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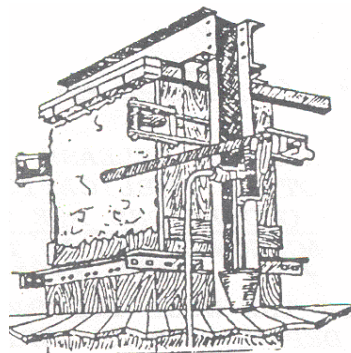
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EDITORIAL

Haven't we had a great summer so far and this appears to have been reflected in the number of animals being made available to FIMCo for export to the EU. Zoë has written a short piece on the recent audit carried out by 2 EU veterinary inspectors – an intensive experience for the veterinary section of the DoA but I think we and the Falkland Islands meat industry have come out of it reasonably well. More will be said about this topic in future editions of the Wool Press.

Mac has returned from holiday in Australia (during which, apparently, he has spent much of his time working!) and has written two very interesting articles on subjects that he investigated while he was away. The first is on the production of compost and the second on his favourite topic – beef production. Both make interesting reading and should give you cause for thought.

You can read the second part of my article on the birth of veterinary education – written mainly to show you that formal veterinary training goes back quite a long way. Of course, people were treating sick animals long before formally trained vets came on to the scene just as barbers used to treat injured people before properly qualified surgeons were available; hence the traditional red and white pole outside a barber's shop – red for the blood and white for the bandage. Mac will be continuing this series of articles when he gives his eye witness account of the opening of Australia's first vet school in Melbourne in 1880 (yes he is even older than me!)

Please take note of all the events coming up over the next couple of months – a Field Day at Port Howard on 13th March, the Saladero ram sale on the 17th March and the RBA Sheep Show at Fitzroy on April 9th.

Andy Pollard has contributed one more article on a forage related topic before he sets off for his second semester at Lincoln University near Christchurch, New Zealand. We wish him well as he returns to that devastated city and hope for his sake and all others who live there that we have seen the last of any major earthquakes in that region.

Steve Pointing
Senior Veterinary Officer

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COMPOSTING FERTILISER FOR FALKLANDS FARMS

By Mac McArthur

Whilst in Australia recently I spent some time investigating methods of developing fertiliser using composting processes that are being used on a large scale to fertilise pastures in Western Victoria.

High Costs of Fertilisers

The high cost of chemical fertilisers, the increasing acidity (lowering of the pH) that is occurring on many Australian farms that have applied large quantities of superphosphate over past years as well as the desire to have high producing and sustainable pastures over the long term are the key drivers of this change.

Utilising animal waste such as manure from dairy sheds, feedlots, poultry sheds and sheep sheds is a relatively cheap way of obtaining the nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium (NPK) which are the main nutrients supplied in chemical fertilisers. These manures also supply soil microbes, trace elements and humus (organic matter), the latter of which helps retain moisture in soils. Other organic waste from meat, fish and vegetable processing provide similar NPK and other nutrients and trace elements.

On-Farm Composting

The process I was shown, thanks to Tom Gubbins from Te Mania Angus and a colleague David Thulborn (Soil Solutions Aust. Pty Ltd) utilised dairy farm waste from cattle feed pad waste, calf bedding straw, damaged hay and silage, wood chips and sawdust with some lime added and even dead cattle and calves. The material was made into a series of



of windrows. A purpose built tractor with a mounted compost turner (see pictures) was used to mix the compost components in the windrows. This was done approximately weekly depending on rainfall and tem-



peratures etc.

To meet the Australian standard, the compost had to reach a temperature of 50-55 degrees C at some point in the composting process. Despite having dead animals and decaying organic material the compost was almost without any deleterious smell. By the end of the composting process even the large animal bones break down into friable compost that



you can run through your fingers.

Materials for Composting

Tony Evans of the Camperdown Compost Company said that they sourced the organic nutrients not only from dairy farm waste but from food processing waste from abattoirs, fish, vegetable and fruit processing plants etc. This material is stabilized using an excavator and then smaller windrows are made which are turned using a compost turner. Close monitoring of the windrows is carried out to check temperature and ensure the composting process is working properly. The

fully composted finished product is then screened and applied directly onto pastures at rates of 2.5 to 5.0 tonnes per hectare.

