WITH HOT AND COLD SNACKS AVAILABLE SET LUNCH CAN BE HAD BY GIVING AT LEAST 24 HOURS PRIOR NOTICE.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING CUSTOMERS OLD AND NEW!!!!!!

Apologies to Pat and Pat for the mistakes in last months advert, Eds.

History of the Miniature

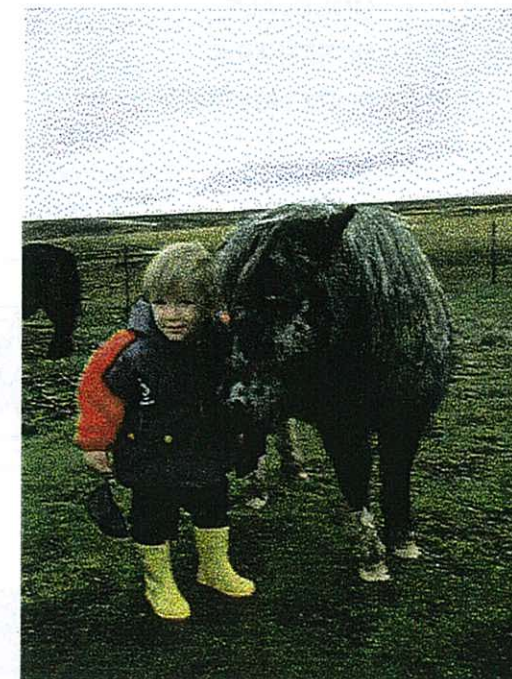
Horse:

By Susie Hansen

The Miniature Horse has a unique and fascinating history. Ancestors of the true miniature horse of today were first bred in the royal courts of Europe during the 16th century. Kings and Queens of Europe included miniature horses in the royal stables as part of their personal fortune. Prior to this historic period there is no record of a miniature horse breed. As the great kingdoms of Europe began to decline, the miniature horses found their way into European travelling circuses and in the 18th century, Miniature horses in England and in Northern Europe pulled ore cars in shallow-seamed coalmines. These miniature horses were of the draft type and extremely powerful for their height.



The breed almost became extinct. Fortunately, a few of the finest miniature's managed to survive and were scattered throughout the world. Miniature Horses are very popular in the United States and the first were imported to the United States in the early 1930's from Europe. Today the American Miniature Horse Association lists more than 120,000 registered horses. Miniature horses were still working in some mines in the United States as late as 1950. Miniatures were also imported to the States from England, Holland, Belgium, West Germany and Argentina (Falabellas). Another source was the breeders who selectively bred for a "smaller" horse from such breeds as the Shetland pony, several of which appear in the pedigrees of some miniatures today. The miniature horse is a true breed; it is not a pony or a dwarf. Miniature horses have very long manes and tails. This is because when the horses were bred down in size their hair was the only feature not affected.





SOMETHING FOR THE CHILDREN

WORD SEARCH

A	P	O	R	T	H	O	W	A	R	D	B	V	L	W
G	L	T	C	V	G	H	Y	A	B	X	O	F	E	T
O	D	B	E	L	F	H	S	S	E	S	L	S	I	T
O	C	U	E	A	L	P	A	V	E	N	D	A	C	E
S	R	D	N	M	L	J	K	R	N	C	C	D	E	A
E	O	D	F	B	A	I	T	T	P	M	O	D	S	L
G	O	V	B	B	A	R	N	J	E	S	V	L	T	R
R	K	M	K	L	A	R	L	L	S	Z	E	E	E	I
E	E	S	D	H	T	Y	A	E	E	U	K	L	R	V
E	D	P	C	Z	A	V	D	F	G	T	J	K	F	E
N	I	R	M	O	S	S	V	A	L	E	H	J	A	R
B	N	D	N	A	L	S	I	R	E	K	A	E	L	B
M	L	H	O	C	N	O	R	T	H	A	R	M	L	O
Q	E	M	A	N	Y	B	R	A	N	C	H	F	S	H
I	T	P	S	E	G	D	I	R	S	G	N	I	K	N

- ALBEMARLE
- BLEAKER ISLAND
- BOLD COVE
- CHARTRES
- CROOKED INLET
- DUNBAR
- FOX BAY
- GOOSE GREEN
- HARPS
- KINGSRIDGE
- LEICESTER FALLS
- MANYBRANCH
- MOSSVALE
- NORTH ARM
- PORT HOWARD
- SADDLE
- TEAL INLET
- TEAL RIVER
- WEDDELL

WHICH WORD IS MISSING FROM THE GRID??

P	O	R	T
S	T	E	P
H	E	N	S
F	A	R	M



HOW MANY WORDS CAN YOU MAKE FROM THESE LETTERS??

ODD ONE OUT



Please send your answers in to Glynis King, Department of Agriculture. The winner will receive a prize.

TEASER RAMS

By Kevin Lawrence

Do you want to take some of the guesswork out of breeding your ewes?

Teaser rams are a cheap and highly efficient way of controlling the mating season and usually improve conception rates too.

In most other sheep enterprises around the world teaser rams are used extensively so why not here?

A teaser ram is a vasectomised ram i.e. a section of the vas deferens is removed so that the sperm cannot leave the testicles. However a teaser ram still behaves and smells like a normal fertile ram. The smell is probably the most important because this contains pheromones which are powerful sexual signals to the ewe.

When ewes recommence cycling at the start of the breeding season the first heat is usually silent or subfertile, by using the teaser rams for the first two weeks you rest your fertile rams who would otherwise be working unnecessarily or with little success.

If the ewes are deprived of the sight and sound of a ram for 6 weeks then the pheromone effect will also help synchronise the heats, so teaser rams can also be useful later on in the breeding season.

The teaser rams should be left with the ewe for 14 days then changed for the fertile rams.

The fertile rams should begin mating at the end of the next week. (Third week from the introduction of the teaser rams).

The numbers of teasers required is usually 1-2/100ewes.

The vet department should be able to prepare 6/hour or 30/day with luck.

Strong ram lambs make good subjects for vasectomisation; rigs or cryptorchids do not.

Old rams can also be difficult, taking a little longer to do.

Teaser rams should be prepared no later than 6 weeks before use and they should be clearly identified, with luck they will last 3 seasons.

At the same time that we do teaser preparation it is usual to palpate the trouser tackle of your working rams, you will be surprised at the number of duds you've kept.

CSIRO TO TEST ITS 'BURP BUSTER' VACCINE

By Kevin Lawrence

CSIRO, Australia, have developed a commercial vaccine which they hope will help reduce greenhouse emissions in Australia.

Methane is a very potent greenhouse gas – 21 x more potent than carbon dioxide.

Methane is a product of natural fermentation in ruminants and may contribute up to 14% of Australia's greenhouse emissions.

The organisms that make methane in the rumen are called 'Methanogenic Archae' by vaccinating sheep to produce antibodies against these organisms researchers have seen a reduction in methane production of 11 to 23%.

The next step is a commercial trial and CSIRO hope to vaccinate 2 million sheep and 1 million cattle for the period 2004 to 2012. Apart from the environment the vaccinated animal may also benefit.

Methane gas production represents lost energy to the animal (up to 12%); cut down methane gas production and better weight gains could be seen.

Vaccine is not available for Councillors!!!

ATTENTION ALL Q.F.W. STENCIL HOLDERS

Could all those stencil holders who have not sent their sale invoices to me please do so a.s.a.p. so that the incentive payments can be processed.

If you have not received all your invoices, send me what you have and send the rest when you receive them.

Alternatively, you can wait until you have all your invoices and send them to me in one lot.

Thank you

Lucy

SIGH OF RELIEF

By Zoe Luxton BVetMed MRCVS

Well, after 2 years of A-levels, 5 years of vet college, 469 sleepless nights and 10,693 Gin & Tonics (medicinal). I have finally emerged, relatively unscathed, if not a little twitchy, as a Veterinary Surgeon.

So first, I would like to say thank you very much to every single one of you who has encouraged and helped me (and let me practice on their animals). It definitely made a difference and kept me going when someone said "good on you for doing it" (vet college), when I was just about to give it all up and go and live in a cave on the Jasons. This happened approximately 3 times a year – generally 24 hours before I had to get on the Tri-star and go back to England.

So Zoe Luxton BVetMed MRCVS, that's me that is!

It hasn't really sunk in properly yet, I think the most exciting thing was being able to sign an import permit!

Not actually making decisions about anaesthetics, injections and the like, oh no; being able to sign my name on the line marked Government Veterinary Officer has definitely been the winner so far!

My stay here is short however, I'm off back to UK on 11th September to a job in Ipswich – at the same practice that one of my best friends works at – so whether any work will actually get done I'm not sure!

My long term plans definitely involve coming home but a few years experience away is a necessity, but my experiences here have also put me in good stead for life in the veterinary world – not many vets can claim they've worked with penguins and reindeer!

One of my best experiences I think was in February when I was staying with Caroline Lamb up in Norfolk. One of the vets at her practice covers two of the zoos in the area – trying to get a blood sample from an anaesthetised leopard was pretty awesome and x-raying a colobus monkey is also something you don't do every day. While we were waiting for the monkey to go to sleep (with our help – not just waiting for its afternoon snooze), I went to look at the penguins. 10 fatty looking magellenic birdies in a concrete pool – almost made me howl, but I did get 100% on the computer quiz next to the pool!

Well since we are sticklers for routine here at the DoA I'd better go – it's almost smoko time.

CONTROLLING ROUNDWORMS

Source: Sheep Farmer March/April 2001

With the onset of summer we felt that this article by David Henderson in March/April edition of Sheep Farmer is relevant.

Year in and year out, sheep farmers and shepherds wrestle with the problem of how best to deal with the ravages of the unappealing worms which parasitise their sheep flocks.

The word parasite comes from a Greek word meaning 'one who eats at another man's table' and the roundworms, which live in the stomach and intestines of our livestock, nourish themselves at their expense by destroying the delicate tissues of the gut. This interferes with the normal process of digestion and leads to the familiar signs of parasitism, namely scouring and ill-thrift. The animals most at risk from parasitic gastro-enteritis are lambs in their first grazing season that have not yet developed sufficient immunity to worms to enable them to throw off infection.

Infective

During their time inside the sheep's gut, male and female worms mate and the females lay eggs in large numbers that are passed out onto the pastures in the dung. These eggs develop in the dung in warm, moist conditions, by passing through a series of moults to become larvae that are infective to sheep. These infective larvae wriggle up into the sward in the thin film of moisture on blades of grass where they can then be swallowed by grazing livestock.

Once swallowed the larvae burrow into the lining of the lamb's gut and within a very short time develop into adults capable of mating and laying eggs, and so the whole cycle begins all over again.

By mid-summer, several generations of worms will have passed through the lambs and there may be huge numbers of infective larvae on the pastures lying in wait for unsuspecting lambs and shepherds, and serious outbreaks of parasitic gastro-enteritis may ensue if avoiding action is not taken.

Whilst many infective larvae die over the winter and early spring, a proportion will always survive. (*Nematodirus* larvae can even wriggle to the surface of a ploughed field!)

These are a source of infection to both ewes and lambs grazing in the spring. In addition, larvae that are swallowed by ewes may not always develop further because adult sheep build up immunity to infection. Rather, they hibernate within the tissues of her gut where it is warm and cosy and are referred to as arrested larvae.

Due to the hormonal changes during late pregnancy and throughout lactation the ewe's immune system is compromised. This allows arrested larvae to mature into adults which then mate and the females lay eggs which contaminate the pastures for the ewe's own lambs. Lambing time is therefore the one time of year when it is *essential* to drench ewes – with an anthelmintic that kills arrested larvae – whatever the management system.

Control

So, how is the sheep farmer to deal with these profit-gobbling parasites which also seriously compromise the well-being of the flock? In effect there are only two ways of controlling worm infections, both based on reducing the intake of infective larvae by lambs:

- the provision of clean grazing
- chemical control, namely strategic use of anthelmintics.

On most farms in the UK it is necessary to resort to a combination of the two, but the aim should be to reduce the input of anthelmintics to a minimum consistent with the good welfare of the animals.

With a few notable exceptions the worms of cattle do not effect sheep and vice-versa. This sometimes allows us to arrange for the two species to graze separate areas of the farm, so avoiding serious levels of infection in either species. This is only feasible when the livestock units of both species are roughly equal, but can be achieved on some hill and upland farms carrying beef and sheep. The grazing areas are swapped over in the spring so that sheep graze the area grazed by cattle the previous season and vice versa

Where conservation of hay or silage is part of the farm rotation, even better control can be arranged by a three-way split, of sheep, cattle and conservation – in that order. This system was developed by Bill Rutter, formerly of the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) and has the advantage that it allows for clean aftermath for weaned lambs and largely overcomes problems with *Nematodirus*.

Where such a ring system is not an option, shepherds have to rely on other types of clean grazing for lambs.

Examples are:

- pasture which have never been grazed – e.g. new leys
- grazed pastures where infective larvae are at low levels, such as
 - grazings which have not carried sheep for 12 months;
 - aftermaths, from July onwards, which have not carried sheep since the previous autumn;
 - grazings, from July onwards, which have carried cattle since the previous spring, but not sheep since the previous autumn;
 - conservation-only areas during the previous season;
 - aftermaths not grazed by sheep before being shut up.

Acceptable risk

Not-so-clean pastures are those which carry an acceptable risk, but where a careful eye would need to be kept on the lambs, especially from mid-summer onwards. Examples are:

- grazings which carried only dosed, non-lactating adult ewes the previous autumn;
- previously clean aftermaths which have carried dosed, weaned lambs since July and should be reasonably safe by May;
- pastures carrying only cattle since the previous July (but beware of *Nematodirus* if calves have grazed).

Dirty grazings are those which are contaminated by significant numbers of worm eggs or larvae or both. Pasture grazed by lambs or undosed ewes during the current or previous grazing season, are potentially dangerous. If grazing them is unavoidable, then regular (three-weekly) drenchings for lambs in their first grazing season will be necessary in order to avoid clinical disease. From the welfare viewpoint – or the profitability one – it is not acceptable to await the onset of scouring or weight loss before treatment.

Nematodirus battus can be the cause of explosive outbreaks of disease and death in young lambs during May and June; especially in northern Britain, and special precautions will need to be taken on affected farms.

Worm control in general is a complex issue, so don't be pressurised into buying gallons of wormer before taking advice from your veterinary surgeon on the following – it could save you lots of lolly –

- provision of clean grazing
- the choice of appropriate anthelmintic for different classes of stock
- avoiding problems with anthelmintic resistance
- correct drenching procedures
- what to do when preventive measures fail and disease strikes.

PS – please don't forget the tups – they need worming too!



"Chief say, 'Oh, yeah? ... YOUR horse ugly!'"

A Joke from Geds Ford

GROWING OLDER

An elderly husband and wife noticed that they were beginning to forget many little things around the house. They were afraid that this could be dangerous, as one of them may accidentally forget to turn off the stove and thus cause a fire. So, they decided to go and see their doctor to get some help. Their physician told them that many people their age find it useful to write themselves little notes as reminders. The elderly couple thought this sounded wonderful, and left the doctor's office very pleased with the advice.

When they got home, the wife said, "Honey, will you please go to the kitchen and get me a dish of ice cream? And why don't you write that down so you won't forget?"

"Nonsense," said the husband, "I can remember a dish of ice cream!"

"Well," said the wife, "I'd also like some strawberries on it. You better write that down, because I know you'll forget,"

"Don't be silly," replied the husband. "A dish of ice cream and some strawberries. I can remember that!"

"OK, dear, but I'd like you to put some whipped cream on top. Now you'd really better write it down now. You'll forget," said the wife

"Come now, my memory's not all that bad," said the husband. "No problem, a dish of ice cream with strawberries and whipped cream."

With that, the husband shut the kitchen door behind him. The wife could hear him getting out pots and pans, and making some noises inconsistent with his preparing a dish of ice cream, strawberries, and whipped cream. He emerged from the kitchen about 15 minutes later.

Walking over to his wife, he presented her with a plate of bacon and eggs. The wife took one look at the plate, glanced up at her husband and said, "Hey, where's the toast?"



Recipe Page

Beefy Batter Bake

Serves 4

500g/1lb Blade Beef or Rump Steak, cut into 4cm/1½ inch cubes
25g/1oz Beef Dripping or Lard

Batter

175g/6ozs Plain Flour

½ Teaspoon Salt

2 Eggs

425ml/¾ Pint of Milk and Water (half and half)

¾ Teaspoon Dried Mixed Herbs

Freshly Ground Black Pepper

1. Heat the oven to 220C/425F/Gas 7.
2. Make the batter: sift the flour and salt into a large bowl, then make a well in the centre. Beat the eggs with the milk and water mixture and pour into the well, gradually drawing the flour into the liquid with a wooden spoon. When all the liquid is incorporated, add the herbs and pepper to taste. Beat well to make a smooth batter. Set aside while pre-browning the beef.
3. Melt the dripping in a frying pan and when just sizzling, add the beef cubes. Cook briskly for 5-10 minutes, turning from time to time, until they are sealed and browned on all sides. Remove the beef cubes with a slotted spoon.
4. Drain off the fat and juices remaining in the pan into a warmed baking tin 30 x 18cm/12 x 7½ inches. Swirl the fat around the sides of the dish and then arrange the beef cubes in it in a single layer.
5. Immediately pour the batter over the beef and bake in the oven for 40-50 minutes, until well risen, golden brown and crisp at the edges. Serve at once, cut into squares, straight from the dish.

Serving ideas: As the batter is rather filling, potatoes are not necessarily served with this dish. Spinach and tiny carrots would be good accompaniments.

Proposed Ceramist Visit to the Falklands

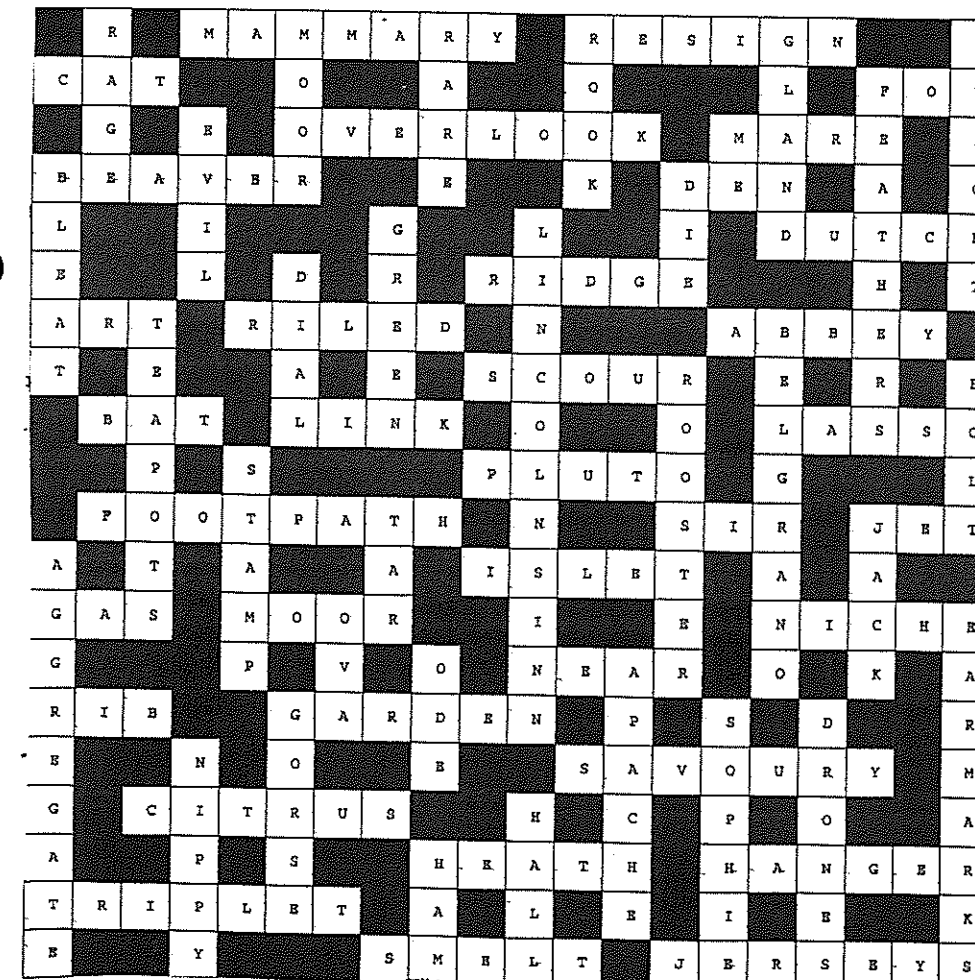
FIDC have received a proposal from a Ceramist, who is proposing to visit the Islands. He has been researching ideas, which would involve the use of clay as a medium for expression in presenting a series of ceramic workshops for the benefit of Islanders.

He feels he could offer his skills and experience at two or three different levels by:

- 1) Running a series of practical workshops, explaining the workability of the local clay.
- 2) See what sort of resources are available in terms of material to glaze and fire.
- 3) Show examples of ceramic work made in Scotland.
- 4) Slide shows of recent exhibition work from galleries in Tasmania, Singapore and America.

Anyone interested in the above and feel that a Ceramist visit would be beneficial, please contact Charlene Rowland at FIDC on Tel: 27211, Fax: 27210 or email: crowland@fidc.co.fk

JULY01

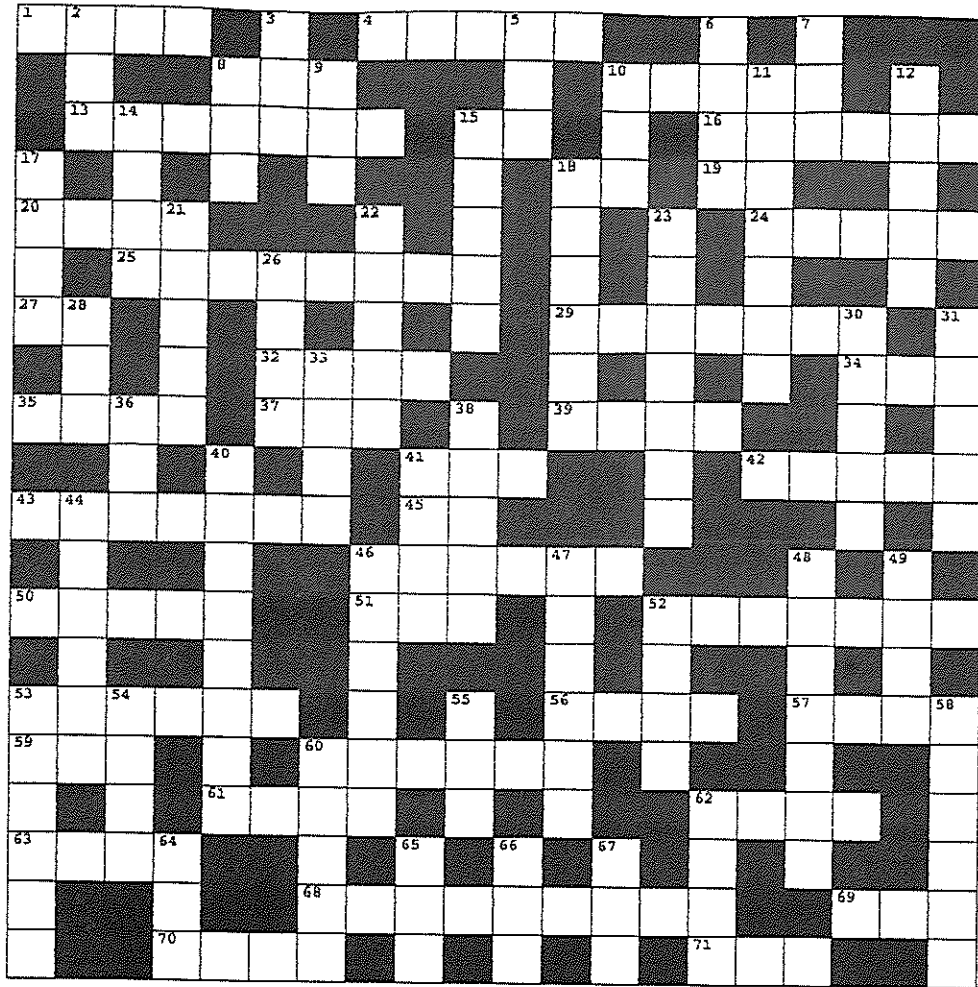


SOLUTION

TO LAST

MONTH'S

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. GARDEN AREA
4. MALE BEE
8. FISHING TOOL
10. CUTTING TOOL
13. OLD CAMP HOUSE IN LAPONIA
15. THAT MAN
16. TUBER VEGETABLE
18. AFTER CHRIST WAS BORN
19. USED TO BE
20. BREAD
24. WATER FROM THE EYES
25. INDOOR FOOTWEAR
27. US
29. BARN DANCE
32. VICTIMS OF HAWKS
34. LONG HAired OX
35. FUEL FROM THE BOG
37. HEAD OF CORN
39. CORD
41. TAXI
42. NEWBORN GROUP OF CHICKS
43. FAST CAT
45. HARMFUL SUN RAYS
46. TURN WHITE
50. BOAT
51. POORLY
52. BALL AND TABLE GAME
53. COURT JOKER
56. LARVA
57. COOK IN OVEN
59. MINERAL SOURCE
60. LEVEL OF RICHNESS
61. PRACTICE BOXING
62. SHIP'S COMPANY
63. LIGHTWEIGHT AIR-BORNE STRUCTURE
68. NOT DECIDUOUS
69. FISH EGGS
70. BEHIND
71. FINISH

DOWN

2. PART OF THE OPENING OF THE MOUTH
3. MARITIME DIARY
5. BEFORE MARRIAGE
6. READY FOR EATING
7. WAGER
8. LARGE RODENT
9. CANINE
10. SMALL CHILD OR YOUNG GOAT
11. TYPE OF DANCE
12. BABY DELIVERY BIRD
14. UNFORTUNATELY
15. EQUINE
17. SHEARING SWEEP
18. ROUND TABLE KING
21. GROUP OF SHIPS
22. AT NO TIME
23. CLIMBING PLANT LIKE IVY
26. TOBACCO BURNER
28. FIRST LADY
30. MAN MADE FIBRE
31. SLIPS AND SWERVES
33. SKIN CONDITION
36. BEER
38. BOLERO COMPOSER
40. APPETIZERS
41. SELECT FOR DISPOSAL
44. RADIATOR
46. NOT AS SMALL AS
47. SNAGGED
48. SHOE REPAIRER
49. MAGISTRATE
52. POTATO
53. RACE RIDER
54. PLACE TO SIT
55. LARGE DEER
58. YOUNG BIRD OF PREY
60. LONG LEGGED WATER BIRD
62. ICE CRRAM HOLDER
64. MAKE A MISTAKE
65. MARRIED
66. FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE CONTRIBUTION
67. GAVE FOOD TO



The Wool Press

ISSUE 141

SEPTEMBER 2001

PRICE : £1.00

**All the
regular
features
and more!**

The Wool Press is
published by the
Department
of Agriculture
and
printed at the
Falkland Islands
Government
Printing Office.

