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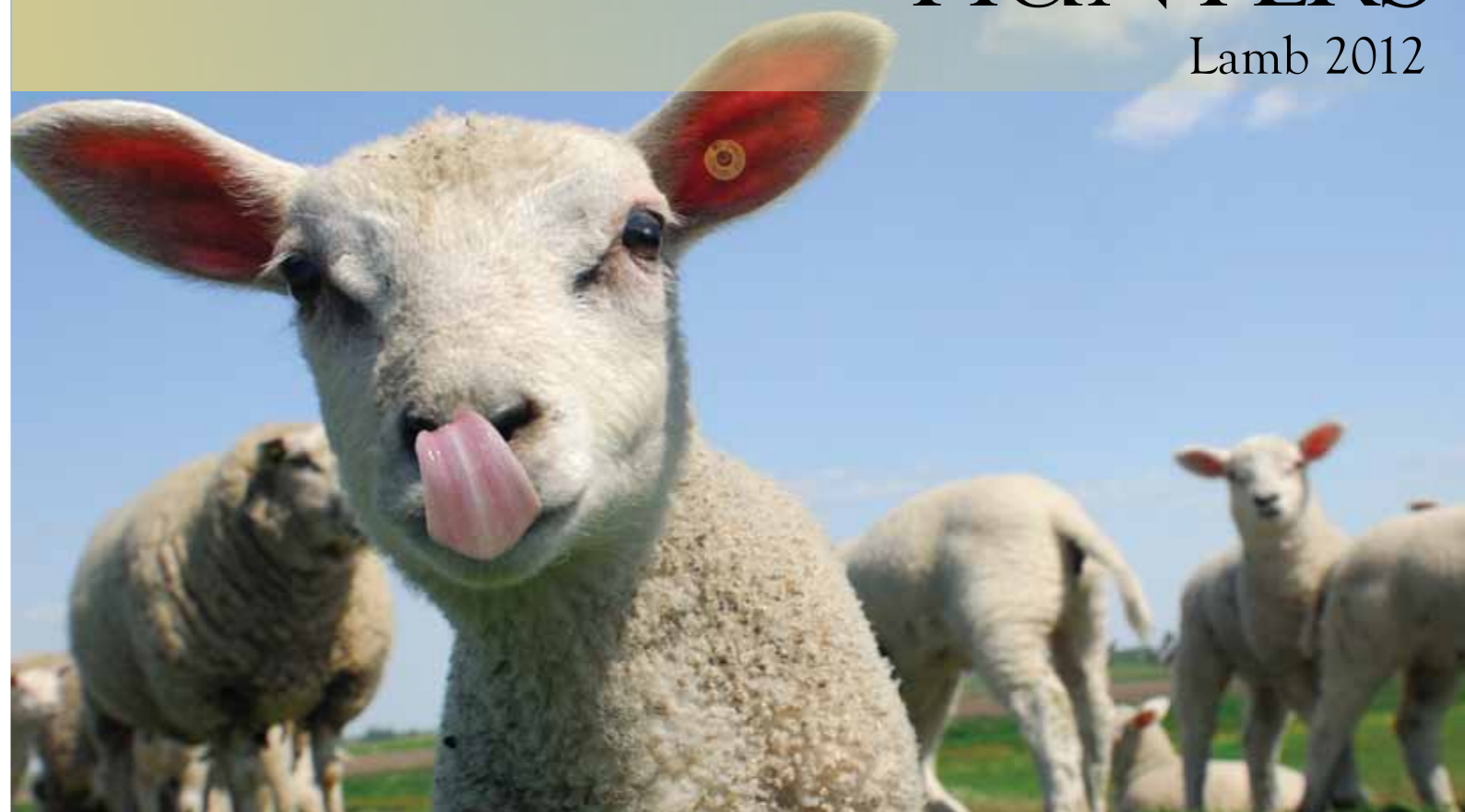
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Lamb Finishing News

A range of products for profitable lamb production

Protein Lamb Finisher

British grassland farmers are now able to experience the benefits of cutting-edge forage products through Barenbrugs' Innovations programme.