Resources Available in the Falklands

With FIMCo planning to significantly increase its throughput of lambs, mutton and beef, the consequent increasing quantities of meat processing waste that could be composted along with waste from the fishing industry provide a ready source of organic material in the Falklands. A calcium source available here to replace lime is calcified seaweed. Wood chips and sawdust are not available here but it is possible that adding kelp or even

peat may provide more humus with its important water holding capacity. In another biological farm fertiliser system I looked at brown coal was added to provide composted humates which are essentially carbon rich humus material.

Necessity Mother of Invention

The high costs and constraints of shipping chemical fertilisers to the Islands and possibly future waste disposal environmental requirements, flag the need for developing inventive ways of utilising resources we have in the Falklands to provide much needed cheaper fertilisers for farms.



Dates for the Diary

8th March	Pancake Day
13th March	Port Howard / Bold Cove Open Day
16th March	Dog Dosing (Droncít) <i>Please remember to contact the veterinary service on telephone no 27366, fax no 27352 or email sbowles@doa.gov.fk and advise when your dogs have been dosed</i>
17th March	Ram Sale - Saladero
9th April	Sheep Show - Fitzroy Farm, more information on page 4
21st April	Public Holiday - Queen's Birthday
22nd April	Public Holiday - Good Friday
27th April	Dog Dosing (Droncít) <i>Please remember to contact the veterinary service on telephone no 27366, fax no 27352 or email sbowles@doa.gov.fk and advise when your dogs have been dosed</i>

THE BIRTH OF VETERINARY EDUCATION IN THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT PART 2

By Steve Pointing

Continued from last months issue...

Starting a veterinary school curriculum from scratch was no small task, but it proved relatively easy in contrast to actually teaching students. The faculty had to cover a vast number of topics, which was made difficult by the fact that students put variable amounts of time into their studies. Students arrived throughout the year to take the “theoretical” course. These were divided into three classes. The first was devoted to the study of external parts, animal osteology, and mycology. The second was devoted to “material medica”, splanchnology, and bandaging. The third was devoted to physiology, medicine, pharmacology, and the appropriate use of medications.

In the classroom, Bourgelat wrote out all the information he required the students to learn, and the students copied it verbatim. This was done to standardise the classes in the beginning of the school; however, it was hard for the entire faculty to harmonise the knowledge levels of the various students plus most new students spoke in their local dialect and some were not even familiar with holding a pen. Later on, Bourgelat’s books formed the basis of the theoretical teaching, which, again, the students were required to copy verbatim and memorise and then they had to recite the content without error.

Students didn’t spend all their time writing and memorising. Bourgelat rejected the lengthy theoretical courses, preferring to give his students a concrete explanation, followed by demonstrations. Teachers, liberated from lengthy lectures, could devote themselves to explaining to students what they were viewing. Practical training sessions consisted of dissections and botany – the students made a herbarium – and working the forge, because Bourgelat figured that veterinarians should know how to shoe and to forge the shackles that they used.

In addition to attending the compulsory lectures and practical exercises, each week, students were assigned to feed the animals, light fires, and keep the rooms clean, including the dissection room, stables and forges. Students also practiced under the supervision of a teacher, performed consultations, monitored hospitalised animals, and learned to prepare medicines.

Beginning in 1763, during a major outbreak of rinderpest in France, Bourgelat taught the best students everything they needed to know in less than a year to send as many as possible to combat the disease. Soon after, “the plague was stayed and the health of the stock restored, through the assistance rendered to agriculture by veterinary science and art.”

When the school was founded two years earlier, the king had given it only a short-term grant which left the school’s long-term prospects in jeopardy. But after the Lyon students proved their worth in managing and preventing epizootic diseases, Bertin and the king were convinced of their usefulness. As a result the king made a decree that henceforward the new veterinary school would be called the Royal Veterinary School and it would be supported by the state. In that same year, Bourgelat was designated director and inspector general of the Lyon veterinary school “and of all such schools which exist or shall exist in our Kingdom” as well as commissioner general of the royal horse-breeding establishments. By then Lyon had 36 new enrolees; enrolment would later stabilise at 30 new students each year.