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WORMING HORSES
By Kevin Lawrence

CONTRACT SHEARING RATES

COW CONDITION, COPPER AND PREGNANCY
By Kevin Lawrence

FINAL LAMB TRIAL RESULTS
By Sean Miller

QFW PAYMENTS
By Lucy Ellis

EDITORIAL

Welcome to September's edition of the Wool Press.

The Editor's of the Wool Press and the staff of the DoA would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new members of staff; these are Doug Martin, Beef Advisor, Nilo Gobius, Sheep Nutritionist and Neil Judd, Wool Advisor.

We would also like to thank all those people who have sent articles and helped us whilst we have been "babysitting" the Wool Press.

We will be handing it over to Nyree Heathman, Senior Agricultural Assistant, who has just joined the DoA team and will be the new editor, from November onwards.

BYEEEEEEEE Ed's

Please do not
let this cartoon
put you off having
our vet to stay!!!!



"See, Agnes? ... It's just Kevin."

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WORMING HORSES

By Kevin Lawrence

The following is a list of parasites that can occur in horses.

INTERNAL PARASITES OF HORSES		
Location	Specific Name	Common Name
Mouth	Gasterophilus spp	Bot larvae
Stomach	Draschia megastoma Habronema muscae Trichostrongylus axei Gasterophilus spp	Stomach worm Stomach worm Small stomach worm Bot larvae
Small Intestine	Parascaris equorum Strongyloides westeri Anoplocephala magna	Ascarid Intestinal threadworm Tapeworm
Large intestine	Strongylus spp Cyathostominae Oxyuris equi Anoplocephala perfoliata	Large strongyles Cyathostomes/ Small strongyles Pinworm Tapeworm
Liver	Strongylus edentatus	Large strongyle (larvae)
Lungs	Dictyocaulus arnfieldi Parascaris equorum	Lungworm Large round worm
Cardio-vascular	Strongylus vulgaris	Large strongyle (larvae)
Body cavity	Strongylus edentatus	Large strongyle (larvae)
Skin and connective tissue	Draschia larvae Habronema larvae Onchocerca spp	"Summer sore" worms Filarids
	Thelazia lacrymalis Onchocerca larvae Draschia larvae Habronema larvae	Eyeworm Filarids "Summer sore" worms

However examination of lab results by Derek Clelland, Laboratory Technician, has shown that there appear to be only the following worms in the Falklands.

1. Strongyles - large
- small
2. Parascaris equorum
3. Oxyuris equi

The large strongyles are migratory; their larvae passing through blood vessels, liver or pancreas depending on the species.

The small strongyles are not migratory but the larvae develop in the intestine lining and mass larval emergence in the spring can cause severe diarrhoea and death.

Both large and small strongyles are mucosal plug feeders and can cause anaemia and ill thrift especially in younger horses (under 3yrs). They are also a major cause of colic.

Parascaris can be a problem in foals and large numbers have been associated with ill thrift and death.

The parascaris larvae migrate through the lungs so early signs of infection can include chest symptoms/coughing.

Oxyuris equi although the cause of seat itch, (the female lays its eggs around the horses anus), is not a pathogenic worm.

Broadly speaking worm control is similar whether for Cattle, Sheep or Horses and is a combination of anthelmintics, pasture management, common sense and faecal worm egg counts.

Parascaris eggs are very resistant and last up to 5 yrs on pasture so not rearing foals on the same pastures year in year out is a good control measure.

Foals develop good immunity to parascaris, worming at 4 & 12 weeks of age should still allow this to develop and protect the foal.

If grazing is restricted to a few paddocks, such as around Stanley, then you can expect worm egg burdens to build up quickly and most horses will be infected.

In this situation the removal of faeces twice weekly has proved to be a highly effective control measure – harrowing to break up faeces also can be useful – especially in dry weather.

All advice should be tailored to your own situation but broadly:

1. All horses should be wormed in the spring, worm counts should be carried out on at least 20% of horses 3 months later and the results acted on – worm drench or recheck in another 3 months.
2. Horses should be wormed in the autumn with an 'Ivermectin' type anthelmintic this will kill any small strongyle larvae overwintering in the mucosal lining.
3. If horses are on extensive grazing – try to worm egg count some (10%) twice a year.

Collect faeces samples fresh and send to the Agriculture Department as quick as possible – Derek loves them!!

ANTHELMINTICS AVAILABLE AT FALKLAND FARMERS		
Product	Drug	Commend
Eqvalan Furexel	Ivermectin	Good in autumn does not kill tapeworms (if present)
Strongid P Pyratape P	Pyrantel	May not be as good at killing strongyles or oxyuris, but good for tapeworm (if present)
Panacur Telmin Equitac Lincoln horse & Pony wormer	Fenbendazole Mebendazole Oxibendazole	All Benzimidazoles Have similar action, resistance has been seen in other countries.

Even though pyrantel may not be as efficacious as other brands it is still very important because it allows us to rotate anthelmintic groups and prevent resistance.

Worm counting will help reduce anthelmintic usage and slow resistance.

Dosing at correct weight is also very important – weighbands can be useful otherwise this formula may help-

$$\text{Weight (kg)} = \frac{\text{girth (inches)}^2 \times \text{length (inches)}}{600}$$

Girth is measured behind the elbow and length is point of the shoulder to ischial tuberosity (tail head).

TO PURCHASE WOOL PACKS AND CLIPS

Standard New Zealand wool packs and clips can be ordered from Eurofishing Ltd by Telephoning 22275 or Faxing 22276.

You will receive an invoice in the mail and payment details are on the invoice. This project is funded by the Falkland Islands Sheep Owners Association with storage and distribution managed by Eurofishing Ltd.

The following is an Agreement made on the 12th September 2001 between the Rural Business Association/SOA and their respective members and Paul Philips and Mike Allen Shearing Contractors (hereinafter called the "Contractor") regarding Contract Shearing Rates and Conditions, and which are set out hereunder.

1. MAXIMUM RATE FOR CONTRACT GANG SHEARER ON THE SHED FLOOR SUPPLYING OWN GEAR.

Rams and ewes going into stud flock for the next breeding season (Ewes in lamb during shearing and double fleece sheep – Stud Rates) per 100 sheep	£64.00
All other sheep per 100 sheep	£47.00
Cover combs 15% on above prices	

All rates "not found" but supplying own gear rate (£)/100:

Full crutch	13.5
All other crutch/dag	10.5
Wigging or ringing	5
Wigging or ringing in addition to crutch	1.5
Wigging and ringing in addition to crutch	2.5
Wigging and ringing	8.5
½ belly in addition to crutch	1.5
Full belly	10
Full Belly in addition to crutch	3

A reduction of 5p per sheep will be made on the shearing rate if crutched.

The rate for shearing Island sheep to be increased annually by the same percentage as that used in fixing the rate for mainland sheep.

2. CHARGE TO FARM FOR OVERHEADS ETC.

£97.10 per 1000 sheep (wool handler's rate laid out separately – see 4ii).

This rate is a compromise on both sides and will stand for this season. Next season only if there is a substantial increase in wool the Contractor's are looking for another £5 per 1000.

3. TRAVEL EXPENSES

- i. Please note travel costs are now incorporated into the Overhead Charge (see Clause 2 above) at the rate of 2p per sheep. If the farmer moves shearers himself 2p travel costs can be deducted.
- ii. The authorized Contractor's vehicles to be fuelled by the farm on arrival to a maximum of 20 litres. The Contractor to be responsible for deciding when a second Landover is necessary.

4. CONTRACTOR'S WOOL HANDLERS

- i. Contractors Rowsies rate – beginners – 7.5p per fleece or £45.00 per day (whichever is the greater) or pro rata depending on length of day. Skilled Rowsies rate – 10p per fleece or £60.00 per day (whichever is the greater) or pro rata depending on length of day.
- ii. Contractors Table Hands – Beginners – 6.5p per fleece or £40.00 per day (whichever is the greater) or pro rata depending on length of day. Skilled Table Hands – 9p per fleece or £54.00 per day (whichever is the greater) or pro rata depending on the length of day. Table Hands only to be brought in at the request of the Farmer.

5. SHEARING CONDITIONS

All contract shearers to apply the conditions as set out in the Shearing Conditions attached hereto. A copy of the Shearing Conditions should be posted in a prominent place in the shed.

6. BELL TIMES

The bell will be sounded three minutes before knock off time, provided that where a Shearer is in the process of catching a sheep after the bell has been rung he may continue to shear this sheep.

7. SECURING THE SERVICES OF THE CONTRACTOR

In fairness to both Contractor and employer June 30th has been set as the maximum deadline for informing the Contractor that his services will be required for the coming season. All requests for, and acknowledgements of, the securing of services to be in writing. Contractor to circularize prospective farms before the annual rate is fixed. Contractor to advise farms of the date when he will be arriving to shear and to give managers as much notice as possible.

8. PAYMENT

All payments to be made by cheque as soon as the shearing arranged for the visit is completed.

9. MEAL RATE

The meal rate will remain at £1.00 per meal unless other arrangements are agreed between the Contractor and the Farm Owner/Manager.

SHEARING CONDITIONS

- i) All accidental cuts must be dressed as directed
- ii) Cuts to teats or pizzles should be returned to the catching pen to be examined by the owner or manager
- iii) Other cuts that need stitching should be done immediately on the board by the Shearer
- iv) If the pizzle of a ram or whether is cut off the sheep shall immediately be killed and skinned by the Shearer at the earliest opportunity
- v) No sheep to be shorn except at the specified time
- vi) In the event of wet sheep Shearers may vote –
 - a) If they vote wet sheep shearing ceases
 - b) If they vote dry sheep the owner/manager/classer has the right to declare them wet and shearing will cease.

SHEARERS RESPONSIBILITIES

- i) To ensure shearing equipment is clean
- ii) To remove the complete fleece from each sheep
- iii) To avoid injury and minimize stress to the sheep
- iv) To avoid second cutting and prevent contamination of wool
- v) To separate the belly wool from the fleece
- vi) To remove blacks spots during shearing

ROWSIES RESPONSIBILITIES

- i) To place oddments in the appropriate bin, remove pizzle stain if required by the Farmer
- ii) To keep the shearing board clear of fleeces and locks (second cuts, socks, crutch wool's etc)
- iii) To pick up and throw fleeces correctly at forty five degree angle onto the wool table, so that locks fall aside and fleeces are spread evenly for accurate identification and fast separation of processing faults
- iv) To remove dags and black wool during shearing
- v) If a fleece contains a large number of black fibres, stain and dag must be removed. The fleece must be rolled on the board and stored away from all other white fleeces and oddments.
- vi) To colour mark sheep as required. This should be done on the sheep's head as raddle does not scour/wash out fully
- vii) To carry out all reasonable duties as agreed between the team leader and the farmer/manager

TABLE HANDS RESPONSIBILITIES

- i) To remove and discard any remaining dags
- ii) To remove all stains from the fleeces (blood, urine, pen etc)
- iii) To remove all black wool etc
- iv) To remove the minimum amount of short cotted neck wool containing kemp and vegetable matter
- v) To avoid the removal of good fleece wool by removing the faults using fingers
- vi) To remove belly locks and bits of belly wool from the fleece
- vii) To place oddments on appropriate containers and bins
- viii) To avoid twisting of any neck wool into bands if rolling fleeces. The practice of "banding" must be eliminated
- ix) To keep the wool floor swept of locks

There should be continued liaison with the owner/manager through the appointment of a "ganger" who is a member of the shearing gang.

FROM WALKER CREEK FARM

Just opened at Walker Creek a self-catering house, which sleeps up to nine people.

Bedding and towels are needed but everything else is provided, i.e. gas cooker, fridge, dishes etc.

There is also a television with both delayed and live channels.

The house is fully central heated.

For further information or to make a booking contact Diana or Brian on 32486 or 32296.

Cow Condition, Copper & Pregnancy

By Kevin Lawrence

The 2001 pregnancy testing results at Saladero highlighted the relationship between cow condition and conception rate

Group	Average Condition Score	Conception Rate
Angus Heifers	3.8	100%
Dry Cows	3.3	76%
Wet Cows not AI'd	2.6	48%
Wet Cows AI'd	1.8	35%

Blood tests for Copper, Selenium and Cobalt were also carried out; the results show that copper deficiency could also be a factor in these low conception rates.

Copper deficiency in cattle can cause low growth rates, infertility and sudden death. James Herriot also talks about spectacles around the eyes in one of his stories.

Gordon Lennie, Senior Laboratory Technician within the Agriculture Department, has tested some pastures and found them to be deficient of copper. High Iron in the water also makes the copper deficiency worse, by reacting with copper and making it unavailable to the animal.

Copper deficiency is best treated with boluses or injection at strategic points in the year.

Copper injection is well known for marking the carcass so has to be used carefully.

From the results it is obvious that groups with no calves did much better than groups that reared calves – which means that the lactating cows were underfed

For cows to conceive well they must calve in good condition i.e. > 2.5 and be fed to maintain condition through to mating.

The egg that is ultimately fertilised in a successfully run enterprise starts development at calving.

Everyone glibly talks about a rising plane of nutrition but it takes good pasture management and stockmanship to put them into place, take the chance to talk to your pasture advisers or beef man.

What the Saladero results have shown us is that better feeding has to begin at least two months before calving and we have to supplement Copper to give the cows the best chance to use the extra nutrients.

Learn Chinese in 5 Minutes

Source: AATA

1. That's right - Sum Ting Wong
2. Are you harbouring a fugitive - Hu Yu Hai Ding?
3. See me ASAP - Kum Hia Nao
4. Stupid Man - Dum Gai
5. Small Horse - Tai Ni Po Ni
6. Did you go to the beach? - Wai Yu So Tan?
7. I bumped into a coffee table - Ai Bang Mai Ni
8. I think you need a facelift - Chin Tu Fat
9. It's very dark in here - Wai So Dim?
10. I thought you were on a diet - Wai Yu Mun Ching?
11. This is a tow away zone - No Pah King
12. Our meeting is scheduled for next week - Wai Yu Kum Nao
13. Staying out of sight - Lei Ying Lo
14. He's cleaning his automobile - Wa Shing Ka
15. Your body odour is offensive - Yu Stin Ki Pu
16. Great - Fu Kin Su Pah

LONELY HEARTS!

Britain's most notorious vice queen, Lindi St Clair, is on the look out for a farmer. The former Miss Whiplash has told the Daily Mail that she has been advertising for a farmer to be her next partner. The advert reads: "Buxom lady offers intimate relations with farmer who has lake." The lake is needed for the 100 ducks she has raised on her smallholding.

CONSERVATION NEWS!

The average cost of rehabilitating a seal, after the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska, was \$80,000. At a special ceremony, two of the most expensively saved animals were released back into the wild amid cheers and applause from onlookers. A minute later, in full view, a killer whale ate them both.

Final Lamb Trial Results

By Sean Miller

I've finally made it back to Aus and have had some time of late to start writing up the rest of the unfinished work that didn't quite get sorted before I left (although it's difficult to concentrate when the winter weather reaches 25 degrees, it's sunny and calm). I hope your winter has been just as kind!

Onto the results - the first of the unfinished bits and pieces is the lamb trial. Listed below are the key conclusions from the data.

1. When feed quality was poor, breed of sire did not affect growth rate
2. Breed of sire did not affect the time required to reach slaughter weight
3. When feed quality was high, Texels, Dorsets and Suffolks grew significantly faster than Polwarths, Corriedales and Jacobs
4. Texel and Dorset lamb carcasses were 2 to 3 kg heavier when at the same fat level as Corriedales and Polwarths
5. Lambs from Corriedale ewes reached slaughter weights significantly faster than lambs from Polwarth ewes (by about 3 weeks)
6. All breeds met MOD carcass requirements at some point in their growth curve
7. The high variation in growth rates and carcass characteristics within each breed means that large gains in production can be achieved (in Polwarth and Corriedales particularly) by including meat characteristics (growth rate, body size etc.) as selection criteria in sheep breeding programmes
8. Capitalising on these variations is likely to be more economical than importing live sheep in the short to medium term
9. A key requirement for farmers is to learn how to assess the body condition of live animals so they can identify animals ready for slaughter
10. High quality feed is required to finish lambs and to express differences between sire breeds
11. Breed of lamb did not affect taste, tenderness, or flavour
12. People who tasted the lamb preferred it to mutton

I have sent Glynis a copy of the full write-up of the work. It covers most of what I put in the Wool Press earlier this year and late last year, however it is in a format for an agricultural journal. If anyone would like a copy of that, give the Office a call and I'm sure someone will be able to send you out a copy. Alternatively, you can email me and I'll be happy to send it via return email. Be warned though as it is about 3MB in size.

Over the coming months I hope to finish up the Wether Trial results and a couple of other drench trials that we did some time ago. Watch this space ...

PROPOSED LEN YULE VISIT

Most people will remember Len Yule who visited the Falklands a couple of summers ago and gave demonstrations on his horse taming and control methods. He is coming back in January 2001 for approximately 2 months. During his time here he will be offering 3 main services:

Taming horses – for a fee, Len will take your horse and hand it back to you tamed and ready to ride.

Teaching you to tame your horse – for a fee, he will run a course and work with you and your horse so that you take a part in the taming yourself.

Running Hoof Care Courses – The Shackleton fund are sponsoring this activity. Individuals will be asked to secure their place with a £10 fee which will be refunded upon attendance.

We are trying to determine the level of interest from within the Islands so that an itinerary can be drawn up that makes the most of Mr Yule's time here.

If you have a horse or two to be tamed or would like to learn how to tame one yourself, please contact Keith Whitney for more details on 31109 (phone or fax).

If you want to attend a course in hoof care (probably a one day course), please register your interest with Steve Pointing at the Veterinary Office.

To date we have two venues for his activities in the North Camp. A venue in Lafonia would be good and one or two venues on the West. Anyone who would like to volunteer their services as a host, please contact Keith Whitney for details.

**Please make your interests known by the
10th of October at the latest.**

**Venues and details for all of the above will be given in due course
once we have assessed the response.**

Good Engineering Lasts Forever!

Source: AATA

The US standard railroad gauge (distance between the rails) is 4 feet, 8.5 inches. That is an exceedingly odd number. Why was that gauge used? Because that's the way they built them in England, and the US railroads were built by English expatriates. Why did the English build them that way? Because the first rail lines were built by the same people who built the pre-railroad tramways, and that's the gauge they used. Why did "they" use that gauge? Because the people who built the tramways used the same jigs and tools that they used for building wagons, which used that wheel spacing. So why did the wagons have that particular odd spacing? Well, if they tried to use any other spacing, the wagon wheels would break on some of the old, long distance roads in England, because that was the spacing of the wheel ruts. So who built those old rutted roads? The first long distance roads in Europe (and England) were built by Imperial Rome for their legions. The roads have been used ever since. And the ruts in the roads? The ruts in the roads, which everyone had to match for fear of destroying their wagon wheels, were first formed by Roman war chariots. Since the chariots were made for (or by) Imperial Rome, they were all alike in the matter of wheel spacing. The US standard railroad gauge of 4 feet-8.5 inches derives from the original specification for an Imperial Roman war chariot. Specifications and bureaucracies live forever. So the next time you are handed a specification and wonder what horse's ass came up with it, you may be exactly right, because the Imperial Roman war chariots were made just wide enough to accommodate the back end of two war horses. Thus we have the answer to the original question.

Now for the twist to the story. When we see a space shuttle sitting on it's launching pad, there are two booster rockets attached to the side of the main fuel tank. These are solid rocket boosters, or SRB's. The SRB's are made by Thiokol at their factory in Utah. The engineers who designed the SRB's might have preferred to make them a bit fatter, but the SRB's had to be shipped by train from the factory to the launch site. The railroad line from the factory had to run through a tunnel in the mountains. The tunnel is slightly wider than the railroad track, and the railroad track is about as wide as two horses rumps. So, a major design feature of what is arguably the world's most advanced transportation system was determined over two thousand years ago by the width of a horse's ass!

Don't you just love engineering?

Q.F.W PAYMENTS

By Lucy Ellis

Over the last few weeks I have had quite a number of 'phone calls from stencil holders querying how, when and what they need to do to get the incentive payments.

I have decided that the easiest way to get all the information across to as many people as possible in one go is to re-print the Q.F.W 2000 letter that Doug had printed in the Wool Press some time ago.

As you will see it contains all the information you need to claim your payment plus it explains what woools qualify and what doesn't.

If you still have any questions, please give me a call.

P.S: If you have invoices kicking around, please send them in pronto as F.I.D.C are keen to get all the payments squared up as soon as possible. Thank you.

mandy

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SOLUTION

TO LAST

MONTH'S

CROSSWORD

2000

QFW
THE QUALITY ASSURANCE SCHEME FOR
FALKLAND ISLANDS WOOL

2000

Welcome to another shearing season and the 4th year of the QFW scheme. Most of you will have noted that EXCO passed the funding of a **one off** financial incentive to be paid to farms preparing their wool under the Quality Falkland Wool accreditation scheme. The payment is for this season only and its intention is to greatly increase the number of farms accredited under the scheme. (This appears to have been very successful)

The level and method of payment of the financial incentive is as follows,

- **2 pence per kilogram clean for fleece wool prepared under the basic level of the QFW scheme.**
- **7 pence per kilogram clean for fleece wool prepared under the advanced level (crutched) of the QFW scheme.**
- **Payments will be made upon receipt of wool sale invoices detailing quantity of clean wool sold. These invoices are to be sent to the Wool Advisor, Department of Agriculture.**

Background

Processing mills around the world expect to process wool with complete confidence and assurance. This requires wool to meet guarantees for, maximum dark coloured fibre (DCF) content, freedom from contamination plus numerous other standards. The Quality Falkland Wool (QFW) assurance scheme's objective is to introduce and maintain, **DCF and contamination risk reduction** measures.

The aim of QFW is to set attainable and maintainable standards, which when fully complied with will result in the highest level of preparation and will limit the risk of obtaining DCF readings above 5 dcf / 100 grams. In conjunction with this, the aim is to eliminate contamination from foreign matter.

Farms that are accredited will use the QFW stencil on bales of fleece wool that they feel have been prepared under the guidelines. The wool specification will be QFW stamped, signed and dated by the person ultimately responsible for the clip. This will clearly indicate that this wool has been prepared and handled using '**Best Practices**'. (Use the labels provided for this purpose)

Leading wool producing countries have found that woolgrowers who are members of a recognised quality assurance scheme may receive a premium for their wool, however, in difficult trading years the 'mark' can make the difference between selling and not selling.

Responsibility

The prime responsibility lies with the farm owner/manager to put in place all the correct practices during shearing and wool handling. Annual, random checks will be carried out by an officer of the DoA or a member of the QFW committee to ensure that standards are being maintained. Wool not prepared under the recognised standards will be prohibited from carrying the QFW Logo.