Protein Lamb Finisher was developed from the trials run by AFBI at Loughgall, which looked at 20 alternative forage protein crops.

These included potential red clover varieties, lucernes and chicory.

Commander chicory was sown on its own, with perennial ryegrass and mixed with Lemmon red clover.

When sown with Lemmon red clover, it consistently produced the highest yields for the duration of the trial.

Barenbrug's agricultural manager, David Long adds: "As chicory isn't a legume, it cannot produce its own nitrogen, so needs a source of fertility to be able to maintain its high level of leaf production.

By combining it with Lemmon red clover, another high-protein forage, we created the ideal lamb finishing forage mix, which has no need for applications of nitrogen fertiliser and leaves a residue of nitrogen for the following crop.

"When it was time for the on-farm trials, we put the mixture under as much 'farming' pressure as possible. It was continuously and rotationally grazed.

Despite the sward being relatively open it had no problem carrying relatively high stocking rates and continued to produce well through the extended dry periods of summer 2010."

Chicory

Chicory is a perennial herb, which is an excellent source of high quality feed for finishing stock.

Sown from April to middle of August for usage in the second year.

Why grow Chicory?

- High protein forage (between 10-32% depending on the plant's maturity), with the digestibility of the leaves between 90-95%
- Chicory can either be sown as part of a grass seed mixture or mixed with either red or white clover
- Trials by AFBI with Commander have shown a significant reduction in worm burden
- Rich source of trace elements and minerals

Commander

Commander produces significant yields of high protein forage, especially when mixed with red clover, and has demonstrated its potential for high levels of animal production over spring and summer.

Available in 1kg packs

Rising input costs have developed a renewed interest in forage crops.

The products listed in this guide to Lamb Finishing are ideal for finishing lambs as forage products have the potential to produce very high yields over a short growing season, combined with a flexible sowing window from early summer to early September.

These crops can be fed ten to fourteen weeks from sowing.

Alternative forages offer a number of benefits for farmers including a cost-effective finishing system for lambs and benefits to the soil conditions such as fertility building and acting as a cover crop.

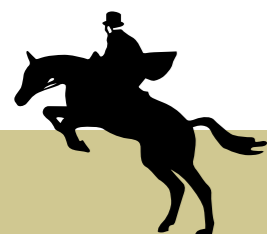
The use of such crops may allow you to save on your fertiliser inputs with the following grass or cereal crop.

Certain forages have also been found to have anthelmintic benefits in lambs.

Another major benefit of using a forage crop within the rotation is that it enables you to concentrate stock onto a single area of land. This frees up grassland and allows for reseeding or recovery and provides valuable grazing for stock later on.

Find out more about our range of lamb finishing products, and get in contact with us to discuss your requirements.

Call one of our regional managers today - our contact details are on the back page.





Sheep Graze and Catch Crop Sheep feed

Why grow Sheep Graze?

- Improved profitability
- Reduced reliance on purchased feeds
- High lamb growth rates
- Fast growing catch crop
- Excellent break crop
- High yields
- Economical to grow

Why grow Catch Crop?

- Balanced mixture
- Ideal for finishing lambs
- A great way to extend the grazing system
- Suitable for flushing ewes
- Fast growing catch crop
- Excellent break crop
- High yields
- Economical to grow

Sheep Graze Mixture

It is a practical alternative to either swedes or kale as a sheep forage crop, best sown before the beginning of July. A low cost option for finishing lambs, with a balanced feed.

This mixture produces a palatable, flexible sheep mixture that is hardy enough to graze into the spring.

Contains: 3kg Fodder Rape, 0.75kg Kale, 0.25kg Stubble Turnips.
Sowing rate: 10kg/ha (4kg/acre)

Available in 4kg packs

Catch Crop Sheep Feed

Designed to be drilled into cereal stubbles, this balanced mixture is an ideal catch crop for finishing lambs or flushing ewes over the late autumn/early winter period.