For Bertin, the Lyon School was only the first step in contributing to France’s animal and agricultural health. In 1764, he ordered Bourgelat to create another veterinary school – this time at Alfort, just outside Paris. Bourgelat established the standards for the two veterinary schools in 1777 and continued to teach in both of them until his death in January 1779, at the age of 67.

Bourgelat may not have gained the global renown of his contemporaries Voltaire and Diderot; however, he proved just as influential in the realms of veterinary medicine, zoonotic disease and public health. This 18th century expert horseman contributed greatly to the knowledge of animal health, developed a style of horse riding that continues to this day, and, in what has become his lasting legacy, founded the world's first veterinary school.

In the 30 years following the founding of the first veterinary school in Lyon in 1761, veterinary schools were founded in most

major European countries – the earliest being at Uppsala in Sweden, Hanover in Germany, Copenhagen in Denmark and Vienna in Austria – all established in the 1770's. The first veterinary school to be founded in the English speaking world was the Royal Veterinary College in London and this was set up in 1791 by a Frenchman, Charles Benoit Vial de St Bel, who was himself a graduate of the Lyon school.

(acknowledgement to JAVMA News, Jan. 1st 2011)

A SUMMARY ON WOOL TRANSPORTATION

By Malcolm Jamieson
Marine Officer

The decision taken recently that a shipment of wool would have to be classed as dangerous cargo would have taken most people by surprise. This has opened up a wider problem that identifies an area of regulation that is not particularly clear and this may well end up being a test case.

Any cargo that is classed as dangerous according to the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code is to be found in the index of the Code. Wool does indeed appear but only if it is wet. You might think that if it is dry then it is not classed as dangerous.

On closer study, wool can also be classed as an animal fibre with oil and this is included in the code due to the risk of spontaneous combustion and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) in the UK have had to agree with this due to the short timescale involved with the last shipment from East Cove. Any dangerous commodity comes with a range of precautions to be taken in order to minimise risks. Some of these precautions when they relate to wool include the type and size of packaging. According to the Code, the packaging should be 50kg bags. This is obviously in contrast to the bags that have been in use for many years – here and elsewhere.

There are some areas where the problem can be overcome. Taking the Code to the letter, animal fibre can be dangerous “according to the oil content”. So what is the limit where it is or isn't classed as dangerous? There does not appear to be an answer.

During the course of this episode, I have been in contact with a range of people and have gathered some hopefully useful information.

I have been given a copy of a letter that states that during tests, Falklands wool had a grease content on average of 8%. This compares quite favourably with the likes of Merino wool. Reference is made to damp or wet wool and it has been pointed out on numerous occasions the natural dryness of the atmosphere here together with the age old policy of shearing sheep indoors and only ever shipping dry wool.



Wool bales stored at FIPASS

However, since the issue has been brought to

the attention of the MCA, they have been unable to make much progress to date as to a definitive answer as to how dangerous greasy wool is.

The responsibility of shipping cargoes is held by the ship and the flag state whose flag the ship flies. This turns out to be the UK and therefore the MCA. This may avoid any further complication, but the matter is under the IMDG Code under the International Maritime

Organisation. There is a worry that if a stand is made, it may have wider repercussions that may not be just limited to the Falklands.

Hopefully though we will have a definitive answer and a long term solution soon, as at the time of writing, the MCA is waiting on any formal assessment from a number of sources and I have been assured that a solution will be found before the next shipment is due.

VISIT BY EU INSPECTORS

By Zoë Luxton

Between the 7th-11th of February, the DoA hosted 2 inspectors from the European Union, Dr Agnes Kerti and Dr André Evers. This EU mission was to evaluate the control that the FIG Competent Authority (Veterinary Section of the DoA) has over the export of red meat - i.e. do we meet their requirements with our meat!