The scheme's goal is that ultimately all Falkland Islands farms will be preparing their wool using these standards.

Standards Required

There are two levels of accreditation, **ADVANCED AND BASIC**.

Both levels require compliance with the standards stated in the checklists, however, it has been shown internationally that crutching greatly reduces the risk of DCF contamination. Urine and faeces stain are the main source of DCF contamination. The aim of the Advanced QFW level is to have sheep sufficiently free of these contaminants at the time of shearing. This further minimises the risk of DCF contamination during shearing and wool handling. Because of this, the Advanced

level has an additional requirement that all ewes in that flock have been crutched and all male sheep have had the stain removed from around the pizzle no more than 3 months prior to shearing. (This task can be carried out immediately prior to shearing and I suspect that in most cases this will be the preferred option.)

When using the QFW stencil for the **Advanced level, red ink** is to be used.

When using the QFW stencil for the **Basic level, black ink** is to be used.

If, for instance, a farm wishes to crutch and prepare a proportion of their flock under the Advanced level and not crutch the remainder but still prepare it to QFW standards they are permitted to use the advanced brand on the wool meeting the advanced requirements and the basic brand on the remainder.

Both levels employ practices throughout the harvest that will:

- Reduce the risk of dark coloured fibres entering the shed.
- Reduce the risk of dark coloured fibre contamination on the wool table by removing the crutch wool on the board.
- Ensure that any dark coloured fibres present on the wool table are removed by quality skirting assisted by correct lighting.
- Eliminate dark coloured fibre contamination after classing due to correct storage of fleeces.

Pigmented Fibres

It has been brought to our attention several times over the last year that there are some practices used, not in QFW accredited sheds, around the islands which definitely do not conform with the QFW scheme standards. By far the worst and most potentially damaging is the practice of putting black and white fleeces in the AA, BB or CC line. (As a guide a fleece should be described as B&W after two or more black spots have been found on that sheep.) Black and White fleeces must be stored well clear of any other wool and in no circumstances should they be thrown on the wool table. In addition the practice of trying to identify and remove black spots in a B&W fleece after shearing is not recommended. It is highly likely that B&W fleeces contain many fibres that cannot be seen with the naked eye and as such it is impossible to ensure that all black fibres have been removed. ***B&W fleeces must be pressed up separately and marked as B&W.***

Further Information

The people involved with this project are a sub-committee of the Rural Business Association, working with the DoA and in collaboration with Falkland Wool Growers Ltd and Falkland Islands Wool Marketing.

Members of the sub-committee are:

Chairperson	Lyn Blake, Little Chartres
Wool Advisor	Doug Cartridge, Department of Agriculture Lucy Ellis, Department of Agriculture Ron Binnie, Fitzroy Farm Nigel Knight, Coast Ridge Farm Ann Robertson, Port Stephens
Secretary	Judy Summers, Rural Business Association

RECIPE PAGE

Trout Baked in Paper Parcels - Served with Lemon Butter

4 Fresh Trout
 Salt and Freshly Ground Black Pepper
 Sprigs of Fresh Thyme and/or Marjoram
 4 Large "heart-shaped" pieces of Greaseproof Paper

LEMON BUTTER

4ozs Butter
 Rind and Juice of Half a Lemon

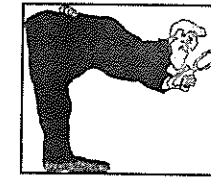
To make the lemon butter, soften the butter and beat in the lemon rind and juice with a wooden spoon. Roll into a long sausage and wrap in greaseproof paper. Store in the refrigerator.

Gut and wash the trout carefully. Season well with salt and pepper and place some fresh herbs in the centre of each fish. Lay each fish on one half of a greaseproof paper "heart". Fold the paper over tightly and seal the edges by twisting the paper together, thus making a parcel. Place on a baking sheet and cook in a pre-heated oven at 425°F/214°C or gas mark 7 for 15 minutes. As the paper is carefully removed the skin will peel away exposing the moist, pink flesh. Serve with lemon butter cut into thin slices.

Harvest Pudding

6-8 Slices of Buttered Bread, Medium Sliced
 1lb Cooking Apples, Peeled, Cored and Sliced
 2ozs Shredded Suet
 3ozs Soft Brown Sugar
 2ozs Raisins
 Grated Rind of One Lemon
 2 Medium Eggs
 ½ Pint Milk

Line a pie dish with some of the buttered bread. Mix together the apples, suet, sugar, raisins and lemon rind. Fill the pie dish with the mixture and cover with more buttered bread (buttered side uppermost). Beat together the eggs and milk and pour over the top of the bread. Cover and leave to stand in a cool place for approximately 2 hours. Bake in a pre-heated oven at 350°F/177°C or gas mark 4 for approximately 1 hour. Serve warm with cream.



SOMETHING FOR THE CHILDREN

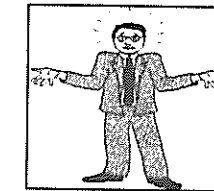
WORD SEARCH

D	F	G	H	J	G	O	B	M	A	S	L	A	B	S
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C	R	I	T	N	R	K	D	S	Z	E	C	C	G	Y
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C	I	N	R	R	E	L	L	I	M	Y	T	S	U	D
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B	C	U	R	L	E	D	D	O	C	K	G	H	A	D

- BALSAM BOG
- BUTTERCUP
- CURLED DOCK
- DIDDLE DEE
- DOG ORCHID
- DUSTY MILLER
- FERN
- GORSE
- MARSH DAISY
- MOUNTAIN BERRY
- NATIVE BOX
- OREOB
- PALE MAIDEN
- PIMPERNEL
- PRICKLY BURR
- SCURVY
- TEA BERRY
- THRIFT
- TUSSAC

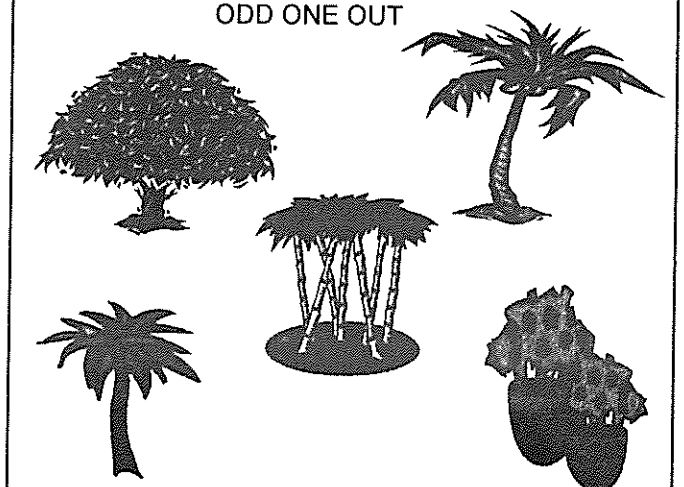
WHICH WORD IS MISSING FROM THE GRID??

N	A	T	I
V	E	S	T
R	A	W	B
E	R	R	Y



HOW MANY WORDS CAN YOU MAKE FROM THESE LETTERS??

ODD ONE OUT



Please send your answers in to Glynis King, Department of Agriculture. The winner will receive a prize.

11

11

ORGANIC NEWS & INFORMATION FROM THE FALKLANDS AND AROUND THE WORLD

Sept 2001

Dear Farmers

I will be putting an information paper together on a monthly basis in the Wool Press regarding the Organics of the World. This is just to try and keep as many farmers informed as to what is going on here in the Falklands as well as around the World. It will also include useful web sites for you to look up your own information. Should you have any questions, then please get in touch.

Charlene

Update on the Falklands Organics

As many of you will know by now, Port Edgar is in line to become the first farm in the Falkland Islands to be organically certified.

Two other farms (Port Louis and Hope Cottage) have had their 1st inspections and are in conversion and have implemented all the recording or the 'traceability', as it's known, of the farm.

The recording of all activities, including stock movements, dog dosing, rotational field plans, animals welfare/medical plans, feeding regimes, fertilisers etc. is an important aspect. If you are thinking of the possibility of going Organic in the future, I would advise that you start to look at your recording details. A simple daily diary is sufficient, I can make you up some kind of forms to help you get started if you have doubts.

As a suggestion, if you are thinking of going organic in the future;

- Make a map of the farm. Think seriously if you want the whole farm as organic.
- Consider the pasture improvement programme and get a leguminous plant established.
- You can have a parcel of land that is non-organic but no organic animals can go into this parcel of land.
- Animals that are destined for the abattoir must have traceability records i.e. ear tags with a number and farm (PGR 01 - Port Edgar Farm animal number 01) the **Station Mark** will *not* be sufficient as other farms may have the same.

- Do you want your sheep or just cattle as organic or both?
- As each parcel of land that is in the non-organic area becomes established, a conversion period of up to two years can be implemented. Your whole farm could be certified as all organic in a phased programme over a number of years.

If any farmer would like an information pack which includes all the legislation I would be happy to send it to you. Would a mutual visit to get a picture of your farm and activities be beneficial?

I would like to stress that everything I see or hear on your farm will be confidential.

Give me a call on 27211 or
Email: crowland@fidc.co.fk

Organic Spirit conquers the world!

The UK based Organic Spirits Company has gone international after it's launch just under two years ago.

It's gin, Juniper Green—the world's first "organic gin" is now available in North America, the Caribbean, East Asia and Africa; while it's "organic vodka", UK5, is also poised for success after receiving accreditation to be sold in the US.

Both products are handled in the US by Executive Imports, which has rapidly secured distribution for Juniper Green in 10 states.

The managing director, Chris Parker, said "The creation of an international market is testimony to the growing popularity of organic products and the quality of our brands".

Perhaps Tea Berry Gin could be next!!

This company has two websites:
www.junipergreen.org and www.uk5.org

Source: World Organic News

*I have a small number of Organic Seed catalogues from
Cotswold Grass Seeds Direct.
Give me a call if you would like one. Charlene*

Potato raises organic hopes!

An obscure variety of potato grown in Hungary is being hailed as the way to a boom in organic farming, because it does not need fungicide. The purple-skinned tuber has been bred by the Sarpo family of Hungary to have a natural resistance to potato blight, but for years has been ignored in western Europe.

Researchers at the University of Newcastle tested seven strains of blight on the Sarpo potato at a plot near Hadrian's Wall in Northumberland. They found that, while the fungus was picked up - as shown by tiny lesions on the leaves - the plants, and the potatoes themselves underground, continue to thrive. Though the Sarpo tuber's skin is dark purple when ready to harvest, the flesh is as white as traditional varieties.

"This is extremely promising for organic farmers and consumers," said Carlo Leifert, professor of ecological agriculture at the university. "A potato which can be grown commercially without chemicals would be an important breakthrough for the organic movement worldwide."

There was a shortage of organic potatoes in shops, and a lack of varieties, because of blight that destroyed millions of pounds worth each year and put farmers off trying.

In addition to its immunity, the Sarpo variety appeared to thrive in poor soil, said Prof Leifert. "I'll not say they're the answer to everything, but when cooked we couldn't tell the difference between Sarpo potatoes and bog-standard Tesco varieties."

Frequently asked questions by farmers: (FAQ)

- Q. Can I use seed that is not organic?**
A. Under the legislation all seeds used on a certified farm must be organically produced. However, by way of derogation, where these are not available, approval can be obtained to use non-organic seed.
- Q. Can I get hay in to feed my animals from a farm who is not organic?**
A. As above, providing you seek approval.

Q. My horses are running with the organic sheep and cattle?

- A. Horses can run with your sheep and cattle providing you do not feed them with any genetically modified origins. Drenching of your horses is permitted.

Q. Can I drench my lambs and sheep?

- A. Yes, providing you keep a Animal Health Plan and you know which animals you have drenched i.e tag numbers etc. or just a specific flock.

Q. What drench can I use on my organic lambs and sheep?

- A. All are acceptable for normal use with the exception of Ivermectin based products. All drenches should be used to the makers specifications and alternated annually to avoid resistance to build up. Drenched animals will also come under the Animal Health Plan.

6. What price will I get for my organic lamb on the overseas market?

- A. Figures are still being sought, but we are looking at a 30% premium price. Once this information is confirmed, all farmers will be informed.

7. Can I use Organo-phosphates?

- A. NO .

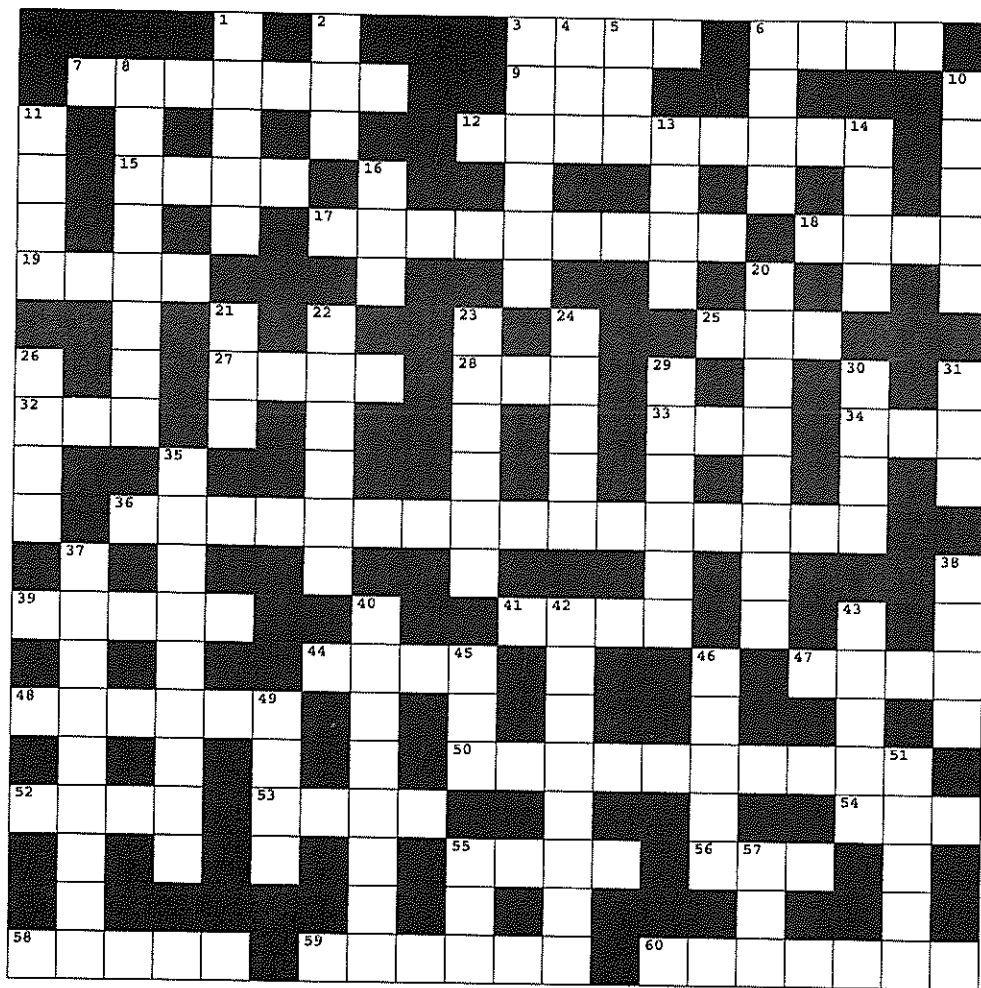
8. Will every farm have a 3 month conversion period?

- A. No. Each farm will be taken on in its own merit. If there are lots of non-compliances a conversion plan could take up to 2 years.

**More next month.....
which will include Animal Welfare**

Useful and interesting organic web sites:

www.organex.net
www.organicfood.co.uk
www.ukasta.org
www.spiceile.com



ACROSS

DOWN

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>3. FAMOUS PERSON
 6. TYPE OF BAG
 7. FARM WORKHORSE
 9. MYTHICAL INDIAN GREETING
 12. THIS PAPER
 15. MALE PARENT
 17. PC's
 18. CHEMICAL FOUND IN URINE
 19. MEDICINAL AND CULINARY PLANT
 25. ISLAND ERRADICATION VERMINE
 27. WHAT HAPPENS TO LAMBS
 28. PIG HOUSE
 32. PEA CASE
 33. EGGS
 34. LESS THAN TWO
 36. GOOD LOCAL SOURCE OF CALCIUM(9,7)
 39. CUTTING EDGE
 41. STIFF PAPER
 44. LARVA
 47. SHEEP FIBRE
 48. *** missing clue ***
 50. SAID SORRY
 52. LEG JOINT
 53. FOOTBALL BOOT ANTI SLIP DEVICE
 54. NON-LACTATING FEMALE ANIMAL
 55. A FORK PRONG
 56. ATTEMPT
 58. SNIFFED A SMALL FISH??
 59. SUPPLIES
 60. TIME WHEN BABY SHEEP ARE BORN</p> | <p>1. TYPE OF CROW
 2. BABY BED
 3. JAPANESE COMMANDER IN CHRIF (4X4)
 4. AS WELL
 5. LEATHER WORKING TOOL
 6. PLANT GERM
 8. FRONT ROAD IN STANLEY
 10. SWEETENER
 11. SPOTTY OR SORE AREA
 13. AFTER DINNER DRINK
 14. MALE PARENT
 16. HEAVY MIST
 20. SITE OF OLD RUINS AND NSF HOME
 21. UNIT OF CURRENT
 22. EXOTIC FLOWER
 23. MALE GOOSE
 24. ANIMAL HIDES
 26. STERILISE (FEMALE)
 29. FAMOUS DUCK
 30. STORAGE AREA OF A SHIP
 31. TYPE OF FEATHER
 35. COMMON 4 X 4
 37. PERIODICALLY AL
 38. HIDE
 40. OFTEN
 42. FINANCIAL REPORTS
 43. CHANGED PLACES
 45. SHEEP NOISE
 46. LAMP
 49. *** missing clue ***
 51. ALLOW LIQUID REMOVAL
 55. CRAGGY INLAND ROCK
 57. ENTIRE MALE SHEEP</p> |
|---|---|



The Wool Press

ISSUE 142

OCTOBER 2001

PRICE : £1.00

**All the
regular
features
and more!**

The Wool Press is
published by the
Department
of Agriculture
and
printed at the
Falkland Islands
Government
Printing Office.

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ORGANIC NEWS AND INFORMATION

By Charlene Rowland

C'DAY FROM THE NEW BEEF ADVISOR

By Doug Martin

SPECIAL FUND

Last Chance or a Real Alternative

YOUR LETTERS

*Questions from Nigel Knight
Answers from Kevin Lawrence*

LIFE AT THE ABATTOIR

By Amy Jonson

2002 AI PROGRAMME

By Doug & Kevin

HELLO FROM AN AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANT

By Karen Marsh

LICE CONTROL IN CATTLE

By Steve Pointing

YET ANOTHER INTRODUCTION

By Nyree Heathman

A LOOK DOWN UNDER

By Donna Minnell

PLUS ALL THE USUAL FEATURES

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the October edition of the Wool Press

Firstly, as you can all see by the front cover, the job of editing the Wool Press has been passed our way. Mandy is an old hand at this job and has been showing me the ropes so hopefully there aren't too many mistakes, and no, that is not an invitation for you to ring me up and point out any that you do find!

As for the missing clues in last months crossword:- we thought that we would start a "fill in the blanks and make up your own clues" puzzle. Nobody really seemed to like that idea though so here are the clues that were missing from the September edition.

48 Across- LEVEL

49 Down - SNAKE NOISE

Hopefully quite a few of you will have had a chance to either meet or talk to our new staff members Doug, Nilo and Neil by now. Doug and Nilo are settled in at Goose Green and finding their way around and Neil is living in Stanley. Also, those of you across the sound will probably have seen Karen Marsh out and about. Karen is working for the Department as an Agricultural Assistant and will be our representative on the West. Details on how to contact her can be found in her introduction.

Thanks to Nigel for his letter. Anyone else out there with questions they would like answered, or simply with an opinion they would like to share with the rest of us through the Wool Press (politely and to do with agriculture please) do feel free to write to me. I will try get your questions answered (no promises though) and publish them for you along with your letters. Last month there was also an Organic News and Information supplement sent out to you. From now on this will be included in your Wool Press as pages three and four of each edition. This information will be supplied by our Organic Inspector Charlene Rowland.

Lastly, a huge thanks to William and Lynda at New House for fixing the rover for Mandy. Yes, she broke down and before all you men start no, it wasn't anything to do with women drivers!

Well, that's it for this month. Sorry it's so long but we had a lot to say. Next months will be shorter. Promise!

Nyree & Mandy

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However, such quotations are to be made in context and the Wool Press must be acknowledged as the source.

The articles printed in the Wool Press do not necessarily represent the views of the DoA.

Organic of Principals in the Falklands

The benefits to the environment

- Soil fertility is improved by adding organic matter and by natural nitrogen fixation.
- Pollution to rivers, streams and drains is stopped.
- Natural predators are no longer poisoned and a balanced population of butterflies, birds and animals are encouraged.
- A better understanding of crops and animals.

Farmed animal welfare is improved

- Animals benefit from a reduction in disease and injury.
- Birds and animals are treated with respect from birth to death.
- Rotation of paddocks so that the animals can get better feed.

Organic products are more healthy

- Farmers need no longer suffer from respiratory problems associated with handling farm chemicals.
- Absence of chemical, hormone and antibiotic residues makes products safer to consume.
- Absence of synthetic additives in processed foods reduces the likelihood of food intolerance.
- Organic foods are not subjected to or treated with radiation.
- No Genetic modification is allowed.

Frequently asked questions:

- Q. Why does the Inspector have to look at our accounts?**
A. This is to verify that you have not bought any chemical substances in the last 12 months that may be on your farm.
- Q. Will all the information that is given to the Inspector be confidential?**
A. Everything that you show to the Inspector will be confidential.
- Q. Who will make the decision that our farm is fully certified?**
A. Approximately every 6 weeks the Falkland Islands Development Board meet. They will be given a report from the Inspector who will recommend that you should or should not be certified Organic.
- Q. How often is our farm inspected?**
A. There will be an inspection at least every six months, but under the legislation the Inspector can just arrive at your gate and inspect your farm whenever he/she wants.
- Q. If I can go into a 3 month conversion, how many times does my farm get inspected.**
A. The initial first inspection will be done and then a subsequent one before you are issued with your organic status.
- Q. What will the EU logo look like?**
A. This!

*Are you interested in knowing
more about organics or just
want information.*

*Please contact Charlene at
FIDC on telephone 27211 or
email: crowland@fidc.co.fk*



Animal Welfare Issues

As Animal Welfare plays a big part in Organics, I will be keeping you up to date with ideas, news etc. I have discovered a good web site for you to tap into on all Animal Welfare issues: www.organic-vet.reading.ac.uk

Animal Health Plan

Arrangements are being made to set up a booklet or sheets for the ease of making up an Animal Health Plan. Once these have been set up, arrangements will be made to send one out to each farm that is either in conversion or certified.

The Animal Health Plan has, with the advent of the EU Organic Livestock Regulation introduced in August 2000, become the single most powerful means showing that Organic livestock farming reinforces good animal welfare practices. Vets in the UK have constantly tried to get this sort of proactive approach to introducing health issues into the management of the farm to be recognised for years. This does not mean that the vet is the only one who can write the Animal Health Plan. They are invaluable help but the Animal Health Plan is what the people on the farm, with the responsibility of day to day care for the livestock, can do to ensure that their animals are fully fit and able to resist disease and the stresses of production.

5 Freedoms of Animal Welfare which must be applied

- Freedom from hunger and thirst by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour.
- Freedom from thermal and physical discomfort by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area.
- Freedom from pain, injury and disease by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment.
- Freedom to express normal behaviour by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind.
- Freedom from fear and distress by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering.

Interesting Organic Web sites:
www.organic-vet.reading.ac.uk
www.agra-net.com

www.smallholder@ottery.co.uk

Do you have any good sites that can be shared.

Falklands Certified Meat almost ready. Source: World Organics News 6/9/01

This report was written in the World Organics News and I thought it may be of interest to readers.

The Falkland Islands has taken the first steps towards exporting organic meat, with the opening of an abattoir, built to EU standards.

The structure will have the capacity to process 1,500 sheep and up to 200 cattle a week. The government recently appointed its first organic inspector (that's me) and discussions with the EU are taking place with the aim of having legally certified organic produce ready for sale in Europe next year.

The Island's Development Corporation is working with the local business community, farmers and outside agencies to create a quality scheme to promote the very best products from the islands. The 'Falkland Finest' quality mark will only be applied to products meeting certain quality, Falklands content and environmental sustainability criteria. The first Falklands Finest products are expected to be launched in April 2002.

The tiny South Atlantic island – given its size and remoteness — is aiming to become the world's first wholly organic producer.

Rob Reid, the Island's Director of Agriculture, said: "The new abattoir, combined with the organic certification and the Falkland Finest scheme, gives us the opportunity to aggressively market our meat products into discerning 'niche' markets in the coming years".

