WELCOME

The Compass Feeds Newsletter, Summer 2018 edition. For those customers who have only recently come on board and for those that have been with us for, what may seem, an eternity, an equally warm welcome. We at Compass Feeds hope you enjoy and get some use from the newsletter. We wish to make the newsletter informative and inclusive, and to that end, we look forward to your feedback. If there are any issues you have from an animal production or if general feeding advice is sought, let’s hear from you. We are only a phone call away or, a text or email.

We will try to keep the newsletter as informative as possible (with minimum ads) and with that in mind, we intend to deliver a newsletter each quarter and adjust for seasonal variations.

Compass feeds is a dedicated, family owned SA business, we are very proud of the relationship we have with our customer base, if however, there are little things that we don’t get exactly right, please let us know, we are happy to bend and change where possible.

During the next few months we will highlight some of our staff that work behind the scenes to deliver products to you. Our support staff on the ground are Ross and Emma, they are more than happy to work with you and help make your business profitable, your business is our future! As new products and recipes come on line we will be happy to detail the features and benefits, so, we ask that you send your email address and contact details to emmag@compassfeeds.com.au so that we can compile a more comprehensive contact list and so that we can deliver the newsletter via email. If you choose not to, we will send via snail mail.

From all of us at Compass Feeds, we hope you enjoy our first edition, compiled by Emma, who has done a great job. Beware, Emma will be on the prowl interviewing customers about their business and achievements, and successes, armed with note book and camera!

Enjoy!!
A big thankyou to AW Vater & Co for inviting Compass Feeds to join them at the 2017 Paskeville Field Days. We had our trailer stocked with many products on display with some flash new information sheets and we were delighted to have spent much of our time discussing supplementary and substitute feeding livestock with new and familiar faces. If you missed saying 6’day and picking up some information sheets, you will catch us at the Lucindale Field Days with Cox Rural on March the 16th and 17th 2018.

It was a very pleasant atmosphere at Lucernbrae Poll Merino Stud on the 3rd of August 2017 for Keith and Judy Paechs’ annual ram sale. The ground was soggy, yet the weather on the day was cold but fair for the many bidders and viewers. Nothing that couldn’t be warmed up by the tasty lamb and gravy roll served for lunch. The rams presented beautifully, averaging $1173 with a top price of $3100. An all-round successful day.

Lamb Feedlot achieving 400grams+ daily weight gain with the inclusion of Lambgrow pellets.

Dry Feed

Specifically formulated to allow sheep of all ages to utilise standing dry feed and stubbles and to maintain and support correct feed conversion efficiency.

compassfeeds.com.au
Phone: (08)85568332
HAVE YOU GOT YOUR PRE-LAMB PLAN IN PLACE?

Prepare a ‘clean’ lambing paddock
Not all classes of livestock have the same immunity to internal parasites. Immunity is not passed from dam to young via colostrum; therefore younger animals are generally more susceptible to internal parasites than older animals. Ewes at the time of lambing suffer a temporary relaxation of immunity resulting in increased faecal egg counts. Hence the importance to retain low contaminated (clean) paddocks for lambing ewes and weaners.

Vaccinate
Prevent ewe deaths at lambing due to Clostridial Diseases such as tetanus and blackleg. The spores of most Clostridial Diseases are a normal gut inhabitant therefore they are widespread in farm environments. Disease is caused when spores are introduced to a deep wound or activation occurs due to trauma and bruising. By vaccinating 4 weeks pre-lambing the vaccination will also aid in protecting lambs for the first 6-8 weeks of their life via passive immunity.

Maintain ewe body condition score of 3 to 4
CS 3 to 4 can improve lamb survival rates, increase weaning weights and increase ewe weights at weaning. As the ewes pregnancy advances her ability to consume large amounts of feed to meet her nutritional requirements is reduced due to the growing foetus/foetuses’ reducing the area for the rumen to expand. Supplementary feeding of grain may be required at this time to achieve the ewes energy and protein requirements to maintain a CS of 3 to 4 and foetal development.

Supply correct and adequate nutrients
Adult ewes are dependant on daily intake of magnesium to meet requirements as they have a limited ability to mobilize magnesium body stores. Magnesium is necessary for the transmission of signals throughout the animals body. Calcium concentrations are achieved by the mobilization of bone stores and daily dietary calcium and is essential for muscle contractions, nerve conductivity and bone strength just to list a few. Vitamin E is needed for but not limited to, to support antioxidant and muscle function issues. Other critical nutrients include but not limited to: Soluble sugars, Zinc, Copper, Iodine, Cobalt, Selenium, and Vitamins A, E, D3 and B1.