It was a long and tiring week for all concerned as almost every aspect of ovine and bovine meat export was examined. The inspectors obviously spent a lot of time scrutinising systems in place in the Veterinary Section but also visited Sand Bay abattoir, the KEMH laboratory and 2 farms. Many thanks to John Ferguson and Johan Wilkinson and their teams for their patience and also sincere thanks must go to North Arm and Blue Beach farmers for their time.

In true audit style, at times during the week we felt very much that our systems and controls were failing to meet their strict expectations.

At the closing meeting we were thanked for facilitating an organised and positive week and all the points for consideration and correction were discussed.

We will not receive the final report with their recommendations for 3-4 weeks post visit (especially as our inspectors were then undertaking a 2 week mission in Chile) so it would not be appropriate to publish a list of areas that will require modification and improvement at this stage but when the report is received and responded to then details will be provided to the public.

Suffice to say, a LOT of work (by the Competent Authority, meat producers and processors alike) has to be done to upgrade a number of areas. This includes legislative changes, improved documentation and processes and additional work in relation to beef exports.

Farm Improvement Programme Notice

2011/12 FIP plan templates have been sent by email to all farms

The deadline for plans to be submitted by is the **1st June 2011**.

It would be appreciated if farmers could submit 2010/11 invoices to the DOA as they appear so we can avoid a backlog of payments towards the end of the financial year.

MEAT PROFIT FIELD DAY ON THE WEST

By Tony Mills

The Falkland Island agricultural landscape has undergone many changes and developments over the years. It can often be said that change is the only thing that is constant. Some of these developments have been beneficial, while some of them have taken time to prove their worth or to be discarded for tried and tested methods. I have always felt that just because it is new doesn't necessarily mean it is better and that some long held practices have their place in today's farming.

Quite often age old practices are being tweaked through developments in technology that are able to add value or unlock another piece of the puzzle. Also changes to the environment will often necessitate a rethink on an approach or provide a new challenge to overcome. In my short involvement in the agricultural sector of the Falkland Islands I have seen some challenging environmental conditions that have impacted on lambing results, grazing during summer, pre-winter stockpiling of feed and condition of ewes at joining. I have also seen the continued development of the meat and wool business of sheep and the meat business of cattle which has in its self brought on many new challenges and tested well established systems. Some of these include competition for limited resources, changes to product specifications, improved prices, organics and demand for increased supply.

The DoA, in conjunction with the FIMCo Livestock Suppliers Working Group (FLSWG), is holding a discussion day on Sunday 13th March hosted by Critta and Myles Lee and Riki Evans and Serena Sinclair to address many of the underlying issues alluded to above. This day will provide all producers with the opportunity to listen to updates on two of the key seedstock supplies within the Falkland Islands and provide your views on the various aspects of selection currently used. There will also be discussion on two important tools that can aid livestock management and flock/herd health. Not wanting to keep everyone in the 'classroom' there will be the chance to get your teeth into a bit of grass and get some fertiliser on your boots. This will involve an overland tour looking at a modern application of an age old technique and a demonstration of how modern technology can aid the eye to ensure not too big a discount is received when supplying the key red meats produced in the Islands.

The day is meant to be a day when views and opinions can be exchanged to advance agriculture. So I would encourage all those that do have an opinion (and I know plenty of you do eh – Smokey, Turtle and Susan, Justin, Peter and Shelley!!) to come along and have your voice heard. If not then just come along to see me because in general I know you enjoy me talking to you!!!

Seen Anything Strange Lately?!



DON'T LEAVE IT...

OR SHOOT IT...

Call the Veterinary Section on
27366

ACTIVE SURVEILLANCE IS OUR
BEST DEFENCE

Meat Profit Field Day - Port Howard/Bold Cove

Sunday 13th March 2011

**Everybody to meet at the Port Howard Social Club
at 10am**

Topics and discussions for the day include:

- Internal Parasites and their effects**
- Why scan your ewes?**
- National Stud Flock update**
- National Beef Herd update**
- FLSWG Promotion and discussion of its role**
- Field Tour and Grazing Management at Port Howard**
- Field Tour and Cattle Scanning at Bold Cove**

Ferry times:

Depart New Haven at 8am - loading at 7.30am

Depart Port Howard at 3pm - loading at 2.30pm

Please book your place with Workboat Services

Morning smoko will be provided by the DoA

Please bring a packed lunch

Everybody welcome

Look forward to seeing you there!