ALL THE FASHION: An all-organic emporium has recently opened in London's Kings Road, more usually known for its fashionable clothes shops. Sundance Market is run by Jonathan Dwek, formerly of Plant Organic, Britain's first organic supermarket.

However, Sundance goes beyond the usual produce to provide an on-site organic restaurant, bakery, health and body care department, deli, a vast cheese counter, and a wide range of organic meats. It sells over 60 organic wines, 20 beers, eight ciders, and spirits such as cognac, grappa and rum. It has also added an organic alcoholic juice bar.

AN INTRODUCTON FROM BEEF ADVISOR DOUG MARTIN

Having been a somewhat late arrival due to unforeseen circumstances and having had my feet on the hallowed peat soils of the Falkland Islands for just a little over a week I am not able to comment (with accuracy anyway) on my first impressions of farming life here. I have moved to Goose Green and am most appreciative of the welcome given by both the staff from the Department of Agriculture, as well as the assistance provided by the community here. The weather has been rather a rude awakening, however I am assured it will improve sometime in the distant future, just in time for winter to return.

I hail originally from a dairy and beef property near Morpeth in the Hunter Valley some two hours north of Sydney in New South Wales.

I attended Hawkesbury Agricultural College after leaving school, spent a short term in Dairy Extension with the New South Wales Department of Agriculture, after which I took on sharefarming on a dairy and beef property in the Riverina district in southern New South Wales. From here I managed to scrape up enough money to purchase a dairy in the Hunter Valley that has subsequently been turned into a beef property.

I have worked on several overseas projects on different occasions in the Middle East, where I was involved in the establishment of a beef feedlot, a dairy and several irrigation projects, and also in Sabah, Malaysia, where I established a beef breeding project on 10,000 ha.

For the past 10 years I have continued to breed Brahman, Murray Grey and Angus Beef Cattle, and have also been involved in teaching Rural Business Management, Beef Cattle Production & Management and Dairy Traineeships, all to Diploma level, with Technical and Further Education in New South Wales.

Besides being interested in cattle breeding my interests lie in pasture production and management, as well as organic farming.

I have adopted the Quality Assurance programme for my cattle enterprise, and have also commenced using the new radio frequency ear tags, which will give me total trace-back in relation to individual meat yield and quality.

I have already observed some of the excellent developmental work carried out by staff from the Department of Agriculture in the Falkland Islands, and only hope that I can make some positive contribution to agriculture here in the next two years.

SPECIAL FUND - Last Chance Or A Real Alternative ?

*A re-assuring piece from
'A farming family who made the right choice'*

It's October, the second wool cheque is in and that is all you have left until next April. No matter how you look at it there isn't enough. You have tried earning extra cash with selling meat, contract work and such like but it never seems to catch up with the bills. You are at the end of the track and there seems to be no other option but sell up - if you can - and move to Stanley.

Well, there is another option. It is not a free hand out - you will probably need to be more open about your life and earnings than you have ever been before, but there is another choice - the Special Fund.

Like every other farmer we received the leaflet about the new Fund last year and at first glance thought "That isn't for me, it is for the last ditch efforts". But how long can you go on scratching around for money, phoning the companies to try and ask for credit until April when the first wool cheque comes in, only for it to go straight back out again into the backlog of bills? How long can you scrimp and save on repairs and maintenance, and on your own life too - how many of us have personal insurance or private pension plans??

We decided after some discussion to approach a member of the Department who was already coming out for an unrelated visit. Our account books were examined to see if we were within the spending guidelines set by the Fund (we were) and we had our first meeting with our panel that had been selected. We had a say in that selection in so far as we chose our RBA* and had the right to object to any member.

It was quite relaxed although a bit nerve racking at first, and everyone was very positive and helpful. We left feeling energized and hopeful for the first time in years. We received assistance in our cash flows to get over the hurdle of no money from January to April, and technical help with a project we had started that winter. Other technical assistance was available for reseeds, and an Incentive Scheme item we had been refused when we had first applied was approved. In short, we gained a great deal of help in a variety of ways which has certainly made a huge difference to our lives over the last year and will continue to do so for a long time to come.

If you too are in the position of struggling uphill with a barrow load of poo, think about the Special Fund - it isn't there just for the last gasp attempts, it is to give people a kick start if things are getting too much or maybe you just need that "something" to get a new project off the dream board and into life.

Going to the Panel does require a lot of openness and frank talking. It does require an exchange of trust and confidentiality on both sides and this may not

be everyone's cup of tea, but it may be a small price to pay for the help your farm needs to get it back on its feet where it deserves to be.

So don't leave it until the last penny is disappearing, go and dig out that leaflet and look again if you are struggling like we were - it could be the start of getting back on track for you and your family.

** An RBA is your own personal Rural Business Adviser. This isn't someone who spends most of his time in an office in Stanley, but a farmer like ourselves, who knows the pitfalls, may even have struggled themselves, but have come through it.*

MARRIAGES ANIMAL FEED

AVAILABLE END OF NOVEMBER

CONTACT PAT AND DAN WHITNEY AT

MOUNT KENT FARM

PHONE/FAX 31003

CORN.....	25 KILOS @ £10.78
MIXED CORN.....	25 KILOS @ £9.00
WHEAT.....	25 KILOS @ £8.22
LAYERS PELLETS.....	25 KILOS @ £9.18
LAYERS MASH.....	25 KILOS @ £9.18
OATS.....	20 KILOS @ £7.05
EWE ROLLS.....	25 KILOS @ £8.90
EWE CUBES.....	25 KILOS @ £8.81
SUGAR BEET PELLETS.....	25 KILOS @ £8.20
PIG GROWER CUBES.....	25 KILOS @ £9.01
HORSE AND PONY CUBES.....	25 KILOS @ £9.02

YOUR LETTERS

The following is an open letter to the Department of Agriculture, from farmer Nigel Knight, regarding Veterinary Officer Kevin Lawrence's article in last month's Wool Press concerning 'cow condition, copper and pregnancy' in which there are a couple questions that Nigel would like answers to.

Kevin has kindly provided a reply to Nigel's letter.

Cow Condition, Copper & Pregnancy.

I was interested to read the article by Kevin Lawrence on the above subject, however after reading it I must admit to being somewhat confused. The reason being that these results directly conflict with those of a previous Beef Advisor Robin Thompson. He stated the following :

"Trace elements have been heralded as the "new messiah" when salesmen and the like need to show their font of wisdom. Unless there are clinical signs of deficiencies responses are generally variable and probably greater by the owner than the animal. The cows (at Saladero) were all tested for a range of minerals, diseases and other chemistries as a possible explanation for poor cycling. There was no difference between cows that cycled than those that did not cycle and none of the tests revealed an overall problem. There was no relationship between body weight, condition score and cycling suggesting the poor submission rate is unrelated to these factors. "

I do not really understand your other two sentences i.e;

"For cows to conceive well they must calve in good condition i.e. > 2.5 and be fed to maintain condition through to mating."

"The egg that is ultimately fertilised in a successfully run enterprise starts development at calving."

Could you please explain these points.

Yours sincerely,

Nigel Knight.

KEVIN'S REPLY

Dear Nigel,

Thanks for your letter.

In answer to your questions the point that I was trying to make was that good conception rates are not just a question of good nutrition at mating or a few weeks before, but actually are the result of feeding decisions made in late pregnancy.

The condition scoring system allows you to assess how much fat a cow is carrying. This acts like a deposit account from which the cow can make energy withdrawals when food is short, however if she makes too many withdrawals the ovary may stop cycling.

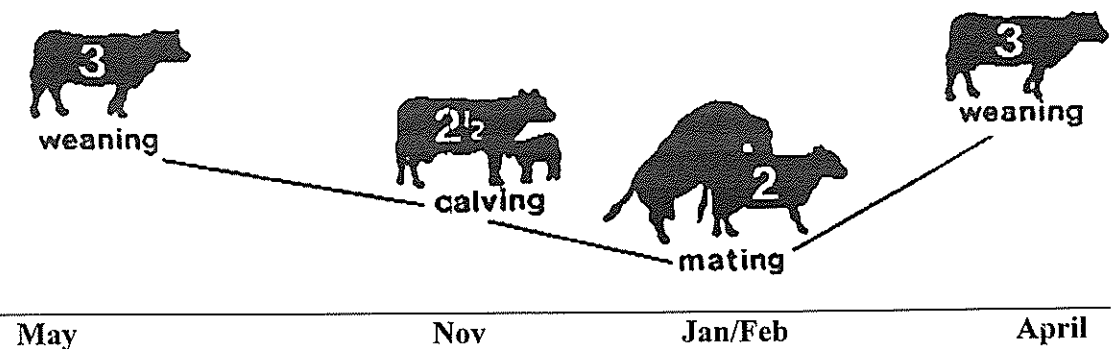
By feeding to maintain body condition the ovaries are getting encouraging signals. The full maturation process for an egg requires over two months, so if you want to breed from that cow again the same year that egg needs looking after.

I will also fax you an article by Basil Lowman, a Scottish Beef Advisor, which I think is brilliant.

Regards

Kevin

TARGET CONDITION SCORES FOR SPRING CALVING HERDS



If anybody would like a copy of Basil Lowman's article just contact either Kevin or Steve at the Department of Agriculture and they will put one in the post for you.

LIFE AT THE ABATTOIR

By Amy Jonson

My first impression of the abattoir was simply a "Wow". I was awed at the sheer size of the place. Many of you who have been up to see it during farmers week or the open day will probably have experienced a similar feeling.

Myself, Ned Stewart and Elvis McRae started on the 3rd September to begin cleaning the place up. I soon adjusted myself to Ned's terrible impersonations of Brian, his chronic flatulence, and Elvis, "The King's" allergy to work. I had already been out to see the place not long after the machinery had been installed so I already knew my way around.

We had actually completed most of the cleaning (using scouring pads and buckets for the soaping and rinsing with pressure hoses) by the time my father (Carl Jonson) started the following week. I had some reservations about working in such close proximity to my father, because we don't exactly see eye to eye. I would say it is more like tunnel vision (on his part of course!) Thinking about it though, I decided it would be okay as long as he was at one end of the slaughter hall and I was at the other.

On a more serious note, the cleaning went very well, and once my father had started I was free to type out hundreds of pages from training manuals for Brian in the office, resulting in a bad dose of square-eyes! These manuals will be used for the training of staff in the near future.

We also had the meat-chip man Erik Arndt out to make some meat chips for several people to try. An excellent idea for young children and the elderly. Mr Arndt sells over three tonnes a week in the supermarkets over in New Zealand and Australia. The man himself was a good laugh although his singing grated on the nerves after a while! All in all I think he enjoyed being here even if it was only for a short time.

The big day was the open day on Tuesday 25th September where we had ample amounts of tea, coffee, biccies, manuals and leaflets to occupy the guests in the canteen while Brian was showing the previous group around. We thought it better to take people around in groups so anyone drifting in partway through the tour wouldn't miss half of it. I personally thought the day went very well with over 75 people signing the visitor's book.

I think the abattoir is an exciting new venture and I really enjoy working here. The workforce is a little unconventional but we all have a good laugh, which I think is a must in any job. Most importantly Brian appears pleased with our attitude, the work itself, and our ability to do it as a team rather than as individuals.

Listen.....the sound of Elvis's snoring is telling me to shut up shop and come back next month!

2002 AI PROGRAMME

It's time to start putting plans in place for the 2002 AI programme. You will need to carry out this task in January/February, however to assist us in organising supplies and equipment please contact Doug Martin, 27354, or Kevin Lawrence, 27366, for advise and to discuss your requirements.

We particularly want to address cow condition and minerals, especially copper, prior to insemination.

It would be good if we could get some halfway decent conception rates for once. This year some 600 head were inseminated so it will be interesting to observe results once calves start hitting the ground this month.

Current semen stocks are:

72 straws of Angus.

1 straw of Polled Hereford.

45 straws of Polled Shorthorn.

45 straws of Red Poll.

The Veterinary Department has 120 Cidr's available.

We need to stock up so please advise as soon as possible.

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All of you who live in Camp will have a questionnaire with your Wool Press this month. I am gathering information on the level of computer use in Camp so that we can get the best from them. The Department of Agriculture in conjunction with the Human Resources Department, the Education Department and FIDC, want to promote lifelong learning throughout the Islands. Computers can play a large part in this, but some groundwork needs to be done first. It starts with the basic questionnaire, but I may contact you for more information and input later. I look forward to receiving your replies. Feel free to write additional information or comments you feel would be useful to me on the back on the sheets. Many thanks in anticipation.

Mandy

AN INTRODUCTION FROM AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANT KAREN MARSH

What can I say about myself? I started work for the Department of Agriculture when I left school, although my intention was to eventually go to the United Kingdom to attend college. I have always only really been interested in agriculture and farming, and while working at the Department of Agriculture it was suggested to me that I should go away and do agricultural training as opposed to A-Levels. To cut a very long story short I ended up hopping on the Tri-star with Nyree and flying off to Devon where I attended Bicton College of Agriculture.

I went to Bicton thinking I knew a fair bit about farming, however once I actually got there I realised that there was a whole lot more for me to learn. The course I had chosen was a National Diploma in Agriculture. This was a three-year course. The first and third years were spent studying at Bicton and the second year we had to spend working in the agriculture industry. I returned home to work during this time and was again employed by the Department of Agriculture.

Whilst at Bicton we were able to take additional course such as spraying, telescopic forklift handling and artificial insemination (A.I). Staff members or instructors at the college had organised for these to be held at Bicton for us.

My three years passed very quickly and all too soon it was teary goodbyes to everyone that I had made friends with and off home for the hardest part of all – waiting for my final result! After what seemed like years, but was in fact only a few weeks, I got the result I wanted. I had passed and was now the proud holder of a National Diploma in Agriculture.

I began work with the Department of Agriculture again in September and I am now based at Port Howard. As I have only been here for a few weeks I haven't been able to visit that many of you yet. Hopefully I will be around to look at your re-seeds soon though.

If anyone needs to contact me they can reach me on phone number 27012. As of yet my computer is not up and running but I should have an e-mail address in the near future. When I do I will get it printed in the Wool Press.

Karen

In case you need further proof that the human race is doomed through stupidity, here is an actual label instruction. I will include more when we have room to spare.

- On a New Zealand insect spray:
This product not tested on animals. (?)

LICE CONTROL IN CATTLE

By Steve Pointing

With many farmers taking more interest in breeding and rearing cattle you might want to consider how you can rid your cattle of lice. In theory it really shouldn't prove a very difficult task as lice are "obligate" parasites – that means they have to live on their hosts all the time. Jeremy Challacombe wrote a very good article on this subject in the December 1999 issue of Wool Press and if any of you keep back copies of this magazine I would recommend a re-reading of his article.

I don't want to cover the same ground as he did other than to say that if everyone with cattle treated them annually with one of the pour on treatments now available it would technically be possible to eradicate cattle lice from the Falkland Islands, in much the same way as dipping got rid of Keds in sheep in the mid 1970's. The ideal time to treat is in the late Autumn as cattle seem to succumb to louse infestation particularly over the Winter and early Spring when they are often in their poorest condition. Theoretically one treatment should prove sufficient to kill the adult lice and any that hatch in the next two to three weeks, but in practice two treatments four weeks apart may prove more effective.

What Preparation Should I Use?

With the Falklands trying to promote a "clean, green" image it is important that we are not seen to be using drugs unnecessarily or without consideration. Many of the earlier pour-on preparations contained organo-phosphorus components which, although highly effective at killing lice, were also absorbed into the animals body where levels built up over the lifetime of the animal. This had important repercussions for residue levels in carcasses destined for human consumption. As a result many of these types of product have been banned in meat-exporting countries. A newer and more environmentally friendly product is based on the plant poison "pyrethrum". This comes in various formulations (*deltamethrin, cypermethrin* etc) but can be used as a pour-on with the advantage that it acts on the surface of the animal but is not absorbed into the body tissues. Technically there should be no reason for any withdrawal period after its use but the EU has stipulated that cattle can only be slaughtered for human consumption 28 days after the last treatment. I would advise that we follow this recommendation for meat produced within the Falklands.

What Should I Do Now?

1. Treat ALL your cattle with a pour-on preparation against lice, now and again in the Autumn. If you buy in any replacements keep them separate and treat them before mixing them in with your clean stock.
2. Use a preparation containing either *deltamethrin* or *cypemethrin*. (No **ORGANOPHOSPHATES**)
3. Keep a record of when the product is used and note down that these animals shouldn't be slaughtered for at least 28 days post treatment. There is no withdrawal period for milk.

If everyone who keeps cattle managed to treat all their livestock once a year for two to three years in a row then lice could effectively be eradicated from the Falklands. It really would be worth the effort and expense now so that in the future no more chemical products would be required – as is already the case with sheep.

PUERTO PACIFICO

Puerto Pacifico, the beautiful thoroughbred stallion owned by Ron & Fiona Rozee, will be at Rincon Grande Farm until the end of December 2001.

Anybody wishing to have their mare covered by him should contact Arthur or Elaine Turner on 31119 as soon as possible.

There will be a much more detailed advert in next month's Wool Press, including photographs of him, which will be out at the beginning of November.

Here is a contact that some of you may find useful in the future. I will include some more when I have space to spare.

TRACTOR WORKSHOP MANUALS
Ph – 01799 540922
Fax – 01799 541367

Suppliers of manuals on Ford, Massey Ferguson, John Deere, International, David Brown, Zetor and Case tractors.

YET ANOTHER INTRODUCTION!

By Nyree Heathman

As most of you farming people who read the Woolpress will have already worked out I have hung up my immersion suit and taken over the position of Senior Agricultural Assistant from Charlene.

A number of you will know that I attended Bicton College of Agriculture in Devon for a year where I gained a National Certificate in Agriculture – well the time has come to try and put some of my newfound knowledge to the test! (and a great deal of the old I suspect.) Bicton is a great place and I thoroughly enjoyed my time there – even if I did have the odd bout of Thursday morning sickness. Nothing to do with the few sneaky G & T's that had been consumed the night before – honest!! At some stage in the near future I am going to begin a distance-learning course, probably with a college in Australia, to hopefully obtain a Diploma in Agricultural Business Management. Sounds good doesn't it. Anyway I'm sure the diddle-dee telegraph will keep you all informed as to how I get on!

Hopefully the job is going to prove to be as interesting as I am hoping it will and, with a bit of luck, once I have settled in I will be out and about visiting farms and seeing how you are all getting on.

Anyway, that's enough from me. Should anybody need to contact me I can be reached on 27211 at FIDC or by e-mail. nheathman@fidc.co.fk (Thanks Nigel!)

BRAINTEASER

Here's a little something for all you Einsteins out there. I will print the answer in next month's editorial.

There is a nine digit number with each of the digits from 1 to 9 appearing once. The whole number is divisible by 9. If you remove the rightmost number, the remaining 8 digit number is divisible by 8. Remove the rightmost number again, and the remaining 7 digit number is divisible by 7. This pattern continues right down to a single digit. What is the number?

A LOOK DOWN UNDER

By Donna Minnell

I decided after Farmers Week last year that I would like to learn more about farming beef cattle. After giving it some serious consideration I decided that Australia would provide me with the training that I wanted and so it was the place to go. When Jeremy Challacombe (Beef Advisor for the Falklands at the time) was on leave from the Islands he very kindly had a look around Australia for a college that would suit my needs. The place that he located was called Tocal College.

Although I could pay for my flight to Australia I could not afford to pay for any courses that I would need to do and for the accommodation as well. I then decided to approach Mandy McLeod at FIDC and ask her for some financial assistance. Mandy was very helpful and arranged for the extra funding that I required for the courses and accommodation. Beef farming was part of my farm plan and I had always expressed an interest in wanting to go and do some training, so for this reason I was able to get the extra funding that I needed from the Agricultural Incentive Scheme. To pay for my flight I had to use up all the Holiday Credits that I had accumulated. Mandy also helped me to get my Visa sorted out and arranged all my transport and everything at Tocal for me.

I departed the Islands on 28th April and travelled via Chile and Easter Island to Sydney, Australia arriving on the morning of the first of May. My stay in Australia was to last until late August and I had a full timetable set out for me. Rob Richmond met me and drove me up to Tocal College. Tocal is situated between Patterson and Maitland. It is an old Agricultural College in the Hunter Valley, New South Wales. Here they run beef cattle, dairy cows and sheep for the production of meat lambs. They also have chickens for eating and horses for riding and taming. Although I was training at Tocal I also undertook courses on other beef properties around Australia and worked on a number of different farms.

Training began on May 3rd with a dog-handling course using Kelpies held by Nevell King and Ken Mayberry. Nevell and Ken breed and sell Kelpies around Australia and in the USA. They sell six week old pups for \$300 and anything older for around \$500. They worked their dogs on both sheep and cattle at Tocal showing us the range of skills that the dogs could perform.

On the 4th, 5th and 6th of May Tocal held field days. Tents and temporary buildings were constructed and used as makeshift shops selling various items. Sometimes three or four people could be selling the same item, just with

different brand names. Here you could buy anything from general household items to cattle yards, livestock scales, eartags, crushes, sheep yards and general farming equipment. There were also cattle, dogs, pups, chickens, ducks, goats and ponies for sale. Alpacas could also be bought from their owners. As well as all the above there was a huge range of clothing, footwear, fencing, farm equipment and machinery for sale. I was only able to stay for one day though as I had to go to Bald Blair for three weeks on the 5th.

To find out more about "Bald Blair" and what it is even, catch up with Part 2 of my "Look Down Under" in next month's Wool Press.



WANTED FOR MOSS-SIDE FARM

CERAMIC INSULATORS OFF OLD TELEPHONE LINES. IF YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE REDUNDANT ITEMS - WE WOULD LIKE TO PUT THEM BACK TO WORK.

PHONE DONNA OR MICHAEL ON 31128

RECIPE PAGE

Although these two puddings appear completely different, when cooked they both have a light fluffy sponge on top and either a lemon or chocolate sauce underneath!

LEMON PUDDING *By Ailsa Heathman*

Ingredients

1 cup of sugar	¼ of a teaspoon of salt
2 separated eggs	3 tablespoons of flour
1 lemon	1 cup of milk

Method

Combine sugar and flour. Add milk and then well beaten eggs yolks, salt and juice from the lemon (and grated rind if liked). Beat egg whites until stiff. Carefully fold in the egg whites and pour the mixture into a buttered baking dish. Sit the dish in a pan/tray of water (about 1 to 1 & ½ inches up the dish is enough) and bake in a hot (350°) oven for approximately 35 minutes.

CHOCOLATE PUDDING *By Mandy McLeod*

Ingredients

pudding:

4oz self raising flour
 4oz soft margarine
 4oz barbados sugar (dark brown sugar)
 2 tablespoons of cocoa
 2 eggs

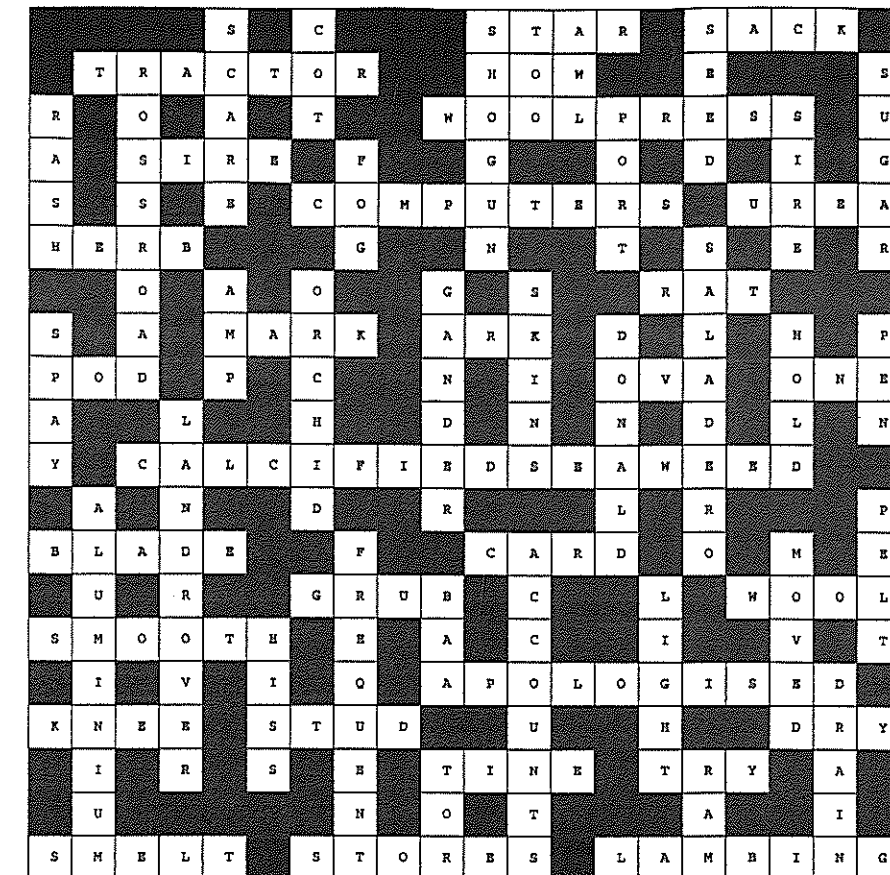
Sauce:

3 tablespoons of Barbados sugar
 3 tablespoons of cocoa
 ¾ pint boiling water
 Demerara sugar for topping (not vital as it is rich and yummy as it is)

Method

Beat all the pudding ingredients together until smooth and glossy. Place in a greased one litre over-proof dish and level with the back of a spoon. Blend the sugar and cocoa with fingertips. Sprinkle over the pudding and gently pour on the boiling water in a circular movement. Place dish on a baking sheet in the oven for 35-40 minutes. Sprinkle with Demerara and serve immediately.