John Carter of Bethel, SA runs 250 1st cross and composite ewes. We caught up with John to see how Magforce has fitted into his production system.

What are you aiming to achieve with your livestock?
The aim is to breed composite/comeback ewes with 24 Micron wool, 72-75% yield and giving 130% lambing. The composite/comeback ewes are then mated to White Suffolk rams for May lambing. The lambs are finished on feeders with an average target weight of 30kg dressed.

When do you use Magforce? Four to Six weeks before lambing until all ewes have lambed and they are well into lactation. I cut a 20ltr tub in half, drill some holes in the bottom for drainage and fix it to the ground with a star dropper for minimal wastage. I top the tubs up with Magforce every couple of days.

Has Magforce helped achieve your goals, if so how?
Yes definitely, since using Magforce I have seen a significant increase in lambing percentage and reduced ewe mortality at lambing. The ewes and lambs appear stronger, last year I only lost the one ewe.
COMPASS FEEDS EMPLOYEE PROFILE—EMMA GOODE

1) Where did you grow up? Everywhere! Mainly in the Lower Mid North.

2) Family and pets? My Fiancé Andrew, has a local shearing run in the Lower Mid North area.

Three dogs; Myer my best mate a Border Collie who has me well trained. Rhia and Ruth our two Kelpies used for work and recently yard dog trialling.

Loopy Luna a Brahman calf and a couple of horses.

3) What is your background leading you to employment with Compass Feeds? I finished year 12 in 2006, heading up North to the N.T. the following year to work on cattle stations in the stock-camp. 2011 I was working as part of the stock team on a 25,000 head cattle feedlot in QLD when I met a livestock vet/nutritionist who inspired me to apply for University. Mid 2012 I began my Bachelor of Agricultural Science degree at the University of Adelaide. During this time I was fortunate to gain numerous scholarships, one being the Order of Australia where I received invaluable mentorship. My Intern program was spent on a dairy farm and lamb feedlot. I met Ross from Compass Feeds whilst working in the animal health department at a Rural Merchandise Store in the South East. After sending a cheeky message about retirement the rest is history ;)

4) How long have you been an employee of Compass Feeds? What is your role within the company? Almost 12 months, Ross Wallers apprentice Nutritionist.

5) What does a day in the office entail for you? My office is generally the well sign posted Compass Ute, travelling to farms, feedlots, stores and field days.

6) What is the most challenging aspect of your job? Keeping up with Roscco and remembering all the industry knowledge he shares with myself and clients/customers.

7) What is the most satisfying aspect of your job? Contributing to improved animal health within livestock production systems, seeing benefits to both the producer and livestock.

8) What do you think the future holds for the animal nutrition/health industry? I believe there is no slowing down for such industry. With continued research and professional extension officers the industries producers are eager to learn and implement new strategies.

9) Can you tell us a joke ... What do you get from a pampered cow?......Spoiled Milk
VITAMIN B1 (THIAMINE) DEFICIENCY

This problem is characterised by a disturbance of the central nervous system. The brain of infected animals becomes inflamed and swollen and eventually becomes necrotic, resulting in Polioencephalomalacia (PEM). PEM is often hard to diagnose particularly around lambing or calving. Affected sheep will stand or sit alone, they appear to be blind, and arch their necks back and stare off into the sky. They are usually disoriented, don’t seem to want to drink and will loose appetite. Often animals will rest their head against a post or wall. If not treated most will die within 48 hours. This disease can often be confused with other diseases with similar symptoms and is often a secondary problem with young sheep or goats being fed grain. See your vet for correct diagnosis.

Sheep suffering from PEM generally respond quickly to a Vitamin B1 injection, but this vitamin is eliminated quite quickly and so the animal needs follow up Vitamin B1, you may need to follow up treatment. Dosing the water with BSave for Sheep is a reasonably easy way to treat the mob, yes the mob will need treating as well as the individual sheep.

The edge liquid minerals are an exciting new product range that will be available in the near future.

For more information on the Edge40 NMR Pellet or for information on how the Edge liquid minerals will be able to benefit and fit into your production system email or call either Ross Waller or Emma Goode;

Ross Waller
Email: ross@compassfeeds.com.au
Phone: 0427 186 943

Emma Goode
Email: emmag@compassfeeds.com.au
Phone: 0409 665 273

Vitamin B1 (Thiamine) Deficiency

A non medicated pelletised mineral and trace element supplement for all grazing ruminants.