For further information please call 27355

We need YOU

We are organising a

Farmers Market

*starting on the 26th of March
in the Jetty Centre car park
in order to generate additional income in
Camp and to raise the profile of Camp in Stanley.*

*We need your help to make the market a success so
please get in touch if you would like to sell
something be it a single cauliflower
or a box full of jars of chutney.*

*Once the goods are in Stanley
we will organise tables, stalls and sales*

We look forward to hearing from you.

Warm wishes

*Sa'as and Nuala
(on behalf of the RBA
and the RDS)*



You could bring

Fresh:

*Vegetables, salads, herbs, fruit, berries,
rhubarb, flowers*

Baked:

Loaves, rolls, cakes, buns

Speciality meat:

*Home made sausages, burgers, home made pate,
jerky, smoked &/or salted meats, geese,
empanadas, potted meat, reindeer*

Preserves:

Jams, chutneys, sauces

Dairy:

Eggs, cream, milk, yoghurt, butter, cheese

Fish:

Mullet, trout, fish pate, smoked fish pate

Crafts:

Quality hand made arts and crafts

Other:

Seedlings, saplings,

A FARMERS Market on March 26 is the initiative of the Rural Development Strategy (RDS) and the Rural Business Association (RBA). RBA Secretary Sarah Clement said "We are hoping that as many people as possible will support the Farmers Market by sending in products to it. Nuala Knight is coming into town on the ferry on the 25th and is willing to bring products from the West with her. I am also happy to receive goods at my office in Stanley or alternatively people can come along on the day".

Nuala and Sarah have been encouraging contributors to the Market to think about how they want to display their products. Nuala said "people might want to consider bringing table cloths, putting vegetables in little baskets, making a farm sign for their stall, perhaps providing little tasters on the day or offering a free recipe card- anything that will make the stalls look good and attract buyers".

There will be a central pay point, so that the organisers can manage sales on behalf of those that can't attend. Items should have the name of the farm or seller and the selling price marked on them.

This joint initiative aims to increase the economic opportunities available to Camp businesses and to raise the profile of Camp in Stanley.

Please contact Sarah Clement on 22432 or sealedpr@horizon.co.fk or Nuala on 42003 or rdsproject@fidc.co.fk if you have any questions.

Saladero Ram Sale 2011

Thursday 17th March at the Saladero shearing shed

Stock inspection commences at 8am
Helmsman auction commences at 11am

Ferry departs Port Howard at 8am, return ferries are at 10am and 6pm from New Haven—please book your place with Workboat Services

Please note: if the ferry is cancelled due to bad weather, the sale will be postponed to Friday 18th March. In this eventuality, the DoA will endeavour to inform people at the very earliest opportunity.

- Please ensure you have transport organised for any stock you may purchase

Stock for sale:

- 14 Polwarth NSF Ex-Stud sires
- 97 Polwarth NSF Shearling rams
- 14 Dohne Shearling rams
- 13 SAMM Shearling rams
- 15 Afrino Shearling rams
- 2 75% Polwarth x 25% Dohne Shearling rams