Contains: 2 kg Fodder Rape and 1kg Stubble Turnips.
Sowing rate: If it is drilled the seed rate is 7.50kg/ha (3kg per acre). If it is broadcast onto the stubble, increase the seed rate to 11.25 kg/ha (4.5 kg/acre).

Available in 3kg packs

Stubble Turnips

The stubble turnip is very flexible. It can be sown either in a standing crop of cereals, straight after the cereal harvest or perhaps after early potatoes.

Stubble suitability

- | | | | |
|-------|---|--------|---|
| Graze | ✓ | Beef | ✓ |
| Dairy | ✓ | Pigs | ✓ |
| Sheep | ✓ | Silage | |



Why grow stubble turnips?

- Worried about feed stocks?
- Stubble turnips are a perfect alternative to silage
- Fast growing catch crop
- Autumn or winter feed
- Economical to grow
- Flexible sowing options
- Helps reduce winter feed costs

Essential information

Sow April to June for summer use or July to early September for autumn use, a well grown catch crop can provide you with up to 40 tonnes per acre of palatable feed from October through to December.

Around 20kgs of stubble turnips will be roughly equal in energy value to either 2kg of barley or 4.5kg of high quality hay.

An average autumn crop will provide one days grazing for 1,000 ewes or 500 cows per acre.

Forage Rape

A widely used, easy to grow, leafy catch crop, providing excellent autumn and winter keep.

Forage rape suitability

- | | | | |
|-------|---|--------|---|
| Graze | ✓ | Beef | ✓ |
| Dairy | ✓ | Pigs | |
| Sheep | ✓ | Silage | |



Why grow forage rape?

- Fast growing leafy catch crop
- High protein content
- Longer lasting than stubble turnips
- Fattening lambs
- Flexible sowing period
- Sheep, Dairy or Beef production

Barcoli

Very leafy, high yielding variety with good digestibility.

Barcoli has good resistance to mildew which can often reduce yield and affect palatability.

Essential information

Sown in May to end of August, Forage rape can produce very useful yields of fresh material and dry matter in a very short period.

Yield and Feed Quality	
Dry matter yield	8-9%
Fresh matter yield	38-40 tonnes/ha
Crude protein	17-18% of dry matter
D value	68-70%
Average ME	11 MJ/kg DM
Sowing rates	Broadcast - 8kg/ha (3.2kg/acre) Drilled - 5kg/ha (2kg/acre)
Pack size	Minimum 5kg

Typical Costs and Value	
Growing costs	£289/ha
Fresh weight	£5/tonne
Dry matter	£62/tonne
Cost per kilo of weight gain	17.9p

Barkant

A proven and reliable, Barenbrug-bred variety that is high yielding, versatile, highly nutritious, traditional stubble turnip with early maturity (60 to 90 days). Characterised by a much higher proportion of leaf compared to other turnips and its tankard shaped bulb, two thirds of which grows above ground, enhances utilisation.

Suitable for summer forage and can provide autumn/early winter feed. It's winter hardy, highly digestible with high dry matter yield.

Available in 5kg packs

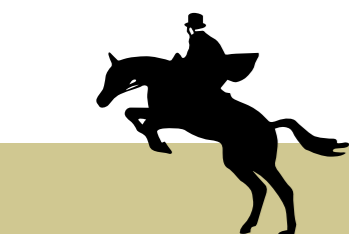
Barabas

Full-leaved late tetraploid bulbing with very good early vigour. Proven very palatable to grazing animals with good disease resistance.

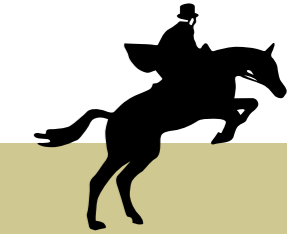
This stubble turnip variety has been very successful wherever it has been used throughout the UK and with some farmers proclaiming as the best stubble turnip variety they have encountered!

Barabas is an excellent, reliable, Barenbrug-bred variety.

Available in 5kg packs



HUNTERS



HUNTERS