LAST MONTH'S CROSSWORD SOLUTION



WANTED FOR WINEGLASS STATION

1 RADIATOR TO FIT FORD 5000 OR SIMILAR

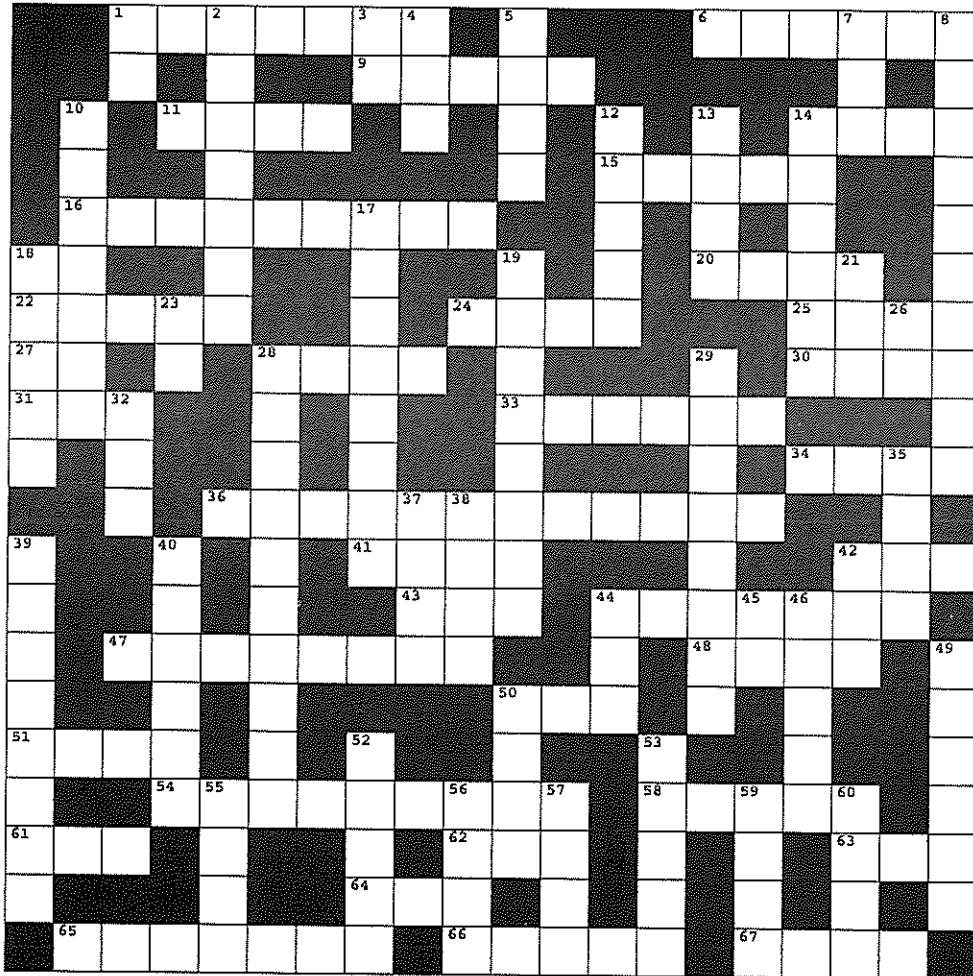
1 REV COUNTER CABLE TO FIT FORD 6610 ENGINE

DAYTIME PHONE - 21297

EVENINGS PHONE - 32280

POOL MACHINERY

ANY FARMERS ON THE WEST WHO WOULD LIKE TO MAKE USE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE POOL MACHINERY, PLEASE CONTACT KAREN AT PORT HOWARD ON 27012 TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS.



ACROSS

1. ILLNESS
6. SMOKED OR CURED HAM
9. MORE MATURE IN WHISKEY TERMS
11. PRODUCE OF CULTIVATED PLANTS
14. CLEVER BIRD/TO BRAG
15. DOG CHAIN FOR EXAMPLE
16. YOUNG PLANTS
18. MEETING PLACE????
20. TO RENDEZVOUS WITH SOMONE
22. CAN BE 1ST, 2ND OR 3RD DEGREE
24. FASTEST GROWING PLANT IN YOUR GARDEN
25. EARTH
27. INSTEAD OF
28. BUSHY PLANT FOUND MAINLY ON MOUNTAINS
30. VOLCANIC MOUNTAIN
31. STEVE OR KEVIN
33. USED FOR MAKING CANDLES/SOAP
34. UNTAMED
36. HORSE RACE WITH JUMPS
41. CLOSE
42. HAT
43. SILLY PERSON
44. TYPE OF CHEESE
47. TOWED CARRYING DEVICES
48. WINEGLASS STATION MEAT
50. PALE/COLOURLESS
51. HORSEBACK HOCKEY
54. WATERPROOF CLOTH/CANVAS
58. AMERICAN RUBBISH
61. ONE ENDED PADDLE
62. TAILLESS MONKEY
63. ADAMS BETTER HALP
64. LAMBS OR NAVY
65. EACH NIGHT
66. MALE ROLE PLAYER
67. FOG

DOWN

1. OPPOSITE OF DON'T
2. SHEARING TROUSERS
3. FIRST TWO LETTERS OF SAVE OUR SOLES ABBREVIATION
4. LARGE DEER
5. EXPENSIVE
7. FATALLY IMPAIR/RUIN
8. BLUE TRACTOR
10. FIELD
12. BEG
13. INNER SURFACE OF HAND
14. DAIRY PRODUCE
17. FORMS FOUR FIFTHS OF ATMOSPHERE
18. HIGHER THAN
19. BIRD COVERING
21. SMALL ALCOHOLIC DRINK
23. NEGATIVE
26. NOT OUT
28. PLANT FOOD
29. LARGE LOCAL OVA FOUND MAINLY IN SEPTEMBER
32. SHEEP AGE IDENTIFICATION
35. SHAKESPEARIAN KING
37. A FRUIT
38. GIRL
39. CANINE GATHERER
40. ORANGE ROOT VEGETABLE
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44. FOOL/TRICK
45. OPPOSITE OF DON'T
46. MONDAY NIGHT WINTER SPORT
49. A FOUR LEAFED ONE IS SAID TO BE LUCKY
50. LASH
52. ONLY ONE OF THESE FARMS EXISTS IN THE ISLANDS
53. STEP
55. ISLAND GROUP BY ALBEMARLE
56. SOUTH AMERICAN PACK ANIMAL
57. BIRD BED
59. FIRST MAN
60. MAIN EGG PRODUCING BIRDS



The Wool Press

ISSUE 143

NOVEMBER 2001

PRICE: £1.00

**All the
regular
features
and more!**

The Wool Press is
published by the
Department
of Agriculture
and
printed at the
Falkland Islands
Government
Printing Office.

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By Doug Martin

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PLUS ALL THE USUAL FEATURES



Cattle Tracing

As you know, Cattle Tracing is not law in the Falklands, but it is in the UK. As it is law in the UK we should be investigating a system of Cattle Tracing in the Falklands, not just for the Organic Certification but for the traceability of our meat when sold to an EU country. It is time to look at it seriously, so that it is in place before a law is passed.

Information

Cattle tracing is an integral part of the UK Government's effort to improve consumer confidence in beef. A computerised Cattle Tracing System (CTS) was launched in the UK and Northern Ireland in September 1998. In 1999 a European Union (EU) requirement for all Member States was to have a computerised tracing system in place for cattle.

The CTS has four elements in a comprehensive system of cattle identification and registration. Data relating to where cattle are kept is recorded by the Government so that the animals can be traced for a variety of reasons, including animal disease.

1. Tagging:

Cattle must have a unique number. Cattle numbers are recorded on two ear tags per animal, one in each ear.

2. Farm records:

Records of cattle births, imports, movements and deaths must be kept by the farmer.

3. Passports:

Cattle in the UK must have a passport which became law on 1 July 1996, recording where they have been throughout their lives. Older cattle have been issued with certificates of CTS Registrations.

4. The CTS:

The CTS is a computer based system to register cattle in UK.

The CTS records the identification and death of cattle, the movements from birth to death of cattle issued with passports from 28 September 1998, and the movements of older cattle since 29 January 2001. Cattle keepers can now register new calves and check information held on their cattle on the CTS through CTS Online.

The CTS makes it possible to:

- Check which animals are present on a farm;
- Check where an animal had been during its life;
- Trace animals exposed to a disease risk;
- Give assurances to buyers about an animal's life history, and so
- Strengthen consumer confidence in beef.

Australia and New Zealand have a similar system. The National Livestock Identification Scheme (NLIS) is a permanent identification device imbedded with an microchip. The device is read electronically and the information is held on a national database which provides information relating to the animal, such as; disease and residue status, market eligibility and commercial information. This database is available for all industry sectors with password access.

It works by NLIS delivering cattle producers a simple, national identification system which allows cattle to be identified once, for example; providing recording efficiency and accuracy through electronic readers and transfer of information to the database.

The database will provide information on lost, stolen and mortgaged cattle and notify the relevant people if the identification number is recorded at any abattoir in the future. Cattle may be identified by an ear tag or a rumen bolus.

Should you need more information on this Cattle Tracing System, I would suggest you lookup a web site called www.defra.gov.uk which is the old MAFF. This site has loads of information which could become relevant in the Falklands in time.

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the November Wool Press.

Firstly, sorry about the mistake on the front cover of the October edition. I swear it wasn't our fault. Slight printer's error!

Most of you will have started shearing by now I guess. Lets hope the weather stays fine. All the sheep at Saladero have already been shorn. Hopefully I can persuade Lucy to do a write-up once they get the results back.

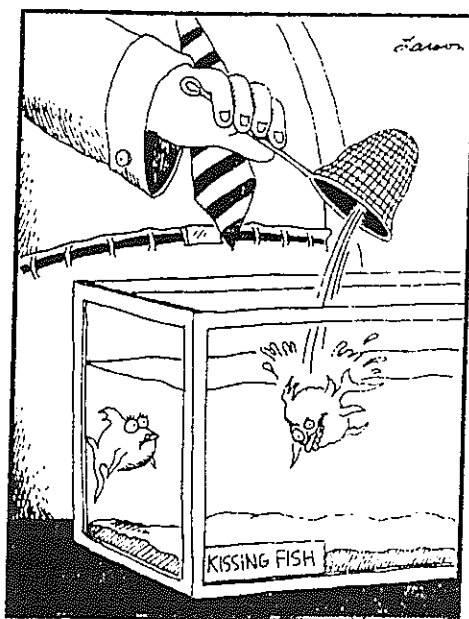
Hopefully from next month onwards there will be a regular weather report from Priscilla. This will include information that she has downloaded from your weather stations.

For those of you wanting to put adverts in the Wool Press, can you please have them to us by the about the 22nd of the month. This way we can hopefully avoid disappointment by guaranteeing space to print them. Thanks.

I must also welcome Andrew Pollard to the Department of Agriculture. Andrew will be working with Peter on the pasture improvements. I will squeeze an introduction out of him in time for next month's edition!

Lastly, the answer to October's brainteaser is 381,654,729.

Nyree and Mandy



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However, such quotations are to be made in context and the Wool Press must be
acknowledged as the source.

The articles printed in the Wool Press do not necessarily represent the views of the DoA.

Useful and interesting web sites:

www.defra.gov.uk

www.mla.com.au (Australian National Livestock Identification Scheme & information) or use the Google search engine and type in NLIS

www.fidc.co.fk

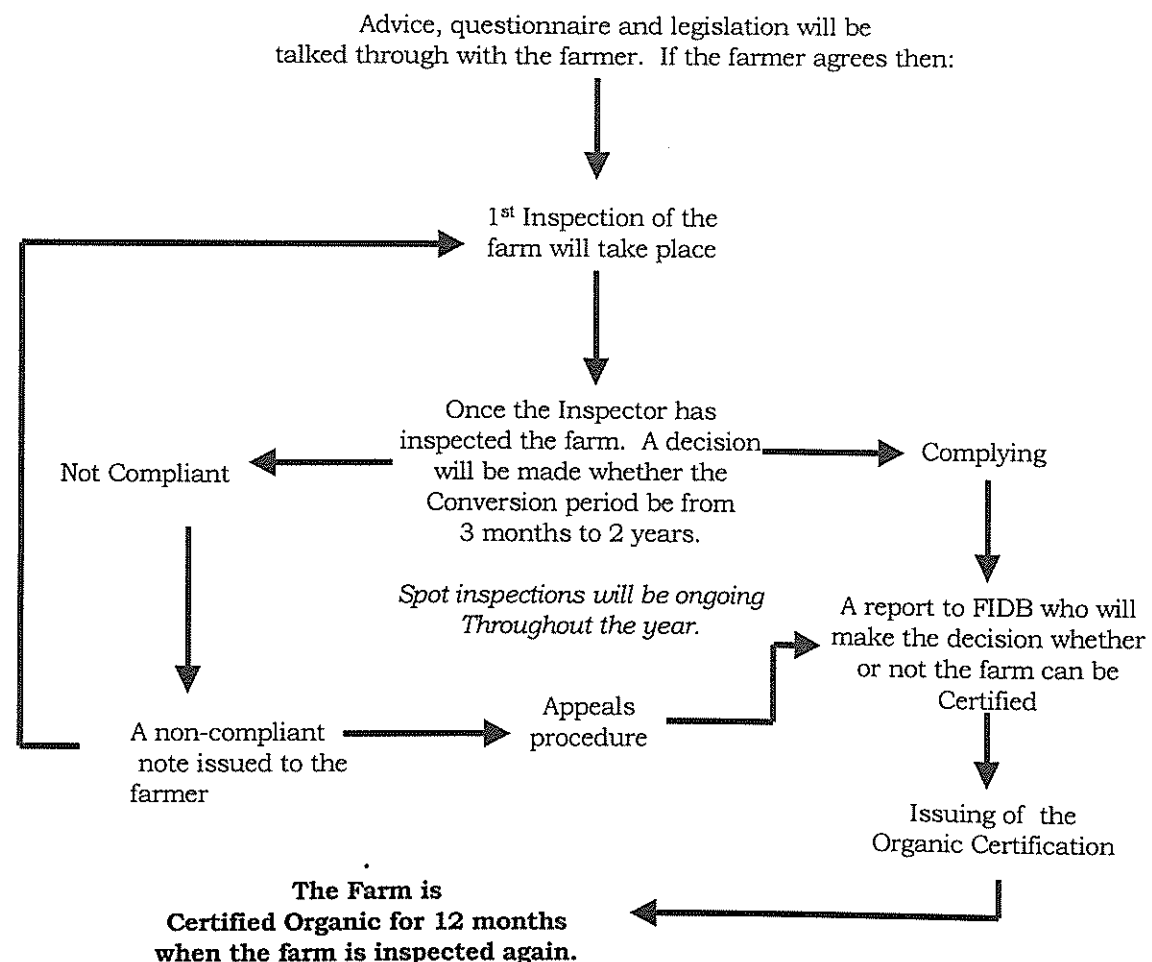
www.falklandislands.com

Do you have any useful web site addresses on any farm related issues that you would like to share ?

A few farmers have asked me **'What is the procedure of the Organic Certification'?**

The diagram below shows you follows it through..

Organic Certification Procedures



Are you interested in knowing more about organics or just want information?
Please contact: Charlene Rowland at FIDC on telephone 27211 or email: crowland@fidc.co.fk

REINDEER PROGRESS REPORT

By Kevin Lawrence

At present there are 19 females, average weight on 26/9/01=36.2 kg, and 26 males, average weight on the 26/9/01=40.2 kg. Two males Rolly and George are still kept in Stanley whilst all the rest are back at Saladero.

We are weighing monthly and in the first month of weighing there was only a weight gain of 0.5 kg but from 30/8/01-26/9/01 there was a gain of 2.9kg in both male and female deer. Weighing again next week. Blood tests have shown that they may have a marginal zinc level but supplementation could be difficult. Some concentrates are still being fed but as soon as the grass comes on line we will be tailing them off.

There have been no deaths for nearly 2 months, but 1 small female, no 16, still gives concern. With only 19 females (which conservatively could rear 15 fawns in first year) this leaves us a long way short of the 100 that Cameron had anticipated. This must add at least 5 years to those brave financial predictions made at the outset!

The stags are starting to bulk up nicely and there are two outstanding stags which we will use as sires next year, breeding season is March/April calves born Nov/Dec.

Presently there is a mange problem. We have found a mite which looks like the cat ear mite Otodectes. Unfortunately this is proving very hard to kill and we may have to plunge dip these deer yet.

We are hoping to construct handling facilities soon, and with Doug and Niilo's help this will hopefully be sooner than later.

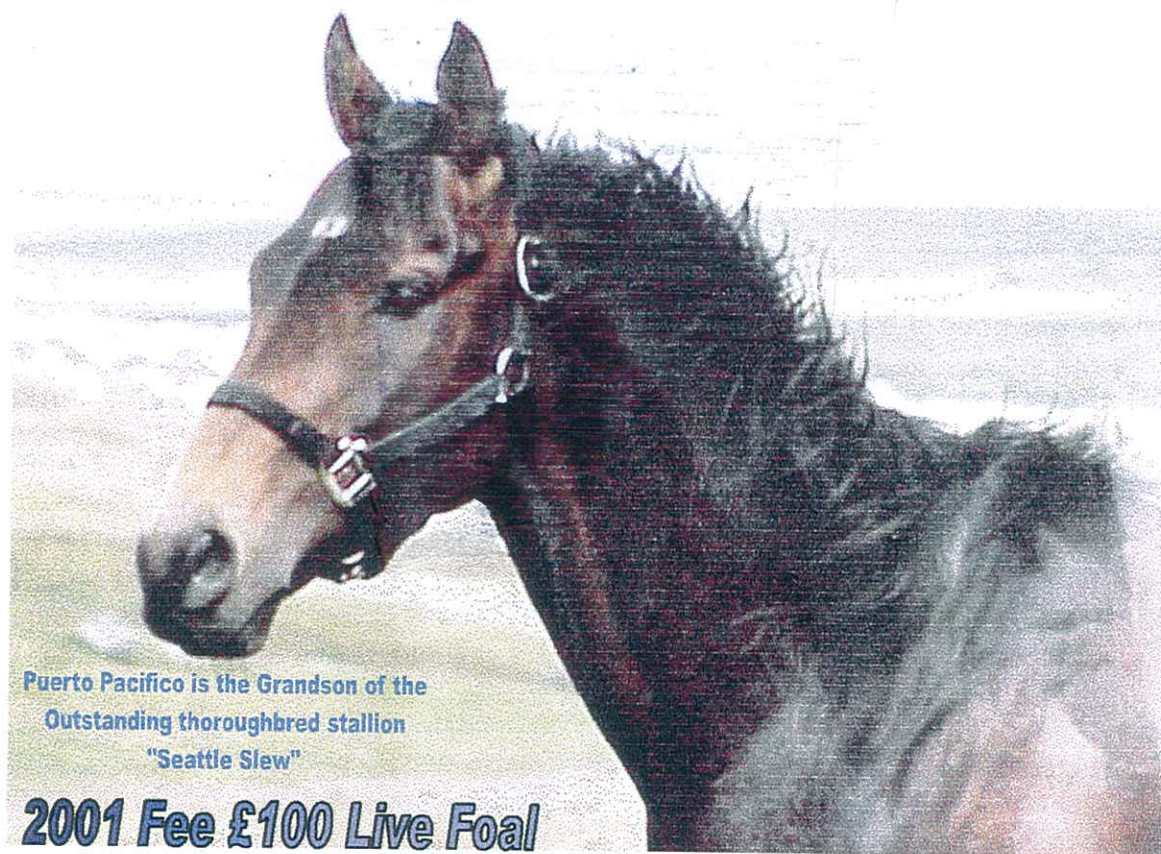
The deer are starting to shed their old antlers and will begin growing velvet soon. Velvet growth is a very sensitive indicator of deer performance/health so hopefully it will be good, some velvet could be ready for harvesting at Xmas. We will almost certainly do the sire stags to prevent injury during the rut. Bob has kindly agreed to test the first batch of Falkland velvet so get ready to bite those pillows girls!

Once the handling facilities are built we will castrate most of the excess males probably keeping 3 entire in case of accident/injury to our sire stags.

In the second year of breeding an attempt to open out the genetic base of these deer could be made by using semen from Norway or else getting a male from the second South Georgia herd.

PUERTO PACIFICO

STANDING AT RINCON GRANDE FARM

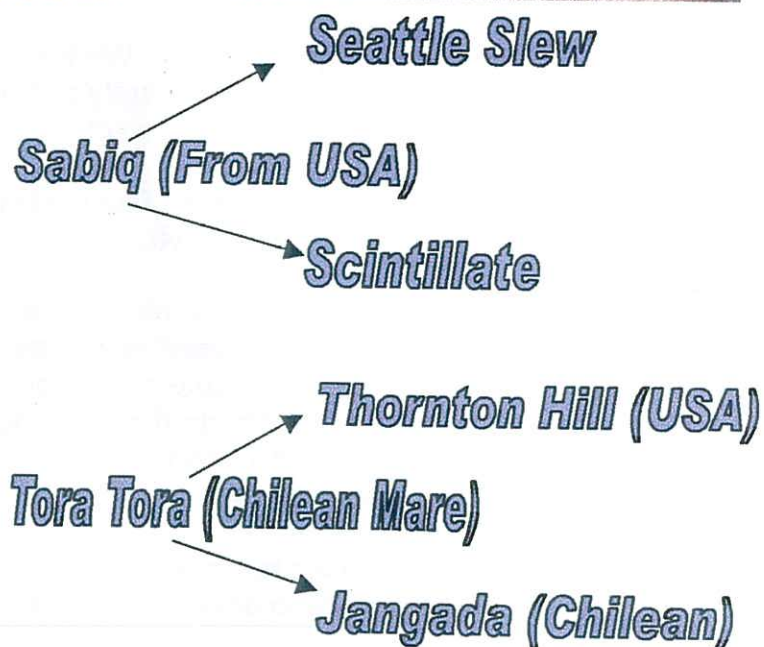


Puerto Pacifico is the Grandson of the Outstanding thoroughbred stallion "Seattle Slew"

2001 Fee £100 Live Foal

Puerto Pacifico has outstanding bloodlines, beautiful conformation, incredible turn of speed and a kind, gentle nature.

Seattle Slew a winner of the Triple Crown. Also Champion 2 year old colt. Champion 3 year old colt. Horse of the year and Champion handicapped Horse.



There will be transport for mares from Stanley to Rincon, date to be advised. For information or bookings contact Elaine & Arthur Turner. Phone:31119 Fax:31149 Email: a.e.turner@horizon.co.fk

PUERTO PACIFICO

By Elaine Turner

Puerto Pacifico, the beautiful thoroughbred stallion owned by Ron and Fiona Rozee, will be at Rincon Grande Farm until the end of December 2001.

Puerto Pacifico is the grandson of the great Seattle Slew, a winner of the elite Triple Crown. Seattle Slew is still an active stallion at his home in Midway, Kentucky on the Three Chimney Ranch. You can get all the facts about Seattle Slew at <http://www.threechimneys.com/seattle>

Whatever you are looking for in a foal Puerto Pacifico has those qualities to pass on. He has a lovely tame and gentle nature. I have spent many pleasant hours with him and when he is lying down he likes nothing better than for me to tickle his belly. His speed has to be seen to be believed. I have watched him gallop up to a fence, turn on a sixpence and then gallop off again. His grandfather, Seattle Slew, ran one of the fastest miles ever recorded in 1 minute 34 seconds. He is also a great horse to ride.

If you are looking for speed, intelligence, gentleness and a great riding horse then don't delay, make your booking today. Puerto Pacifico will be returning to his home at Spring Point Farm in January 2002. We will be in Stanley in our coach in early November, the date to be advised. Owners will be informed of this when they book their mares. For those who do not have transport to bring their mares to Rincon Grande we will pick them up and transport them here. We will also take them back to Stanley when they have been successfully covered.

Last year Puerto Pacifico covered nine mares from January to February. Eight of those mares are in foal.

AI PROGRAMME 2002

By Doug Martin

Requests are coming in for semen for the coming season. Please get in early as we have a budget framework to work within.