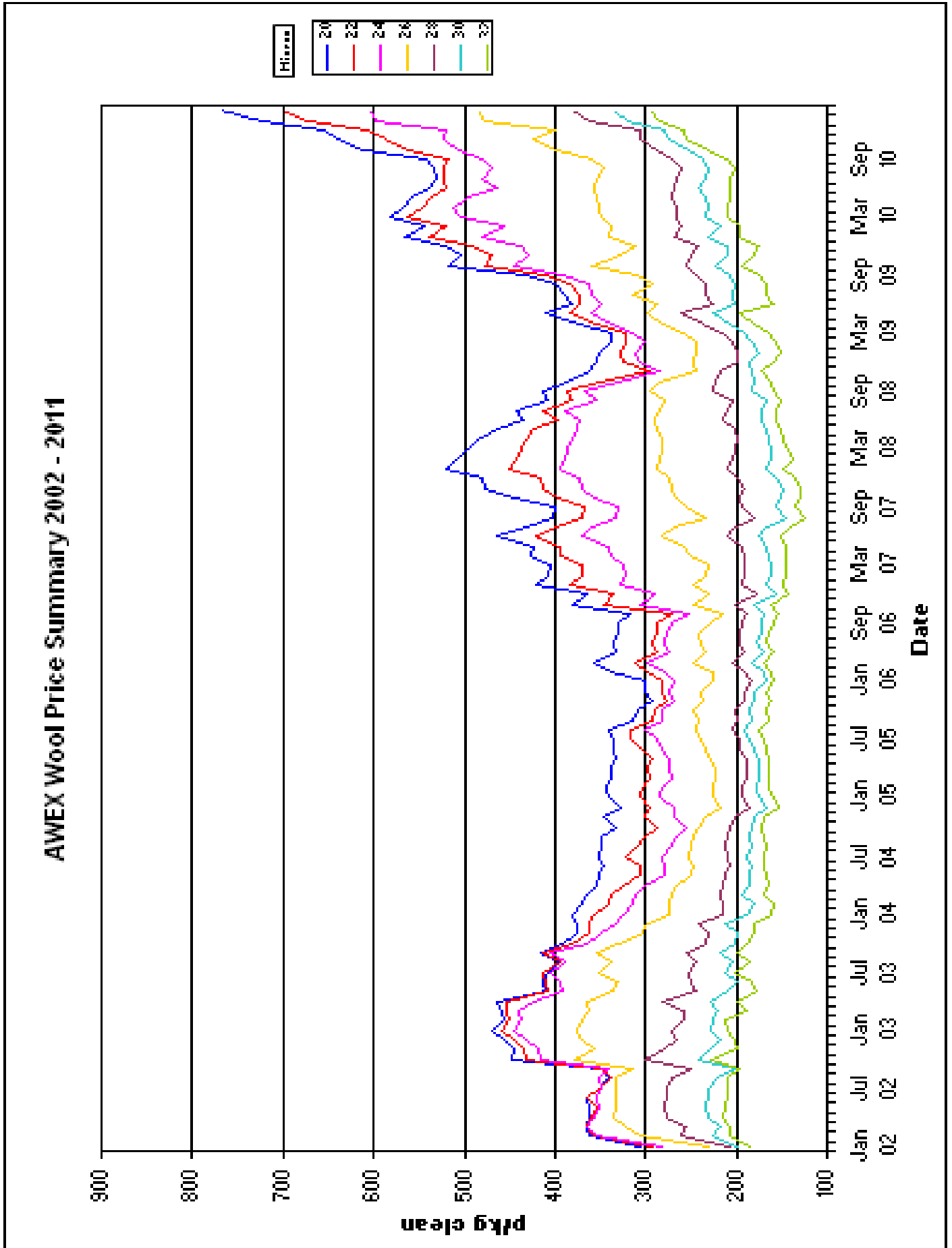
The Galley Café will have hot food and drinks for sale on the day

If you require transport to and from New Haven, please advise the DoA well in advance

Any queries, please ring: 27355

WOOL PRICE TREND OVER TIME

Based on weekly DoA Wool Reports





FORAGE OATS - POTENTIAL REASONS FOR THE POOR RESULTS THIS SEASON

By Andrew Pollard

I think it is fair to say that the 2010/11 cropping season has been a challenge.

When addressing the potential reasons for failure, I assume that farmers have selected a reasonable site, addressed soil fertility and plant nutrient requirements, controlled weeds, planted at the optimum sowing rate, sowing date and sowing depth, placed phosphorous where plant roots can access it and through cultivation and planting have conserved moisture. If the above conditions have been satisfied I assume that poor results must be due to extreme climatic conditions and/or the shipping problems that have affected the Islands. This article discusses their impact on oat crops this season.

