

# DUFFIELDS DIGEST

*Welcome to our Spring edition. We hope you find this newsletter informative and welcome any feedback.*

## Is the Grass Greener .....

Re-seed regularly to maximise feed efficiency and boost production from home grown forage.

With current poor milk and meat prices the temptation is to cut back or delay re-seeding and pasture improvement on the farm. However, it could be more costly overall to do this!

Well managed grassland provides the most economic feed source on the farm.

- ◆ Grass yields can halve within 7 years in a sward with the ingress of weed grasses for example, Perennial Ryegrasses can yield over 15t/h of DM, weed grasses like Annual Meadow only produce around 4t/h of DM.
- ◆ Sown grasses are: much higher feed value than weed grasses; higher in energy and protein; and higher digestibility.
- ◆ Higher digestible grasses lead to higher forage intakes.
- ◆ Response to Nitrogen Fertiliser is far more efficient with modern sown varieties than weed grasses.
- ◆ Perennial Rye Grass 100% efficient, Annual Meadow Grass 17% efficient.

Duffields have a comprehensive range of mixtures using the best modern varieties produced by a UK based major world herbage seed producer.

Ask your local Duffield contact for help selecting the correct mixture whether it's for short term silage mixes or longer term grazing mixtures.

### In this issue:

- Is the Grass Greener .....
- Progress at Riverside
- Dates for the Diary - forthcoming shows and events
- New Recruits
- Annual Game and Countryside Conference
- The Future of Farming ?
- Duffields Direct
- It's "toodle-ooo" to June!
- Lorry Lowdown
- Contact Us

### Dates for the Diary

**Heathfield Show**  
Little Tottingworth Farm  
**Saturday 28th May**

**Open Farm Sunday**  
Throughout the country  
**Sunday 5th June**

**Honiton Show**  
Honiton Showground  
**Thursday 4th August**

**Gillingham & Shaftesbury Show**  
Motcombe Turnpike  
Showground  
**Wednesday 17th August 2016**

## Progress at Riverside

OUT WITH THE OLD AND IN WITH THE NEW !



## New Recruits

- ✓ **Lizzie Alston**  
Customer Services Team  
Joined our Head Office team  
"My career choice has been inspired by seeing the Duffields lorries collecting grain from my parents' farm"
- ✓ **Tanya Warren**  
HR & Payroll Administrator  
Joined our Head Office team  
"It's great to be working for an agricultural market leader like Duffields!"
- ✓ **Graeme Eldred**  
Transport Manager  
Joined our Head Office team  
"I am very pleased to join Duffields having worked in the transport and logistics industry for 25 years"

## FUTURE FARMERS?



Duffields SW welcomed a group of young farmers for a mill tour and talk - it is very exciting to see the next generation rising through the ranks.

## Contact Us

### Customer Services

Head Office: 01508 470661  
South East: 01227 723838  
South West: 01935 432299  
Keepers Choice: 01489 780033  
Riverside Feeds: 01460 68520

Email: [sales@duffields.co.uk](mailto:sales@duffields.co.uk)  
Website: [www.duffields.co.uk](http://www.duffields.co.uk)

Check out our website for further information and our latest news.

## Annual Game & Countryside Conference

The second Game & Countryside Conference was held at Cokethorpe School, Witney on Thursday 18 February. Over 120 gamekeepers, game farmers and individuals with game industry connections were in attendance.



There were five speakers this year: Charles Nodder opened with a fascinating insight into the changes in EU law on trapping stoats and the potential impact of Avian influenza. He was followed by Jamie Daniell who explained the Game Farmers' Association and the importance of membership.



Having been Minister of State for Agriculture, Sir Jim Paice spoke with great authority on the necessity of compliance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Then it was over to Dr Kenny Nutting, who talked about the role of medicines in game rearing.

The final speaker was Major General Jamie Balfour. Speaking of his experiences as a career soldier serving in Northern Ireland, Iraq and Afghanistan, Jamie described how he has adapted his forces expertise to run a successful private shoot.

The Conference ended with an interesting 'Question Time' chaired by David Hills, following which, he thanked everyone for attending a highly productive day.

## Did you know that you can now source all your performance product needs through Duffields?



Duffields Direct is a growing arm to the Duffields compound business giving the farmer a more complete package with continued support on additional products from your on farm representative.

All these additional products on offer, come from trusted suppliers, with lead times on deliveries of approximately one week and "specials" are available by request.

- |             |                  |                  |           |
|-------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|
| *Grass Seed | *Maize Seed      | *Silage Additive | *Minerals |
| *Yeasts     | *Mineral Buckets | *Milk Powder     |           |

**Bagged Straights** – Limestone, Cal Mag, Mag Flakes, Rock Salt, FG Urea, Sodium Bicarbonate and much more!

Please contact your local representative, call into the office or check our website for further information.

## It's "toodle-ooo" to June!

June Green retired from Duffields on Tuesday 17th May.

With her catchphrase of "You don't clock in, you don't get paid", June spent the last ten years dedicating herself to ensuring that everyone in the Group got their wages on time.

June is looking forward to relaxing and enjoying time with her family and to holidays in her caravan. She will be missed by everyone at Duffields.



All four sites have been very busy leading up to and over the Easter period.

Collectively all 4 sites have delivered over 4,780 tonnes of bags and over 41,000 tonnes of bulk over Jan – Mar 2016. This

is a great achievement and our thanks to all staff for making this a very successful Easter campaign.

Thanks also to all our customers for their assistance with additional option dates and their forward ordering.

Our South West site has just taken delivery of a new electric rear steer Artic Trailer and a new Volvo Tridem.

These two new additions to the fleet should allow us easier access into some of our smaller delivery points.