It is good policy from the viewpoint of the last AI program to wait until you see the results, however this is not far away.

I have been in touch with Australia and New Zealand in order to get the best price for synchronisation and AI supplies. Once I have the cost per head I can allocate the remainder of the budget to semen.

Contact:
 Kevin Lawrence Ph. 27366
 Doug Martin Ph/Fax 27354
 Email : beefspec.fig@horizon.co.fk

GUDDAY TO ALL FROM NILO THE NUTRITIONIST

Luckily I have been given a bit more time to adjust to my new environment than Doug had last month. I have now been here for three weeks and have been through the frosty spring mornings, warm sunny days with a cool breeze and gentle 65 mph winds at night. My hands have thawed enough for me to type so I must be acclimatizing!!

You might have guessed I have just come from a warmer climate, sunny Queensland in Australia, but I grew up on a small beef property in northern NSW. I think our winters are warmer than your summers so the conditions are pretty different to here. We do have similar problems though with extensive landholdings, seasonal feed shortages and trying to make the best of low quality feed sources. I'm here to take the position of Animal nutritionist, a position vacated by Sean Miller. It seems I have big shoes to fill as he has done some good work over the past few years.

My professional background has been in animal production research, mainly with dairy and beef cattle, and pasture production. I haven't had a lot to do with sheep so you are going to have to bear with me while I'm on a steep learning curve. However, the principles of nutrition for all these animals, including reindeer (which I have only just encountered) and goats, are similar.

My so far checkered career has had another checker added to the board by me coming to the Falklands. Early on I worked with Cotton in western and Sugarcane in northern Queensland. I then moved into pasture research and ended up working in Thailand for two and a half years with pasture production/dairy and beef nutrition. Since then I have furthered my interest in ruminant nutrition by finishing a Masters degree, and for the last 4 years I have been working in dairy systems research and managing the nutrition and grazing management of a 180-cow commercial/research milking herd. What I have been most involved with is integrating native pastures and supplementary feeding with reseed pastures and crops to achieve production goals.

My broad background has shaped the way I think and I therefore take a holistic approach to things – the *BIG* picture ie. How does a single change on your farm affect the animal, the plant, soil, your lifestyle, and especially your bank balance? It must be remembered that sometimes it takes money to make money and the benefits of spending money eg. supplementary feeding, may have an even greater effect in the long term than the short term eg. larger animals, better reproduction and production. Whether your market returns are good enough will decide if this is feasible.

It's too early for me to say exactly what I will be looking at in terms of research. I still have a lot of farmers to talk to, a lot of looking around to still do and a lot of reports to read so I can make sure I am not repeating somebody else's work. An area I am quite interested in is animal feed intake, which has been said to be THE major limiting factor in animal

nutrition (even before minerals, parasites etc). That's not to say that everything else is not important as everything is related. In fact we are starting a trial this week on the effects of supplementary copper on the Saladero cattle. I want to get a handle on what the animals are eating so I have a starting point from which nutrition and intake can be improved. The figures I've seen tell me that your animals won't grow on whitegrass, so they must be eating a lot of the other fine grasses. How much time do they spend on whitegrass, which other grasses and how much of them are available is something I'll be looking at. Intake (even of whitegrass) can be improved in many ways (eg. supplementing, physically or chemically treating the feed, managing the pasture) but often these ways may not be cost effective.

If any of you have questions to be answered or researched I would love to hear from you so please don't hesitate to call me at Goose Green (27358). Finally, a thank-you to all who have given us such a generous welcome so far. I look forward to working with you all over the next couple of years.

STUDY TOUR TO CHILE

I have spoken with several farmers who have expressed interest in a study tour to Chile.

It appears that March 2002 would be the most suitable time to go. I have made inquiries and now have some contacts who will assist us in organizing the tour.

It is felt so far that we should visit cattle and sheep enterprises in order to take in breeding and grazing systems, research stations, abattoirs, alternative enterprises as well as study marketing chains and specifications. We could also look at the quarantine facilities and standards if the import of live cattle is given the green light.

A reciprocal visit would also be appropriate.

Please advise if you are interested as it will take some time to organize. Should anyone have any suggestions in regard to other visits please let me know.

Contact Doug Martin
Ph/Fax 27354
Email: beefspec.fig@horizon.co.fk

P.S. It is imperative that Rodney Lee from Port Howard comes along as his entertainment skills are unsurpassed!!

FALKLAND ISLANDS MEAT COMPANY

By Amy Jonson

Well here we are again folks, with another update on the abattoir. On the 8th October we were joined by Josie Larsen, Evan Jones and Carlos Rodriguez and then a little later on Luis 'Maxi' Olmos, Angela Wastavino and Henry Browning joined our merry crew.

I think Elvis must have been counting the seconds down to the moment when Angela started work, and when she finally arrived he couldn't even speak to her without his face matching his coke can! Poor Elvis; must be losing his touch!

We are capable of killing 70 sheep in 3 hours, and turning the meat into mince, diced, topsides, back straps, boneless legs, and also the kidneys have been sold. All of this has gone to Freshco so far. The Lamb & Rosemary sausages we have been selling to Freshco have gone down a storm apparently. Having tried them myself I must say they are tasty. Lets hope the burgers we sold to K3 will be just as popular.

We have not actually slaughtered any pigs or beef as yet but are hoping to get some pigs this week from Bobby Short and also 15 beef from Mike Evans.

We have been shearing the sheep prior to killing to make it easier with the training which according to Brian is going well. Tony Heathman has kindly volunteered to shear the sheep for us and take away the wool as well, with Ailsa rousing and rolling the wool for him. Evan has also had a crack at shearing.

We are very grateful to Owen Summers and his team who have provided invaluable assistance over the past weeks by rounding up and driving our wayward flock to the abattoir! Many thanks.

We have had the pest control people out to lay traps for rats and mice inside the plant, and surrounding areas. Prevention is better than cure as they say.

Training is going well with killing one day and boning out the next with Pete McKay disposing of all the waste in the the dog proof landfill site. Everyone seems to be confident of their job in the slaughter line and enjoying the experience to boot. A bit different from killing in camp I can tell you!

We now have our own Falkland Islands Meat Company sticky labels to go onto the produce so everyone is aware of where the meat comes from, and our own Delivery Notes, Purchase orders and Received Goods books which look pretty smart. I have just recently printed off some No Smoking signs and various others which have been laminated and look very professional.

The incinerator and the buildings around it, alias the hide curing shed, and additional lairage (holding approximately 400 sheep) are coming on well.

The engineer from UK arrived on Mon 22nd October and will be here for four weeks erecting and commissioning the incinerator. Both should hopefully be ready for operation December time.

My father is actually going to be doing the incinerating so we can permanently dispose of any wayward spouses for a suitable fee!! The hides and skins will be salted using a converted cement mixer and exported.

We have received a date for the EU Inspection for the 19th January. This is a big disappointment as we hoped to have it in November, but due to Foot and Mouth outbreaks in Europe and South America the inspectors are overloaded with work. We are presently trying to source sales into Brazil and may be able to arrange an inspection for approval of the Abattoir during the interim period.

Brian is still very confident that we have a good future, and finds it very frustrating awaiting EU approval. Regarding sales, our contacts in UK ask 'when are you starting' and 'how much product do you have for us to sell'. There is a great deal of interest in Falkland Islands meat products.

All in all I think the abattoir is coming on nicely, as is the staff training, and looking hopeful for the future.

'SINGLE CONSTITUENCY' ROADSHOW

By now many of you will have attended the Road Show with the Chief Executive presenting the 'Single Constituency'. I apologise to those of you who wanted to attend but couldn't make it due to shearing commitments and associated work. It was inevitable that the dates and times would not suit everyone, but as the referendum is so close, it was important to give at least some of you the opportunity to ask questions on this issue that is important to you. I hope also that some of you spoke to Dr Blanch to find out more about 'being a Councillor'.

A full Road Show will be arranged for around the end of March when the forum will be open to discuss anything you want to. In the meantime, I am aware that the 'Designation of Camp Roads' and the 'Abattoir' are also subjects on which you would like more discussion and / or information.

Information we can give in the Wool Press, but discussion needs us to get together. As an interim measure, if you have any questions that you feel could be answered through the Wool Press, please ask and I will pass it on to the most appropriate Government Officer for a written reply. Likewise, any issues that you think warrant a speaker at the March Road Show, please call me to discuss it and I'll see what I can do.

Keep in touch.

Mandy

TO ALL FALKLAND FARMERS

WEST FALKLAND RAM & FLEECE SHOW

The fourteenth West Falkland Ram & Fleece Show will be held this year on Saturday 29th December 2001 in Fox Bay Village.

This is to remind farmers before the start of shearing to save rams and fleeces for the following classes.

CLASS	1	FULL WOOLED RAM HOGGETT
CLASS	2	FULL WOOLED SHEARLING RAM
CLASS	3	FULL WOOLED MATURE RAM
CLASS	4	HOGGETT FLEECE
CLASS	5	ANY FINE WOOL FLEECE OTHER THAN HOGGETT
CLASS	6	ANY 'B' WETHER TYPE FLEECE

This will be the first opportunity this century to win a prize at 'The Ram Show' so make sure you don't miss out.

We will keep you all up to date on details of prizes and sponsors as the 'Event' approaches.

N.A.Knight
Organiser WFR&FS

COMPUTER QUESTIONNAIRE

Many thanks to all of you who have returned your computer questionnaire. I am appealing now to all those people in Camp who have not sent theirs in. You have no excuse as everyone had a pre-paid envelope provided. Even if you are not interested in Information Technology or doing any further education in the future, I would appreciate it if you would still return the form with your name on it, so that we know your views and can utilise the information we have better statistically.

Please send your questionnaires to me by 20th November or thereabouts so that I can report the results for the December Wool Press. From this we will be able to put together the best possible training programme, to commence after the season has finished, to suit your requirements.

Thanks again. *Mandy*

NATIONAL CATTLE IDENTIFICATION SCHEME

By Doug Martin

This initiative has been proposed prior to my arrival and perhaps the scheme should be resurrected.

In Australia we need to electronically identify cattle destined for the EU trade and in Victoria the price of tags has been subsidized for all producers. In time I suspect that all cattle and even sheep will need to be electronically identified by law.

There are three methods that can be employed;

Radio frequency ear tags
Rumen boluses
Microchips

The first two of these have been approved for use, with the Allflex tag being the most common, costing the equivalent of £1.20 each. It is simply a button inserted in the offside ear using a similar applicator to that already in use. This identification stays with the animal for life.

All abattoirs are installing readers, so there is no need to have one on farm at this stage. The cost of a reader varies from £120 - £500, depending on the sophistication required. Most farmers are not keen on the idea because of the cost, however as a management tool the system is invaluable, as feedback can be obtained on all stock at slaughter.

The advantage of getting in early here is that besides meeting future market requirements and feedback, a register can be kept of all cattle.

Paul Robertson has a copy of a software programme called Saltbush, which can be linked to a database called Breedplan in Australia, and which can be used here to assist in the selection of superior breeding stock within the Breedplan framework. It can also be used to collect the data for the national herd, which can be done by farmers downloading their records to Paul's computer, or by sending in a floppy disc with the appropriate information.

Let me know if you are interested.

In the meantime if you are interested in using a programme for keeping track of your cattle you might download information from a web site called www.agdownload.com and look for the livestock icon. Some of the programmes are free and some are demos. You will find plenty of other programmes to look at as well.

PART 2 – BALD BLAIR

By Donna Minnell

After catching a train at Maitland I arrived at Armidale where I took a bus to Guyra. Here Sam Whites parents met me. Sam and his wife Angie own the farm I was going to work on. Richard and Elizabeth (Sam's parents), Sam, Angie, and the farm worker Eric and his wife Joan all live there. The farm is in three sections with Bald Blair being the largest. The other two farms are only slightly smaller and were called Aberfoyle and Gatwood. They run about 70-80 breeding cows commercially. We were kept very busy with weaning the calves and trucking them and any cows not in calf down to Bald Blair from Aberfoyle and Gatwood. All the cattle were Angus. Sam also runs stud cows used for breeding Angus bulls to sell. Some of his stud herd are artificially inseminated to introduce new blood into his already good herd of bulls and heifers. The commercial herd is used for breeding steers and for producing embryos suitable for transfer. All the cows and heifers are scanned for eye muscle and marbling and those that are good enough go into the stud herd. The rest join the commercial herd.

The cattle are gathered up with dogs and horses and taken to the yards where they are drafted to separate the weaners from the cows. The cows are then pregnancy tested and those that are not in calf are sold to the meat market. This includes any heifers that do not get in calf the first time round. All the weaners are weighed, drenched, backlined and vaccinated with a five in one vaccine. At this stage they are 9-10 months old and weigh 250-300kg. Once the steers are old enough they are taken into Gyra Sale Yards where they are sold by auction. The heifers are kept in the yards on the farm for five days before being turned out into a paddock where they are fed twice a day with Lucerne hay and given plenty of water. Each afternoon they are moved around the yards with a horse and dog to tame them down. Once they are fully weaned they are driven to their camp.

The mature breeding cows are put to the bull for 8 weeks and heifers for 6 weeks only. Heifers are put to the bull at about 15-16 months weighing around 280kg. The breeding cows and heifers must all calf unassisted each year to remain in the herd. Any animal requiring assistance is culled, as is her progeny.

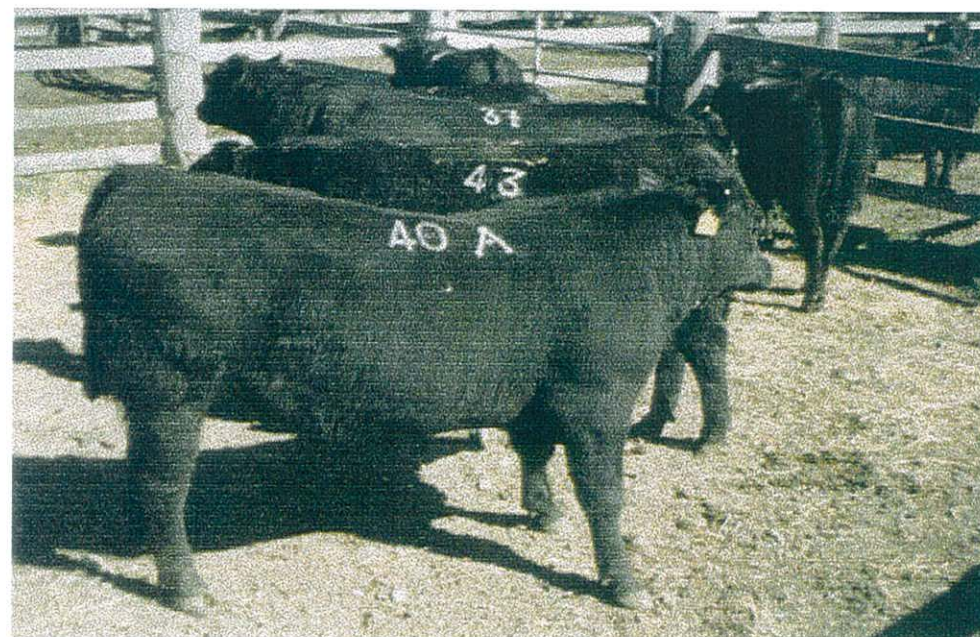
The bulls are very carefully selected. They have to be very fertile, have good growth rate, muscling, strong carcass traits and be structurally sound animals. They are all scanned for eye muscle and marbling and their scrotal size is measured. The bulls are all measured at 20 month of age. Any bull with a scrotal measurement of less than 32.5cm is culled and sent to the butchers.

Measurements of 35 cm and above mean the bull is more fertile. The bulls with the smaller measurements are culled because they would produce calves that were less fertile in Sam's herd. Any bulls with any faults at all, such as turned in toes and too short a step, were sold.

Sam has a small feedlot where he had seven 10-month-old bulls. Here he fed them on pellets that didn't contain any grain, hay for roughage and plenty of water. Each bull had an electronic ear tag with a number on that was read by a computer system. Every time a bull went to get a feed he broke an electronic beam that read the tag number. The animals weight was then recorded, the time at which it was feeding and how long it fed for. This information was then downloaded and read by Sam. The bulls were kept in the feedlot for 60 to 70 days so that Sam could see how much weight they put on in a day and what time of day they ate. They were also watched to make sure that they did not get flu and that they were generally healthy. By the time they are taken out of the feedlot they should weigh approximately 500 to 600kg. The 21-22 month old bulls should weigh between 600 and 900kg by sale day!

Unfortunately this is where I will have to leave it as my time at Bald Blair was now up and it was back on the bus and the train and away to Tocal.

Next month – Part 3 On With The Courses



10 month old bulls at Bald Blair

HYDATIDS: SALE OF OFFAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH

By Stephen Pointing

Well this truly is a contentious issue as recent correspondence in the Penguin News has indicated. I suppose it is not surprising that concerns are raised when changes are proposed to a system that has been in place for many years now. The proposed change is not so very radical – it is simply that those offals which have been subjected to meat inspection and found fit for human consumption, should be allowed to be put on sale to the public. This would be normal practice anywhere in the developed world. What complicates the situation in the Falkland Islands is that farmers are killing sheep for their own (and their dogs') consumption on their settlements and also killing mutton/lambs to supply retail and private individual orders from the population in Stanley. There is no proposal to change this much appreciated system (although it should be noted that sales of meat direct from farms has been prohibited in other countries trying to eradicate hydatids, notably Tasmania and New Zealand) BUT the provision of offals will continue to be prohibited as these carcasses will not have been subject to meat inspection. This seems to me to be an eminently reasonable compromise but to some of you in camp it smacks of "one rule for them in town/government/abattoir and another for us on the farms". The simple reason is that we will need a meat inspector at the abattoir to fulfil our EU obligations and his job will be to ensure that only meat (and offal) fit for human consumption is passed as such. We do not have the resources or the time to send a meat inspector to each and every settlement when killing for home consumption and/or sale to Stanley is about to take place. And that is the rationale behind the PROPOSED changes to the law.

What Is The Current Hydatid Situation?

The honest answer to this is that we don't absolutely know. We will have a much better idea when the abattoir is up and running and meat inspection is taking place on a regular basis. From my own records there was one hydatid cyst sent in in 2000 and we have had one hydatid cyst so far in 2001. The last hydatid cyst found at the butchery was in July 1999. The Hydatid Officer, Mr J Forster, has not found any positive cysts during the last year in spite of inspecting several hundred offals around the islands during his period in office. His predecessor, Diana Berntsen, also found very few cysts in her three years in office having examined even larger numbers of offals. These findings would indicate that the incidence in the sheep population is probably very low but that some hydatids are still out there. The question is WHY – after 20 years of dosing dogs with a very effective tapeworm treatment DRONCIT, not being allowed to feed offal to dogs, and disposing of the offals in a prescribed manner – are hydatids still being found in sheep in the year 2001? If everyone had followed the rules

laid down in the Hydatid Eradication (Dogs) Order 1981 to the letter, then technically Hydatidosis should have been eradicated by the early 1990's when those sheep that were born in the early 80's just before the Order was passed would have been culled out 10 years later.

What Can You Do To Get Rid Of Hydatids Completely?

1. Follow the regulations set out in the Hydatid Eradication (Dogs) Orders 1981.
2. Dose your dog with Droncit on the appointed day (every 6 weeks – a message goes out on the radio just prior to dog dosing day). Make sure you are giving your dog the correct dose for his weight – 1 tablet per 10kg (20lbs). It is better to give one tablet too many than one too few.
3. Don't allow your dog access to any sheep carcasses or offal. Check your killing house and offal disposal system the next time you kill. Are any repairs needed? All buildings and fences need maintenance from time to time.
4. Make sure all offal is properly destroyed – by deep burial, burning or keeping in a dog-proof container for at least 28 days. Offal pits should also be bird-proof.
5. Don't allow your dog to roam unattended BUT do exercise and feed your dog properly.
6. Don't keep geriatric sheep in you flock – these are the ones most likely to harbour an old cyst.

Remember that getting rid of Hydatids completely is perfectly feasible but it does require EVERYBODY to abide by the rules. The use of modern drugs helps in the eradication process but you shouldn't rely entirely on them to do the job and neglect other aspects of the control scheme.

I'd be really interested to hear from anyone out there who reads this as to why they think we are still finding the occasional hydatid cyst in sheep offals after all this time.

PS From the limited amount of meat inspections I've performed at the abattoir so far I would have condemned a large percentage of the livers on colour and texture alone. To date I have not found any hydatid cysts but there are plenty of boils sometimes in the liver but mainly in the lungs. The hearts generally look in reasonable condition.

RECIPE PAGE

Both this month's recipe's are from 'The Rayburn Cookbook'.

ALMOND MACAROONS – Makes 18

Ingredients

3 egg whites
4oz ground almonds
8oz caster sugar
2 teaspoons of rice flour
½ teaspoon of almond essence
rice paper
egg white
split almonds

Method

Grease and line baking trays with rice paper. Beat the egg whites until foamy. Add the ground almonds, sugar, rice flour and almond essence. Spoon the mixture onto the rice paper in 18 mounds spaced well apart. Brush with egg white and add an almond to the centre of each. Bake in the oven at 170°C for 20-25 minutes or until pale gold. Cool slightly before lifting from the tray and removing rice paper from around the edges of each macaroon.

CHOCOLATE YOGURT CAKE

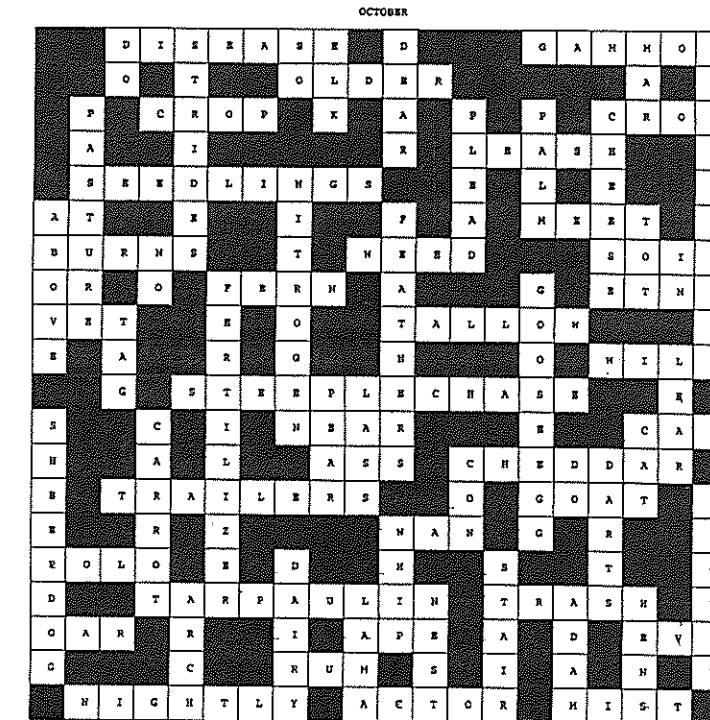
Ingredients

¼ of a pint of vegetable oil
¼ of a pint of natural yoghurt
4 tablespoons of golden syrup
6oz soft brown sugar
3 eggs
8oz of 85% self raising wholemeal flour
3 tablespoons of cocoa
½ teaspoon bicarbonate soda
½ teaspoon of salt

Method

Place the oil, syrup, sugar and eggs into a bowl and beat well. Add the yoghurt and beat again. Sift the cocoa, flour, bicarbonate and salt together and add to your yoghurt mixture. Mix well. Grease and line a 20cm (8in) cake tin. Pour mixture into tin and cook at 170°C for 1 ½ hours. Turn out when cool.

LAST MONTH'S CROSSWORD SOLUTION



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NEW ZEALAND WOOLBOARD STANDARD WOOLPACKS @ £2.45 each.

We can also obtain the following at very competitive prices:

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Pratley Stock Yards.

Farm Gates.

Steel or Wooden Framed Sheds and Garages.

Hand and Electrical Tools.

Worm Drenches etc.

