

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2023



Assured Agronomy

Urease Inhibitors

Ammonia gas is released in the volatilisation of Urea fertilisers. In a bid to reach the Governments ammonia reduction targets DEFRA are implementing new rules regarding Urea application.

Volatilisation levels are increased in warm, dry conditions, and therefore **untreated Urea fertiliser must be applied before the 1st of April**. If the Urea is treated with a Urease inhibitor, then it can be applied after the 1st of April.

-These new regulations will be monitored by Red Tractor and current plans for next season will include sitting a FACTs module if you fail to comply.

-Be aware of expiry dates of solid fertiliser brought with inhibitor, as the inhibitor will degrade over time and different inhibitors have varying shelf life up to 12 months.

-Inhibitor can be added to Liquid fertiliser at application

OSR Drilling

Cabbage Stem Flea Beetle already being found on crops this Spring indicating there will be high pressure at summer establishment.

-**Early Drilling**- Higher success rates in crops sown before the middle of August.

-**Tall Stubble**- Results in lower numbers of beetles. Consider sowing bare patches or uncropped areas now in current crops that will be followed with OSR to ensure stubble cover.

-**Soil moisture**- Limit soil disturbance to maintain soil moisture.

-**DAP placement or fertiliser** at establishment- Quick growth through early vulnerable growth stages.

Season Outlook

A wet Spring has led to **high Disease Pressure** compared to the previous few years. Additionally lodging risk has increased with a risk of newer varieties being more susceptible due to recent recommended list scores being based off low lodging pressure years.

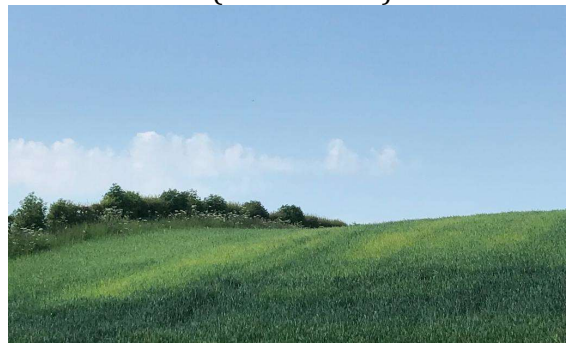
P and K

Fertiliser prices are decreasing including P and K, where applications have been reduced over the previous years due to the high cost ensure indices are maintained going forward.

Sulphur

High fertiliser prices and low availability has also led to reduction of Sulphur applied to crops.

Results from Lancrop show sulphur deficiencies in 85% of arable soils and 25% of grain. Sulphur increases nitrogen use efficiency within crops as the two nutrients work together to increase protein. This in turn means higher economic efficiency. Visual deficiencies have been observed in fields this Autumn (Photo Below).



SFI

Further standards to be released this summer including **hedgerows**, **integrated pest management**, **nutrient management**, **arable** and **horticultural land**, improved **grassland**, and low input **grassland** standard.

With the ability to stack different standards and less prescriptive actions it makes them more flexible than similar CS options.

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INDEPENDENT AGRONOMY

PRECISION FARMING

Introducing Tom

Grew up on a family arable farm in East Barkwith, at the foot of the Lincolnshire Wolds. Always worked on the farm from a young age. After studying engineering at university, pursued a career in motor sport and spent time overseas following various racing series.

In 2015 returned to Lincolnshire and spent 2 years manufacturing and selling Direct Drills for Dale Drills. In 2017 moved to Sudbrooke to join my Wife's family farm, primarily on the arable side of a diverse farming business.

BASIS and Facts qualified, I joined Assured Agronomy in March 2023 and currently split my time on our own farm and working for the company. Also have a young family and with whatever time is left over I spend it riding motocross bikes and playing ice hockey.



Key Dates

15th June- Countryside stewardship AB9 plots should be sown by.

May 1st – July 31st – Countryside Stewardship GS4: no grazing or cutting for five weeks in this period.

8th August - Mid Tier Stewardship application Deadline.

1st September-Hedges can be cut.



Graham Chester



Ken Chappell



Ben Vaughan



Tom Clark



Harriet Beeby



Kathryn Vaughan

Two NROSO points per newsletter have been allocated between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023 reference for the Summer 2023 newsletter: NO500970f.

Two BASIS points (1CP/1PN) in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated between 01/06/2023 and 31/05/2024 reference CT/129031/2324/g.

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PRECISION FARMING