

Centenary Thurles
Co-operative Society Ltd

MAR — APR

NEWSLETTER 2016



Local students in bid to scoop top prize in national competition

Kieran Cummins and Niall Molony are two students in Thurles CBS secondary school who are one of five finalist groups in the Certified Irish Angus Beef Producers Group School Competition.



Here's how they made the cut...

“We entered the competition as transition year students back in January 2013 and following a lengthy interview process we were selected as one of the five finalist groups. As part of this final we had to rear five Irish Angus calves, which we received at the 2014 ploughing championships, through to slaughter while completing a project on farmers margins looking at all the costs associated with the animals on farm.

The animals were reared on Niall's home farm. When we received the calves at the Ploughing Championships they weighed 205kg on average. We decided to implement a grazing system for these beef animals similar to the rotational grazing system operated

on dairy farms. From October to early February we fed them 180kgs/head of Centenary Agri Calf Nuts and we out-wintered the five calves on grass during this period. The cattle grazed grass covers of 1300 kg /dm/ha throughout the spring and summer months until late September when we decided to start feeding Centenary Agri High Energy Beef Nuts.

We then moved the animals indoors on straw for the final month before slaughter to maximise live weight gains. We had a 60 day finishing period before slaughtering on 30th November 2015 when they weighed 675 kg on average. We fed a total of 275kgs/head of Centenary Agri High Energy Beef Nuts during this period along with silage and fodder beet.

We were very happy with how our animals killed out in Kepak, Watergrasshill last November.

Our five Irish Angus Cattle, ranging between 20 – 21 months, had an average carcass weight of 351kgs. We had four of them graded R while the other one graded O. We now look forward to the final of this competition in Croke Park in Dublin on the 16th of March 2016.

We would like to thank Eamonn Bergin and Centenary Thurles Co-Op for their support and generosity throughout this competition.”

Pictured opposite are Kieran Cummins (l) and Niall Molony (r).

Milk Quality Awards 2015

We're delighted to announce the shortlist for the top six milk suppliers for quality for 2015:

(In alphabetical order)

Pat Cormack
The Islands
Loughmore

Paddy & Richard Daly
Cooleeney, Moyne

Dwan Family
Bohernamona
Thurles

Pat & Brian Hogan
Summerville
Horse & Jockey

Conor Molony
Clobanna, Thurles

Nicholas
& **Philip Thornton**
Beechwood, Dualla

Making up the top ten are: Catherine Bowe Leigh Two-Mile-Borris; John & Carmel Butler Barna, Templetuohy; Eugene O'Dwyer Camas, Cashel; Brendan Phelan The Windmill, Moyne.

Scholarships 2015/2016

Pictured at the recent presentation of Agricultural Scholarships for 2015/2016 are Jim Russell and Joe Kerrigan with the successful applicants: Darragh Fitzpatrick, James Fogarty, Jack Hickey, David Lowe, Carrol Nagle, Nick Ryan & Brian Shanahan.



Bord Bia Sustainable Dairy Assurance Scheme

2016 will see a strong focus on achieving 100% of our suppliers certified under this scheme.



Industry pressure is mounting to have 100% compliance across the country and the pressure on Centenary Thurles is no different.

The date is fast approaching where milk suppliers will have no option but to be certified.

It is important therefore that our outstanding suppliers register for the scheme to allow time to deal with any issues that may arise.

For further information contact John Martin on 087 2462218.

AGM 2016

A provisional date for our AGM has been set. It will be held on Wednesday 29th June in Thurles. Notice will follow in due course with the annual report.

Recent Staff Changes

In recent weeks Maurice Ryan at our Cashel Branch and Kieran Fitzgerald in Littleton have moved on to other positions. Maurice had been with us for 4 years and Kieran for 8 years. Both were popular with customers and staff alike and we wish them well in their new positions.

Committee Retirements

As is normal at this time of year, March will see notice of Committee Members retiring by rotation issued to shareholders in the relevant electoral areas.

In addition, this year we have two casual vacancies caused by the retirements of Pat Gleeson in Loughmore and Eamon Cody in Loran. We thank both Pat and Eamon for their important contributions during lengthy service to the Society, 29 years in Pat's case and 23 years in Eamon's.

Paddy Walsh pictured on his last day at work, Christmas Eve 2015.



Feed Price Reduction

Centenary Feed & Grain is pleased to announce a feed price reduction of €15 per tonne across our standard compound feed range. We have also further added to our feed range in response to customer demand, with the addition of a 14% Fertility Booster Dairy Nut and a 14% Hi-Grain Beef Nut. The 18% Hi-Grain and 16% Hi-Grain Dairy Nuts were introduced earlier in the season.

Centenary Feed & Grain now has a comprehensive

range of Dairy, Beef and Calf feeds which include native cereals, maize, high quality protein ingredients and digestible fibre sources that are suitable for different on-farm situations. For more information on our extensive range which also include our 18% Calf Moozli and 18% Calf Pencils please contact our technical sales reps:

Mark Bourke
087 2575235
Diarmaid Grant
087 0635080
John Crowe
087 6364831

LUBRICANTS OFFERS

Total Phoenix Hydraulic 20Lt	€30	WAS €39
Elf Super Universal 10-30 20ltr	€54	WAS €65
Elf Performance Super D 15-40 20ltr	€50	WAS €60
Elf Victory Long Drain 20ltr	€57	WAS €67
Mobil Agri Super 15-40 20ltr	€69	WAS €79
Mobil Hydraulic nuto 20ltr	€55	WAS €65

WHILE STOCKS LAST ENDS 2nd APRIL 2016



Guaranteed Milk Price Scheme

The second phase of our Guaranteed Milk Price Scheme covering the period from 1st January 2016 to 30th June 2017 has now been finalised. The Scheme was significantly over-subscribed and suppliers who have milk supply agreements signed were allocated 3.65% of their 2015 supply. However, the premium payable will be of some benefit to those suppliers who received allocations.