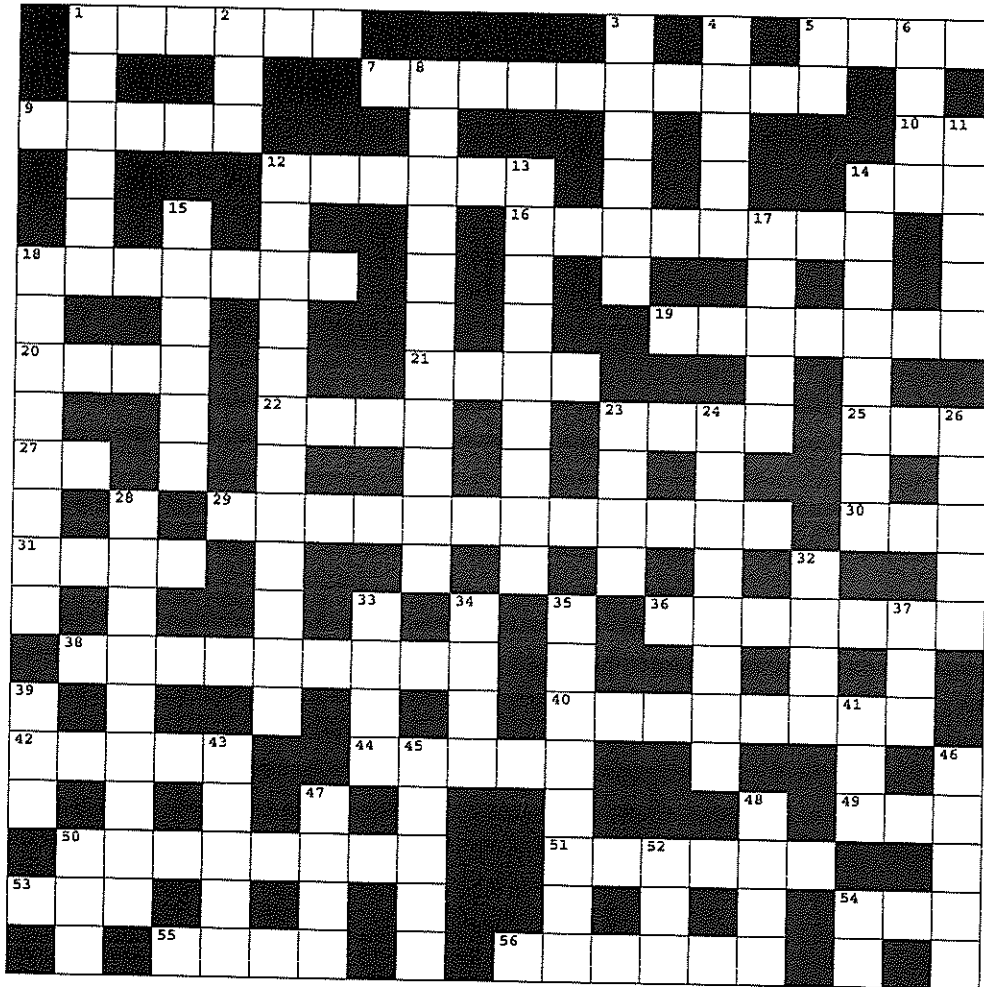
ALSO FOR SALE A NUMBER OF HARDENED, POTTED TREES @ £1 EACH

FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE CONTACT ALI OR MARLANE MARSH

Phone: 42019 Fax: 42018 Email: a.m.marsh@horizon.co.fk

BRAINTEASER

On an island, there are three priests, three prisoners, and one boat. How do you transfer all of them to another island across a sea using the boat with the following restrictions: Up to two people may ride in the boat at a time. At any given time or place, the prisoners cannot out-number the priests. No swimming!!



ACROSS

1. ANIMAL MARKER
5. OLD MEASUREMENT
7. PETER JOHNSTON
9. CHANNEL OR VALLEY
10. SYMBOL FOR ARSENIC
12. SHORT-SIGHTEDNESS
14. OVER THE TOP
16. ROLLY
18. SWORD FIGHTING
19. ANIMAL OWNERSHIP IDENTIFICATION
20. TAIL
21. AQUATIC BIRD
22. WOODEN FRAME FOR MAKING DRAUGHT ANIMALS WORK TOGETHER
23. LARGE PREDATORY FRESHWATER FISH
25. WRITING FLUID
27. EXPRESSION USED AS A GREETING
29. SHEEP SORTING AREA
30. COMMIT AN OFFENCE
31. UNDERWATER RIDGE
36. SKELETON
38. UNUSUAL ABATTOIR PRODUCE
40. 'THE BOOKS'
42. PODDED LUGUMINOUS PLANT PRODUCE
44. FISH
49. TYPE OF WELDING
50. YOUNG GEESE
51. LOCALLY FARMED MOLLUSC
53. KNIGHTED MAN
54. NOTHING
55. WOODY PLANT
56. SOAK

DOWN

1. WOOLGIRL
2. 24 HOURS
3. BREED OF SHEEPDOG
4. PADDOCK
5. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
6. INFORMAL TALK
8. RUTH & IAN FOR EXAMPLE (3,8)
11. CUT OF BEEF
12. TYPE OF SPANNER WITH ADJUSTABLE JAWS (6,6)
13. HINDQUARTER SHEARING
14. RELATING TO, OR DERIVED FROM LIVING PLANTS & ANIMALS
15. LOCAL SEASONAL GRASS WITH FLOWER
17. UNCANNILY FRIGHTENING
18. AREA SURROUNDED BY FARM BUILDINGS
23. TUBE
24. LARGE MARSUPIAL
26. ? RIDGE- FALKLAND FARM
28. POWER SOURCE
32. REPRESENTATIVE SYMBOL
33. SELECTION OF FOOD
34. NORWEGIAN CAPITAL
35. KILLING HOUSE
37. SIBLING
39. FALL AWAY OR DECLINE
41. COMMON DRINK
43. RELATING TO THE SUN
45. CORRODED
46. TRADE OR TECHNIQUE
47. PROTECTED BY THE PATELLA
48. WIRE NETWORK
50. ALCOHOLIC DRINK
52. COMMIT AN OFFENCE
54. USED TO EXPRESS DENIAL



The Wool Press

ISSUE 144

DECEMBER 2001

PRICE: £1.00

**All the
regular
features
and more!**

The Wool Press is
published by the
Department
of Agriculture
and
printed at the
Falkland Islands
Government
Printing Office.

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ORGANIC NEWS AND INFORMATION

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By Priscilla Halliday

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IPSWICH

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LIFE AT THE ABATTOIR

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HI FROM THE NEW WOOL ADVISER

By Neil Judd

SMART SHEEP

A LOOK DOWN UNDER – PART 3

By Donna Minnell

PORT HOWARD KITCHEN

By Mandy McLeod

PLUS ALL THE USUAL FEATURES

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the December Wool Press.

Not a lot to say this month you'll be pleased to know. The Stud Flock lambmarking is being carried out at the moment. We'll let you know the results when it is all completed.

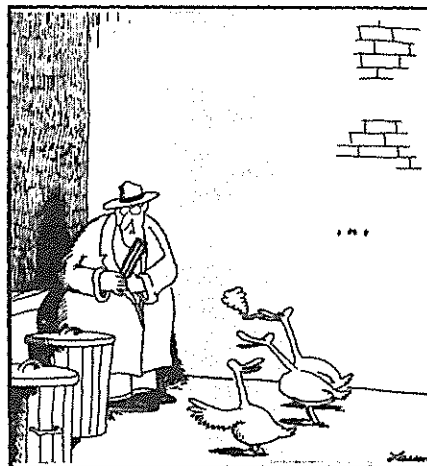
The Reindeer have also been plunge dipped in an attempt to rid them of their lice problem. Quite an interesting task I've been led to believe!

As you will all know by now Bob has said his goodbyes and left the Agricultural Department and the Islands for pastures old! A final article from him will hopefully be included in next month's Wool Press.

Lastly the answer to November's brainteaser:

Two prisoners go and one comes back. Two prisoners go and one comes back. Two priests go, and one priest and one prisoner come back. Two priests go and one prisoner comes back. Two prisoners go and one comes back. Two prisoners go.

Nyree & Mandy



Cornered by the street ducks, Phil wasn't exactly sure what to do - and then he remembered his 12 gauge.

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However, such quotations are to be made in context and the Wool Press must be acknowledged as the source.

The articles printed in the Wool Press do not necessarily represent the views of the DoA.

Animal Welfare Issues

I know you will get fed up with me harping on about Animal Welfare Issues but they are a part of the Organic system and must be adhered to.

Animal health and welfare should never be far from a sheep producer's mind. As any farmer will tell you, top performance levels only come from healthy, non-stressed sheep. As such, much of the time, effort and expense involved in managing a sheep flock is taken up by prevention, control and treatment of disease and injury. The aim being to utilise good health, welfare and husbandry methods to maximise the profitability of the flock.

Shearing

As it is shearing time again, I would like to make a few suggestions to your shearers, rousies and anyone else in the shed who will be shearing or looking after your valuable Organic and non-organic sheep stock.

- o The shearing shed must be clean for your organic sheep with sufficient food, water and shelter for them after they have been shorn.
- o All organic sheep should be put through the shearing shed first so that any contamination of non-organic sheep (if you have any) will not be passed on to them.
- o All organic sheep should not be subjected to any unecessary stress whilst in the shearing shed waiting to be shorn, as the shearing process is stressful enough.
- o Shearers and anyone else in your shed must handle your sheep with respect. If you are not confident of the way they are handling them, let me know.
- o All Organic sheep that are accidentally cut during shearing can be treated using the normal sheep sprays, providing you make a note in your Animal Health Plan or diary of the type of spray and to what animal it was used on, also abiding by the instructions on the can.

- o Severe cuts should be either seen by the Veterinary Officer or a competent person able administer first aid.
- o I cannot inform you enough that keeping your sheep in a healthy, stress free state at shearing time is part of good management.
- o Make your shearers and rousies aware that your sheep are organic and they must be handled with minimal stress.
- o Spot checks may be made during shearing so that I can see for myself that the animals are being cared for correctly.
- o If any sheep appears to be ill or injured, the animal should be dealt with appropriately without delay and should be isolated in a suitable location with, where appropriate, dry and comfortable bedding.
- o Under the Legislation it is an offence to cause or allow livestock to suffer unnecessary pain or unnecessary distress. As published in my first Organic News in the Wool Press, the 5 Freedoms must be applied at all times.

Lamb Marking

Under the Organic Status—providing you are sending your lambs to the abattoir, lamb castration and tail docking is not necessary.

Lambs will put on more weight over the coming months if they are not put through the stresses and strains of marking.

Any lamb that has been selected for the abattoir will have to be traced with an ear tag. This is an EU requirement for Organic meat.

If any castration and tail docking should be carried out, it will have to be under the Animal Welfare Legislation which says 'preferably before 10 weeks of age'.

Please note that the different methods to be used when lamb marking are adhered to as stated in the Welfare of Animals (Code of Practice) Ordinance No. 21 of 1996.

WEATHER STATIONS IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

By Pricilla Halliday

In the Falklands the Department of Agriculture has 10 Weather Monitor II's, five on the east and five on the west. These places are:

Agriculture Department	Coast Ridge
Estancia	Port Howard
Hope Cottage	Port Stephens
North Arm	Saunders Island
Saladero	Shallow Harbour

We purchased them from a company in America called Davis Instruments who sell all sorts of weather instruments ranging from weather, marine and driveright.

At the end of each month I have to download each of the stations, apart from Shallow Harbour and Saunders Island as they have the equipment to do this themselves. The downloading process is simple and straightforward (when nothing goes wrong!) and only takes about ten minutes.

I will start by ringing up the person concerned to make sure it is convenient for them. They will then plug a lead in which looks like a lead with a telephone plug on each end. One end goes into the modem and the other end into the phone line. Next I have to go into our programme on the computer "Plink4" and open the appropriate station and press the downloading button. After this has finished I always check the date and time on the weather station to make sure it is reading correctly.

This is the information that I receive:

Date	Rain
Mean Temperature	Average Wind Speed
Highest Temperature & Time	Highest Wind Speed & Time
Lowest Temperature & Time	Dominant Wind Direction
Heating Degree Days	Maximum Rain for a Day & Time
Cooling Degree Days	No of Rain Days

This has to be done every month because if you leave it more than 5-6 weeks then the data will start to over-write itself. If this happens then there are usually a couple of problems. The station will give you totally the wrong date. So if you are downloading November's data for example, the date could say "1/9/98". You can reset the date but the data would remain on the September sheet. There seems to be no way to move this.

At the moment a couple of our weather stations are down and another has a problem with the wind speed and direction. But I am waiting on spares and I've been corresponding with the technician at Davis Instruments, so hopefully the problems will soon be sorted.

Following are graphs to show rainfall, temperature and wind-speed for Stanley in the month of October (It's not the end of November as I write this, so October is the last complete month of readings available to me).

Holiday

Just to keep everyone informed. I am on holiday in UK from 15 December to 9 February 2002.

Whilst I am in the UK I will be arranging to do more training on Organics. i.e. Physical Farm Inspections that were not possible last June due to the Foot and Mouth crisis. I am planning to do at least 4 farm inspections of various farming practices.

If you need any information, Richard Baker will endeavour to help you. If you can wait until I get back, just email me (crowland@fidc.co.fk) or phone and leave a message with reception so that I can contact you on my return in February.

It's Official that we have two Organic farms in the Falkland Islands.

We have certified two Falkland farms as fully working Organic Farms.

Port Edgar and Port Louis have officially been accepted by the Falkland Islands Development Board as having all the criteria in place to be certified Organic.

I would personally like to congratulate Tex and Mandy at Port Edgar and Pete and Melanie at Port Louis. Thank you for working with me to establish your status.

3 more farms should be certified as Organic for the start of March 2002.

St Helenian Organic Fish, or not!

Did you know that St Helenian fish has been sold for sometime in the UK and has met the Organic criteria?

Graig Farm Organic in Wells, Wales, has been selling St.Helenian fish that has been caught with minimal environmental impact. With no water pollution of shipping lanes and virtually no industry the St.Helenian fishermen use only rod and line to make their catches, and therefore take from the sea only what they need.

Fish from St Helena was the world's first organically registered wild fish. From the 24th August 2000, fish cannot be called 'organic' due to EU regulations, which prohibits any wild creatures to be called 'organic'. However, the Soil Association have continued to certify the St Helenian fish under the same criteria but except it cannot be called organic.

The Graig Farm Organics uniquely offers a range of both wild and farmed fish that give customers confidence that the fish are from the cleanest environment. This in turn means they are good for their customers and the environment. Other products which are sold on the farm are mutton, rabbit, lamb, poultry and beef. They have a web site www.graigfarm.co.uk, that I'm sure you will find interesting. Perhaps one day we may be able to sell Falkland Islands meat to them!

I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Thank you for all your support over the last year.

I look forward to working with Farmers during 2002.

Useful and interesting web sites:

www.falklandislands.com

www.fidc.co.fk

www.soilassociation.org

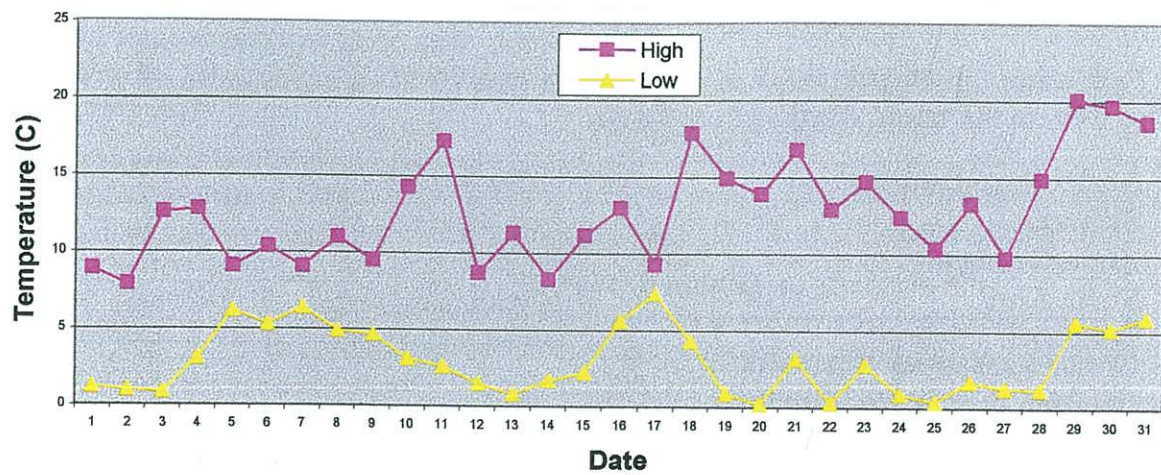
www.simplyorganic.net

www.organicsdirect.co.uk

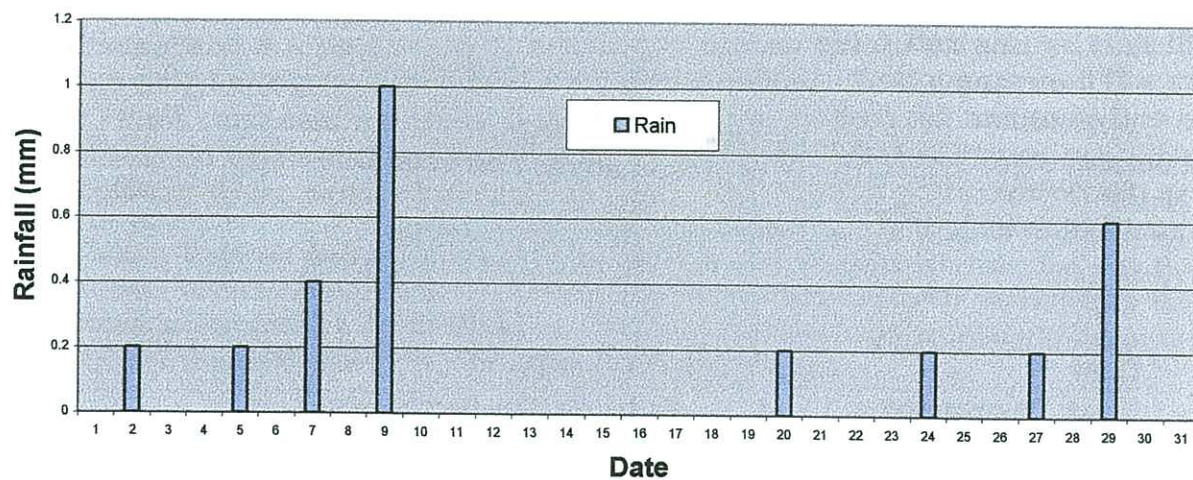
www.fenweb.net/waterland

www.patanegra.net

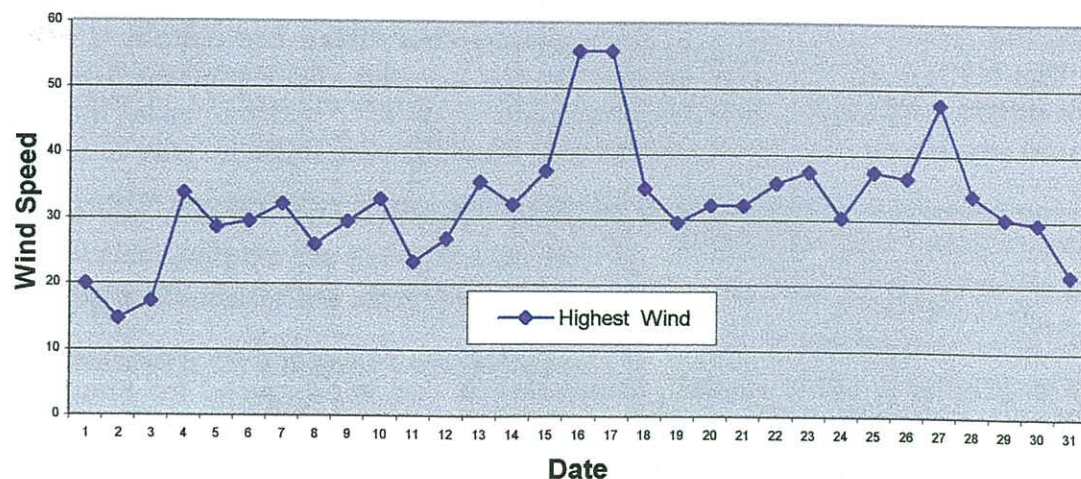
Temperatures for October 2001



Rainfall for October 2001



Wind Speed for October 2001



SENIOR AGRICULTURAL OFFICER

By Andrew Pollard

Hello everyone! Many of you I have met already, either during my other spells in the Department of Agriculture, or out and about on the town. Those of you that I haven't met might recognise me by my foreign Rugby shirts and twisted glasses.

After six years of education in the UK, studying A-levels in Winchester and then Agriculture College in Devon I have now finished, returning with a Higher National Diploma (more practical course) and a Bachelor of Science (degree) in General Agricultural Science. Oh yeah! Not forgetting my off road driving certificate from the Tasmanian Fire Service.

On a more serious note though, I had the chance to attend, what is one of the best agricultural colleges in Britain, Seale-Hayne a faculty of Plymouth located at Newton Abbot between Exeter and Plymouth. I have to be careful what I say as that is were Mandy studied also. The course was broad covering enterprises such as dairy, sheep (meat), various beef systems, pigs, chickens and crops (fodder and arable). Modules covered involved grassland management, farm business, economics, reproduction, genetics, farm buildings, feed formulations and animal health just to name a few. Lectures came not only from the college staff, but also from the farmers, National Farmer's Union representatives and vets. One of the beauties of the course was the regularity of visits to farms, grain stores, contractors, IGER grassland research and other colleges (namely Bicton every other Monday for the machinery side, also for the sporting fixtures as Karen may choose not to remember. Sorry Karen!). Unfortunately the final year was severely disrupted due to the foot and mouth crisis, Devon being a hotspot. Many friends on my course lost animals so things even socially became tense. During the Easter break, vaccination training was offered to all students and proved to be one positive out of the terrible outbreak.

Other agricultural experiences I have obtained are seven months work in Northeast Tasmania on a farm called Rushy Lagoon that carried approximately 50,000 merinos, 4,000 head of cattle, three dairies (now four) carrying 600-800 cows each, fat lamb enterprise, 2,000 ha of crops (triticalli, wheat, barley, potatoes, cannola and poppies). Also Barhedyn, a farm at Aberhosan, Machynlleth in Mid-Wales for 6 months that stocked hill sheep crossed with continental breeds for fat lambs, or blue faced Leicester's for mules and Hereford cattle crossed with Charolais and Belgium blue sires.

Anyway, now that that chapter is over it is time to start a new one, WORK (that scary word for a student!). I have returned to the Agricultural Department working in the pasture improvement programme by large, also with the land at Brenton Loch and Saladero. I am based at Goose Green (enough of us there for a darts team now apparently) and will be working along with Geds and Geoffrey under the guidance of Peter Johnson. I was working in the Department of Agriculture three years ago when the first land improvements at Brenton Loch were carried out and now to return three years later the change is incredible, and there for all to see. This is one area

of agriculture that I feel is showing encouraging improvements and am very much looking forward to being a part of it. If anyone would like to speak with me further, either about my new position or in more detail about my course or studying abroad, feel free to get in touch.

Goose Green tel/fax 27359

doa.goosegreen@horizon.co.fk or apollard@doa.gov.fk

SHALLOW HARBOUR TURKEYS

By Marlane Marsh

We have been attempting to rear turkeys at Shallow Harbour for several years now, most of the time without much luck. We started off with just importing a setting of eggs, but we have had many problems with this. The eggs seemed to have a very low hatching rate, possibly due to the long flight to get them here.

The first batch we reared with a hen, and with so few poults this seemed to work quite well. The next few batches of eggs we imported we hatched in the incubator. Again the hatch rates were very low and with hand rearing them we had lots of problems. The main problem was trying to keep the poults at the right temperature. If they get the slightest bit cold they will all pile into one heap, and if you are a couple of minutes late going to check them you can end up with a lot of dead birds. We also had a problem where the birds would, at about 2 weeks old, suddenly go in the legs, or their legs would twist on them. We discovered that this was due to them not having the correct food.

The last few times we have imported day old poults. This seems to provide a much better survival rate, but it is very expensive. Normally on the flight down we will loose 1 or 2 poults but the next few days are the hardest as it is difficult to get them to eat and drink properly.

We had much more success with the last lot we imported. We lost a couple on the flight down and a few after we got them here, but this time we had a thermostatically controlled gas brooder which we had specially bought for the turkeys. Although this uses a lot of gas we did not have to worry about the birds getting too cold because as soon as the temperature dropped slightly the brooder came on automatically. We had also insulated the hut to help keep the heat in which worked really well. On top of this we also had imported the correct turkey food and did not have the problem with them going in the legs.

It looks like we are not going to have any ready for Christmas this year as we are still trying to get another 150 imported. Hopefully we will be able to get them in the next few weeks though so watch this space.

IPSWICH

By Zoe Luxton

Typing a Wool Press article is somewhat difficult with a fat ginger kitten on your knee, a fat demanding ginger kitten called Harvey to be precise. Yup, am a proper grown up now being the proud owner of 2 small felines. Unfortunately the other fat ginger kitten (George) is sick today. He has got a high temperature and is feeling very sorry for himself. These days I seem to spend most of my time diagnosing fevers and infections in the general public's cats, and appear to be able to treat them with no great dramas. Different story this morning of course when it was my baby not well, cue a dribbling idiot bumbling into work who appeared to have as much veterinary knowledge as a carrot. Luckily a colleague was also in work early and initiated the correct treatment!

I once heard a vet say that you don't learn anything until you have done a year out of college – never have I heard a truer word! I have only been working here in Ipswich for a few months and the learning curve is steeper than Dean St. Life in the big old scary real world is not too bad though. Long old days and a lot of confused head scratching most of the time, so not really all that different from college to be honest.

The practice I work for is called Smith, Ryder-Davies and Hilliard and Partners. Mr Smith is getting on a bit and generally peers over the top of his glasses rather than through them. He has got thinning grey hair and usually has a comedy drop of blood or blob of cow poo on his baldy bit! Mr Ryder-Davies stomps around yelling at nurses, never by name, he just shouts "girls!!" very loudly, and generally about 6 of us lowly people stop working and stampede in his direction. His heart is definitely in the right place however and he has a brace on his knee that squeaks whenever he walks! Not sure how he got that though! The other partners are the sort of blokes that we can call by their first names. They are Barry (Hilliard), Tom and Mike – 2 Irish blokes and a large Englishman that rides a big motorbike and has both ears pierced! All the nurses and receptionists and other vets are all really nice and have all made me feel really welcome. Another new graduate called Claire started on the same day as me as an equine vet so it was really nice not to be the only new girl.

Obviously it is near impossible to find a place that I am more comfortable in than the shack on the bypass, but the shack in Ipswich is not too bad at all and I am getting to see lots of things and see a bit of Suffolk. I have also found, yet again, what a small world it is – I registered at the local doctors and was chatting to my new Doc, Dr Gibbons, who mentioned a colleague of his had gone to the Falklands so I now live just up the road from where Dr Davies used to work!

Sick cat is obviously now feeling better. I have just turned around to catch him dragging my stethoscope out of my shoulder bag, obviously going to sneak behind the sofa for a good old chew. Probably why he is sick in the first place!

FALKLAND ISLANDS MEAT COMPANY

By Amy Jonson

Hello again people. Welcome to the Christmas article on the Abattoir. Gil Giles joined us on the 5th of November, which brings us up to 12 employees including Brian.

We have been killing and boning an average of 220 sheep per week, and trialing vacuum packing and blast freezing some of the meat. We are still supplying Freshco daily and K1 and K3 with burgers and mince twice weekly. Eurofishing have also bought 300 kilos of meat from us for a fishing boat.

Also we have slaughtered 10 cattle this week on a contract kill for Joe Newell. Brian has plenty of bruises to show for it as the Falkland cattle have large horns and a fiery streak not common in the UK!

Apart from the problem of getting the cattle into the stun pen and a few minor teething problems with the beef equipment, it all went pretty smoothly. Along with the cattle we killed two pigs for Bobby Short a few weeks previous so the staff had a chance to learn the procedures for another two species.

We had Julie Bellhouse from 52 Degrees out to design the print for our boxes, labels and stationary. We have opted for a design that shows the Lady Elizabeth at sunset. It is quite eye catching, with only a few modifications on the original design required.

The incinerator trials took place and we burned 3.5 tonnes of waste material from slaughter and boning. The actual burn went well with 1.5 tonnes incinerated in approx 3 hours. The only problem we did come across was that as the access road to the incinerator was incomplete restricting the use of the forklift. Carl and Brian had to put the material into the burner by hand which was not a very pleasant job as the intestines etc were from the previous days kill. This resulted in the UK incinerator installer running for a corner to puke!!!

Brian is off to the UK on the 5th December and returns on the 5th January with a team of 5 slaughter men/boners and 2 meat inspectors.

Over Christmas the abattoir will not be killing, but some of the employees will be here sorting out orders for the shops out of the vacuum packed stock we have in the chillers. Some will be working for the Department of Agriculture, and the rest of us have taken the option of leave paid and unpaid for the purpose of farm work etc.

Oh and before I forget can I remind Henry not to sit on any more sinks!!!

Well I guess that is all there is to say at the moment. See y'all in January 2002. From the staff at the abattoir to all of you we wish you a lazy Xmas and a boozy New Year!

HI FROM THE NEW WOOL ADVISOR

By Neil Judd

I find tasks such as thisthat involve talking about myself very difficult, so I will try and keep it as brief and informative as I can. I will rely on an open invitation to all who want to know more, to simply give me a call and I will be only too happy to oblige.

As those who have already met me are undoubtedly aware, I am Australian...about seventh generation. Our family historian claims that some of our ancestors arrived on the first fleet from England....some in chains and some doing the guarding!

I am one of four children, born on the far north coast of NSW, into a farming family. In recent years my family has ceased farming and now concentrates on its fruit and vegetable wholesale/retail business.

Raised by mad keen sporting parents, I guess that it was only natural that sport became a very important part of my early life....football...rugby league of course, cricket and rowing occupied most of my spare time, but as remains the case today, I am happy to have a go at most sports and hobbies.

I left home in 1978, to head off to Sydney where I completed a science degree (Wool and Pastoral Science) and also a graduate diploma of education (Agriculture and Science).

My work experience since graduation in 1982 has been quite varied, however of importance to the position of wool advisor in the Falkland Islands has been a number of years with the Australian Wool Testing Authority Ltd. Some of the key tasks at AWTA were as follows:-

-Investigations into the introduction of Sale by Additional Measurement into the Australian Wool Industry, (staple length and strength measurement in particular).

-Working with wool processors involved in the large mill Trials Evaluating Additional Measurement (T.E.A.M.project).

-Liaison with growers, wool brokers and wool buyers on all aspects of wool measurement.

In addition to my period of employment with AWTA Ltd, I spent a number of years working as a Sheep Husbandry Officer with the Queensland Department of Primary Industries.....based at Cunnamulla in the semi arid pastoral zone of South West Queensland (12" rainfall country). The role encompassed working very closely with the 200 odd local woolgrowing families on all aspects of sheep husbandry, sheep selection and breeding in addition to wool

preparation. Property sizes in this region of Queensland are large...of the order of 30-40,000 hectares on average, economic times are hard and, like in the Falklands not many staff now exist on each farm to share the workload.

I have worked with many farms over the years to develop comprehensive Farm Property Plans and also on several large farm Financial Benchmarking projects. Having observed the positive results of this work I am keen to explore the relevance of this type of activity here in the "Islands".

On a personal level, I am married with four children...three daughters and one son. Our two eldest daughters will return to Queensland for university studies after spending the summer here, however my wife and two youngest children will call the Falklands "home" along with me.

I look forward to a long , productive, and enjoyable stay in the Falkland Islands. I am keen to provide whatever assistance my skills are able, wherever and however I can.

I can be contacted on Ph – 27355
or e-mail - njudd@doa.gov.fk

FARMING STATISTICS

Some of you more observant folk may have noticed that a few of the farm area (hectare) figures are not the same as last years. This is due to a proportion of farms GPS boundary readings being completed and changed for last year's statistics. In error I used a template that had the original figures on from the year before.

Most of the boundaries have now had GPS readings taken and new hectarages worked out. The new and correct figures will be used in next year's statistics. However, as soon as a comprehensive list is available, I will send it to all farms as an addendum to the 2000/2001 farming statistics.

It is worth noting that even GPS readings cannot give absolutely accurate hectarages for your properties. Flat surfaces are assumed in the calculation and farms are not generally flat!

Also, please amend the following cattle movement figures: West others 96; Summary table - West others 96, total others 365. *Mandy*

SMART SHEEP!

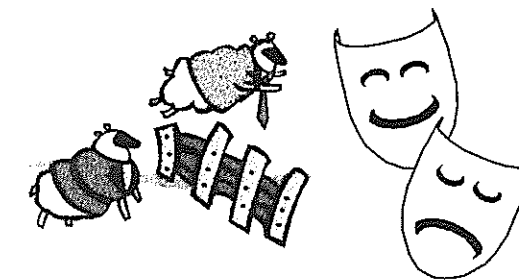
Source – Telegraph, Guardian, ABC News

Research has discovered that sheep aren't the woolly-brained animals that we think they are.

Dr Keith Kendrick's team at The Babraham Institute in Cambridge tested twenty sheep by putting them through a maze using pictures of sheep faces as signposts. They even removed the ear tags so that the sheep couldn't 'read' them! The sheep that correctly identified their mates were given a food reward. The animals got an 80% success rate and remembered the faces for up to two years. They can even remember the face of the stockman and his dogs.

They have discovered that it takes more than two years for their memories to fade and also believe that sheep may possess 'emotions'. Dr Kendrick said: "The implication of our work is that sheep have a rich and important facial environment. Farmers should avoid changing it all the time and keep their company as stable as possible."

So, does this mean that from now on we will be seeing shepherds around the world wearing a uniform mask so that they all look the same? Who would they choose – the Queen, Posh Spice, Tony Blair? According to a local source the residents of Goose Green have already decided that they would all like Sam Sinclair masks! Any more suggestions?



Here are a few more product labels.

- In an American guide to setting up a new computer:
To avoid condensation forming allow the boxes to warm up to room temperature before opening. (Sensible, but the instruction was inside the box!)
- On a Korean kitchen knife:
Warning: Keep out of children. (Who are they to tell me what to do with my kids?)

PART 3 – ON WITH THE COURSES

By Donna Minnell

On May 25th I returned to Tocal from Bald Blair. On the 26th I did a short course on cattle handling held by Bruce West. In the morning we had a talk on breeding, feed for cattle, using tags and learnt how to deliver calves. After lunch we went to the cattle yards to learn how to handle cattle in yards without causing them too much stress and how to castrate calves with a knife. We also learnt how to drench and vaccinate cattle.

On the 27th May and 17th June I did a two-day course on prograze. We had to cut grass and dry it in a microwave to work out the dry matter and digestibility. In between these two days I studied for a case study homework on how to work out dry matter and digestibility, and how much feed would need to be on offer for steers and heifers to gain sufficient weight before sale and calving.

The 4th, 5th and 6th of July were taken up with a course on how to use chemicals and work out calibrations.

The beef cattle assessment course was on the 9th and 12th of July. There were 82 people taking this course. We did hands on sessions with live steers determining muscle, fat and growth. Each pen had four steers in it which had to be put in the correct order to suit the market that they were selected for. There were also pens of cows and bulls to be sorted. Some of the cows had to be put in order of their E.B.V's (Estimated Breeding Values). Four of the steers were then killed and we looked at them on the hook.

The 28th of July was stud cattle preparation and showing day. This was a course held by Bryce Whale who runs Murray Grey Stud Farm. He taught us how to lead cattle and show them in a ring. He also showed us how to wash them ready for a show. On the 2nd August I went to Sydney (Yennora Australian Wool Handlers) Wool Selling Centre. This is a huge building covering 54 acres of land and holding all of Queensland's wool and some of the Hunter Valley (New England) wool!!! Here all the processing is done and buyers go there to bid for the wool. On the 10th, 11th and 12th August I did a cattle AI (Artificial Insemination) course and on the 13th and 15th August I took a first aid course.

During my time in Australia I also worked on a beef property called Hill Top. Here they ran Limosin and Crossbreds to produce steers to sell. The Crossbreds are mostly from a dairy and are bought and fed by hand with milk and nuts. They are an Angus and Fresian cross. At Hill Top they run 200 cows

and steers on 215 acres of land and also sell Lucerne hay. A great deal of the farmers time is taken up watering the pastures though.

Another beef property that I worked on was a place called Forres Angus Stud where bulls are produced for sale. The cattle work is done on horseback and here I helped to sort the bulls for sale. This included putting rings in some of the bulls' noses and vaccinating and backlining them.

I flew back to the Falklands on August 18th. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped me with my trip especially Mandy McLeod. I had a great time in Australia and learnt so much it was unbelievable.

And last but by no means least a huge thank you to Michael for all the support he has given me.

Donna



Dubbo Sale Yards

PORT HOWARD KITCHEN

By Mandy McLeod

As many of you will be aware, there are movements afoot at Port Howard in the old store building. This building is an FIDC asset that has not been utilised since Eddie and Anne moved out. We didn't want to waste the building any longer, but wanted it to be available in some form or another for everyone to use if they want to. A community project if you like. We looked around and tried to identify a conversion to the building that would be the most useful, hopefully something that would enhance existing projects and bring in some cash to the users. To cut a long story short, a commercial kitchen was the decided direction.

We have to do some structural work as the floor in one end was fairly rotten and had to be fixed anyway, no matter what the use. The floors and walls will be covered with surfaces that meet the regulations for food preparation. The building will be equipped with adequate workbench space, gas rings and ovens, food processing equipment, freezing, chilling and packing facilities.

The fine details of running it have yet to be agreed, but the idea is that there will be a set of rules and standards that everyone using the facility will have to adhere to. Everyone using it will have equal rights and no one will have priority status. There will need to be someone in a caretaker type role to ensure that the place is kept to standard, and that consumables (such as cleaning equipment, gas, etc) are in constant supply.

We hope that the facility will be run by those that use it, maybe having a committee of those people and an FIDC or DOA representative. The care-taking could be done on a rota basis perhaps. There are so many possibilities, but we would like the operating ownership and ideas to be independent from FIDC. For the first year, the use of the facility will be free, with FIDC meeting the overheads, but at some point (yet to be defined), a charge will have to be put in place to cover gas, electricity and other consumables.

Quality control is a big issue where foods processed through this kitchen are concerned. Everything produced will have something on it's packaging that says it was prepared in the Port Howard Kitchen (individuals will still retain ownership of their wares on the labelling). We want it to be that foods from this kitchen are recognised as quality products. That means things like cropping vegetables at their best. For example, cauliflowers should be cropped before the 'flower' becomes exposed to the weather by the full opening of leaves. This means that they are tight and white (what the customer wants). They can either be packaged and sold fresh if the requirement is there, or during times glut, they could be blanched and frozen.

The following extract from the summary of Falkland Island Imports produced by Customs shows that vegetables to the value of about a quarter of a million pounds (sterling) gets imported each year. I am sure that we can do a bit of import substitution here! It's interesting to note that since the introduction of the Incentive Scheme and subsequent increase of local producers, that there has been a steady drop in imports (in value terms anyway).

	2000	1999	1998	1997
Potatoes, Fresh or Chilled	£34,450	£71,778	£58,097	£62,488
Other Vegetables, Fresh or Chilled	£136,610	£101,419	£164,214	£154,796
Vegetables, Dried or Frozen	£44,319	£80,082	£85,049	£48,616
TOTAL	£217,379	£255,278	£309,358	£267,897

This doesn't include vegetables preserved in other ways that are imported, such as pickles and sauces.

I know there will be a few sceptics reading this (there always are), but I think this has great potential to give added value to our products. Although I gave vegetables as an example, there is no reason why some native products cannot be processed through this kitchen. Diddle-dee jam for instance (why clutter up your own kitchen and fill your house with jam and pickle fumes when there is everything provided for you - especially space?). Alternatively, if you are into the provision of home baked cakes and breads - use the facility provided.

We hope to have the Store converted for food preparation by February / March. We will spend a couple of weeks running trials through it before it is officially opened. I really hope that people will either use it themselves to process their produce, or that some entrepreneur will procure quality produce from others and prepare it for sale.

One thing we must always be aware of is keeping the retail outlets happy by ensuring a steady supply of a product and maintaining quality. I know that we cannot produce some things all year round, but we still need to keep our retailer outlets informed, as far in advance as possible, so that they can adjust their imports accordingly. The last thing we want is to be the cause of a shortage of a particular good in the shops, as that will only cause our retailers to import more as a safeguard.

Anyway, I am straying into another area here - **MARKETING**. Next month I will do a piece on how you can help yourself to get contracts for supply and, more importantly, how to hang on to them! Also, trial and error (and frustration), learning by your mistakes!

RECIPE PAGE

With Summer in full swing and Christmas looming, I thought that this month I would print some sauce recipes for all those BBQ's that I know everyone is having, and for pouring on that yummy lamb on Xmas day.

BARBEQUE SAUCE - Makes approx 1 pint

Ingredients

- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 large cloves garlic, crushed
- 5 tablespoons olive oil
- 4 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- ½ pint red wine
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 4 tablespoons honey
- ½ teaspoon dried rosemary
- pinch dried thyme
- 1 small bay leaf
- 2 tablespoons chopped parsley (optional)

Method

Gently fry the onion and garlic in the oil until just soft. Add all the other ingredients. Bring to the boil, cover and simmer for 15 minutes. Sieve or blend.

APPLE AND MINT SAUCE

Ingredients

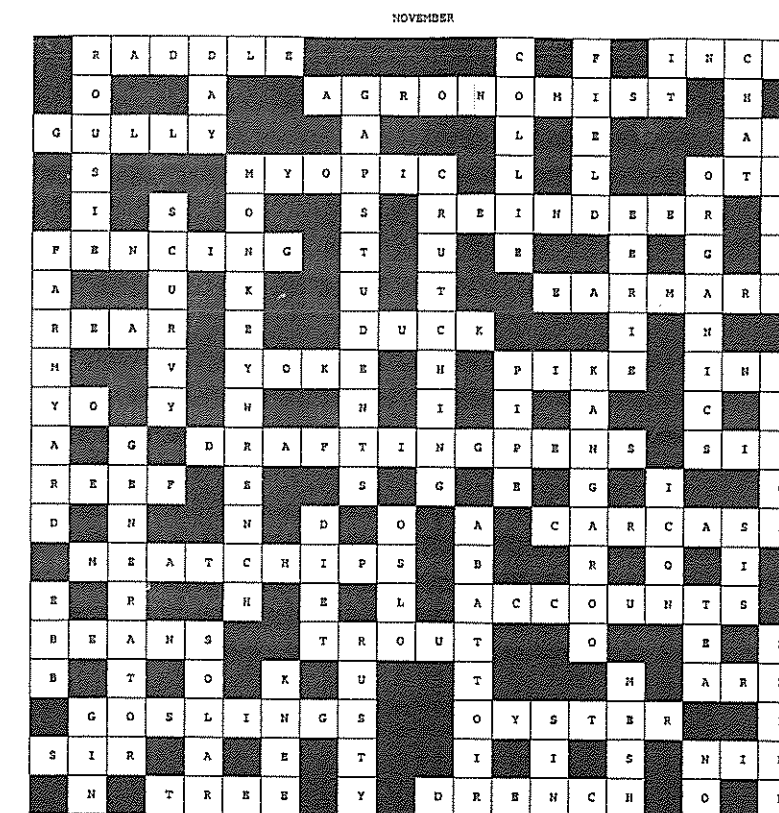
- 1 pound sour apples, peeled and sliced
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons chopped mint
- ¼ pint of water
- sugar

Method

Put the apples in a saucepan with the lemon juice, water and mint. Cover and cook gently for 10-15 minutes or until the apples are a pulp. Blend or sieve, add sugar to taste and reheat.

Again, both this month's recipes come from "The Rayburn Cookbook".

LAST MONTH'S CROSSWORD SOLUTION



FOR SALE

FIDC have just been informed that there will shortly be for sale a
FODEN 8 WHEELER FLAT BED TRUCK

(26 foot bed) in good condition.

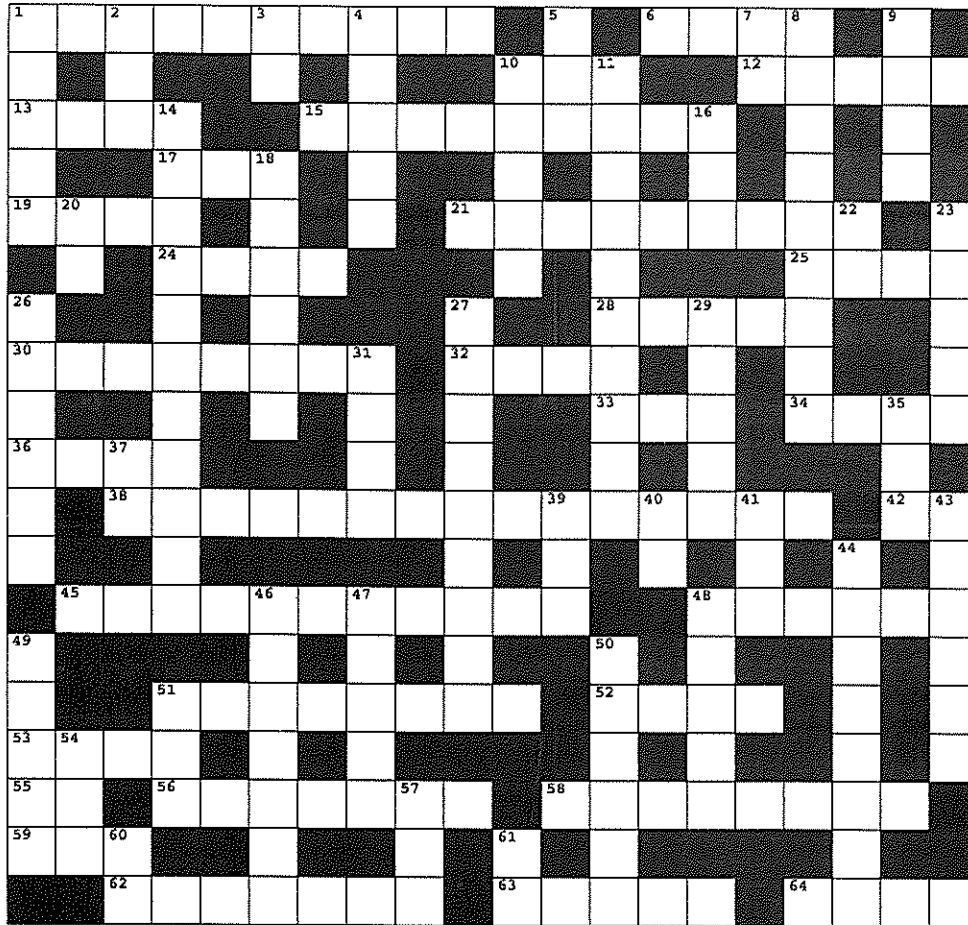
This truck could easily be fitted with a 2-deck sheep crate
and would be ideal for sheep / wool transport on West Falkland.

Anyone interested in sheep / wool transport on West Falkland should contact
Ian Bury, 63 Davis Street, Stanley. TEL/FAX: 21058

BRAINTEASER

I have three children all boys. One is the same as the first number in my age, another is the same age as the second number in my age, and the third is the same age as the sum of the two numbers in my age. None of the children are the same age and the total of our ages is 45.

How old am I?



ACROSS

- 1. EATING STICKS
- 6. SLENDER
- 10. BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL
- 12. FINGER OR TOE
- 13. BARRIERS BUILT ACROSS A RIVER
- 15. SMALL ELECTRONIC COOKING DEVICE
- 17. SURLY YOUTH
- 19. WRECK
- 21. THE ACT OF NOURISHING
- 24. REMOVAL OF INFERIOR STOCK
- 25. WAFER ICE-CREAM HOLDER
- 28. FABRIC
- 30. TYPE OF SHEARING GEAR
- 32. EXCRETED IN URINE
- 33. REFEREE
- 34. CHESS MAN
- 36. DELIBERATELY FOOLISH PERSON
- 38. EAST FALKLAND FARM (9,6)
- 42. OFFICER COMMANDING
- 45. PREPARATION OF LOCAL FUEL (4,7)
- 48. ANIMAL FAT
- 51. LOCAL TAXI?
- 52. BOMBS, MISSILES ETC
- 53. REFLECTION OF SOUND
- 55. GOLD CHEMICALLY
- 56. NOT ONE OR THE OTHER
- 58. STORE OF A LARGE AMOUNT OF INFO
- 59. MASS OF SALT WATER
- 62. MEANS OF IDENTIFICATION
- 63. STALKS OF THRESHED GAIN
- 64. CONTINENT

DOWN

- 1. ALCOHOLIC APPLE JUICE
- 2. UNIT OF ELECTRICAL RESISTANCE
- 3. USED TO INDICATE A DESTINATION
- 4. BIRD NOISE
- 5. FIX WITH NEEDLE AND THREAD
- 7. IDENTIFICATION IN GENERAL
- 8. TINY METHOD OF IDENTIFICATION
- 9. SMALL ARACHNID
- 10. SMALL ROUND MASS OF CHEWED FOOD
- 11. TREE TYPE
- 14. TO CAUSE TO OCCUR AT THE SAME TIME
- 16. TAKE IN FOOD
- 18. SMALL METALLIC MISSILE
- 20. UNITED NATIONS
- 22. NEGATIVE
- 23. SPERM
- 26. STUCK
- 27. DARK PURPLE FRUIT
- 29. EDIBLE INTERNAL PARTS
- 31. UNABLE TO HEAR
- 35. WHICH PERSON
- 37. FINE AND DANDY
- 39. SHORT CARROTS AND POTATOES ETC!?
- 40. LOS ANGELES
- 41. MAKE A MISTAKE
- 43. INNOCENT OR SWEET CHILD!
- 44. CROP GATHERING (PLURAL)
- 46. BIRTH OF A CALF
- 47. AFTER NINTH
- 48. 3RD LETTER IN GREEK ALPHABET
- 49. BLOOD SUCKING INSECTS
- 50. MARKET SALE IN AID OF CHARITY
- 51. ELECTRICALLY CHARGED ATOM
- 54. PROMPT
- 57. FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE BODY
- 60. LOCATION OR POSITION
- 61. YOU AND ME