The third phase is in the pipeline and notification of the details will be received by suppliers in the coming days.

Spring Reseeding Advice

Generally there is little difference between sowing methods...assuming everything is completed correctly.



Seed-Bed

A fine firm seed-bed before sowing is critical - you should be easily able to ride a bike across a field before seed is sown. Direct driving is less successful in dry conditions so ensure rain is forecast if using this method.

Post-Sowing Rolling

This is a necessity. Rolling will help compact the soil and therefore maintain more moisture in the seed bed. Rolling also increases soil/seed contact which is necessary for the seed to germinate successfully.

Liming

Liming at sowing is important to help counteract any acidity as the old sward decays. Therefore, even if the field was limed in the previous 2 years, applying 1-2t lime per hectare at sowing will help with the establishment of the new sward.

Weed control

Post emergence spray is essential, and provides the best opportunity you will have for weed control in the sward.

Apply 5-6 weeks after sowing and ensure you use a spray which targets the weeds present in the field. If clover was sown, spray should be applied at the trifoliate stage and you must use a clover-safe spray.

Pests

Monitor the new reseed for signs of pest attack. Frit-fly, leatherjackets and slugs are the most common problem and are more prevalent with an Autumn reseed.

Frit Fly

This can result in patchy, poorly established reseed. The fruit-fly larvae burrow into the base of the newly emerging grasses and cut off the plant at the growing point. Autumn reseeds and min-till results in greatest risk. An appropriate pesticide can be applied if an attack is evident.

Leatherjacket

Can result in bare patches or missing rows. Leatherjackets are the larvae of the crane fly (daddy-long-legs).

Large crow populations feeding can indicate a leatherjacket problem. The leatherjacket cuts the new plant off just below the soil surface, destroying the seedling. An appropriate pesticide can be applied if an attack is evident.

Slugs

More prevalent during wet weather or in damp sections of a field, eg. headlands. High levels of surface trash or inadequate/no rolling will increase the likelihood of a problem. Shredded leaves indicate a problem. Greater risk in direct drilled reseeds as the slit in the ground allows the slug shelter. Reduce the risk by creating a fine firm seedbed with adequate rolling. Use slug pellets when direct drilling or if a problem is identified.



CENTENARY
Home & Garden



Spring
deals
Gardening

now on!

Introducing Actisaf

The market leader in live yeast.



Key Features

1. Stabilises rumen pH reducing the build-up of lactic acid, which causes acidosis.
2. Reduces rumen oxygen content and stimulates the growth of rumen organisms that digest fibre and starch thus increasing feed intake and helping efficient digestion.
3. Promotes a healthy rumen environment.

14% Fertility Booster Dairy Nut

- High energy native barley and maize.
- Contains fertility booster mineral
- Includes Actisaf, Acid Guard and Acid Buff
- Optimin Trace Minerals
- Low protein, high fibre nut
- Ideal complement for lush spring grass
- 2oz cal mag in 2.5kg feed rate

Acid Guard

Optimal Rumen Acid Management

Inclusion of Acid Guard, Acid Buff and a blend of buffers ensures

- Increased lactate fermenting bacteria in the rumen with a positive effect on rumen pH reducing the incidence of acidosis after meal feeding
- Increased cellulolytic bacteria in the rumen to give improved fibre digestion and good effects on performance, higher dry matter intake, milk yield, increased milk fats and proteins
- A blend of buffers including Acid Buff helps buffer rumen contents reducing the pH drop immediately after feeding
- The combination of Aspergillus Oryzae and other yeasts has been shown in numerous trials to increase rumen pH, improve milk yield and improve live weight gain
- Acid Buff reduces sub-acute ruminal acidosis (SARA) and maintains optimum rumen pH.

Fertility Booster Mineral

- Contains extra phosphorus as well as high levels of vitamins and trace elements to support metabolism and the immune system
- High levels of vitamin E and other antioxidants help improve fertility performance
- Optimin chelated organic trace minerals have a high bioavailability and maintain a healthy mineral status.
- Animal performance is reliant on maintenance of a healthy mineral status.
- Trace minerals are therefore an essential nutrient for production animals.
- First signs of mineral deficiencies are often a loss of fertility, dull coat, poor quality hoof or skin quality and low stress resistance.

18% Calf Moozli

- High energy 18% Protein Calf Starter.
- Contains high quality palatable ingredients.
- Formulated with calf pencils, beans, flaked maize and soya bean.
- Calf pencils contain Actisaf, Acid Guard, cereals, soya bean and good sources of digestible fibre.
- 18% Protein made with quality ingredients to help promote calf growth
- Fully balanced for minerals and vitamins for your growing calf's needs
- Feed from day 3, with water and a roughage source preferably straw.



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centenarythurles.com