I believe there are two main 'shipping' factors that have affected farmers this season

Country of purchase
Time of arrival of materials

In recent years we have had some tremendous oat crops using forage seed from Chile, cultivars such as 'Nehuen' and 'Saturno' amongst others. Without the link into Chile, oats for the 2010/11 season were imported from Uruguay. This was a forage variety called ESTANZUELA 1095A. The question then arises, is this variety suitable for growing in the FI?

We know that Uruguay is warmer and more fertile than the FI. Acid tolerance is unlikely to be any global oat breeder's objective, as adjusting the soil pH in the majority of countries is not an issue. It is possible that the oats would struggle here if they have been bred to respond to higher temperatures or offer no frost resistance. Whilst the oats this season may not be as high yielding (I am not saying that they won't), the establishment and yield should be fairly similar across the Islands providing all the conditions listed earlier in this article have been met. A farm has sown Estanzuela 1095A alongside some Chilean oats left from last season and they cannot identify any differences between the two varieties. I have heard accounts from other farmers that whilst the oat crops are not as good as last year, they are not complete failures.

The arrival of materials on time has also been problematic; the majority of fertiliser did not arrive until the New Year. Those using herbicides had to delay spraying and subsequently the sowing. The Saladero crop this year was not good (although it germinated) and two big reasons for this was the lack of the Sero to kill the sheep's sorrel before direct drilling and the late arrival of the nitrogen fertiliser.

The winds in late November and December were above average, particularly the storm on the 13-14 December, reported by the Penguin News as the "worst summer storm in living memory". There is evidence suggesting that establishment was badly affected by this storm. The summer months have also been particularly dry, and 'water deficiency' reduces plant photosynthesis and reduces the plant's ability to cool itself down. When stressed the plant triggers a survival response, often this is to produce seed. How many folks have seen weak, spindly plants that have gone to seed?

Table summarising potential reasons for failure and potential future

Reason for failure	Actions
Oat Variety	Ask supplier/DoA for variety information. DoA will also investigate future variety trials.
Time of Arrival	Order as early as possible, particularly if products have a long shelf life.
Winds	Try to identify sites that are less susceptible, particularly to prevailing winds. Sowing depth in initial year should be below the layer of ash post burning.
Drought	Sow earlier (within reason) and apply nitrogen post sowing to encourage early rapid development. Ground cover will reduce evaporation of water from the soil.

There will be occasions where factors are out of your hands and Plan B decisions are important. For example;

It does not look like fertiliser will arrive until January - is it worth sowing in November?

December has been very dry and we have still had no rain - why plant late Dec? Wait until moisture arrives or delay until the following year.

Please consult the DoA for advice on any of the issues above; you do not have to use it, but at least hear it out.

Finally, I hope everyone has a good sports week (should be plenty of rounds with the big wool cheques, lamb markings and hopefully meat incomes). The chances are I am now back in Christchurch at University (with butterflies in my stomach!) and look forward to seeing you all at Farmers' Week.

BEEF BUSINESS UPDATE - NO 1

By Mac McArthur

When my son-in-law gave me time off from pumping water out of paddocks, burr cutting and helping with harvesting whilst in Australia recently, I snuck off to catch up with Don, Tom and Harry Lawson of Lawson Angus and Paringa Charolais and Red Angus in North Eastern Victoria.

Booming Beef Bull Prices

The cattle business is booming in Australia and the bull sales this autumn are expected to bring record prices for the bull drafts particularly from the large performance tested seed stock producers like the Lawson's.

Early in the bull selling season several studs in South East Australia have averaged in excess of \$5,000 AUD per bull for lines of 40-50 bulls and had individual bulls sell to \$21,000 AUD.

Lawson Angus

Harry Lawson showed me the rising 2 year old

Angus bulls at the Bull Unit that were being fed on high quality grass pastures for the forthcoming on-property sale. Progeny of Lawson Invincible C402 were impressive. This bull was a trait leader for calving ease, gestation length (shortest time from conception to calving) and 400 day growth (weight gain from weaning to yearling age). He tops the Estimated Breeding Values (EBV's) for all Angus group Breedplan progeny tested bulls in 2010 on these 3 traits. In excess of 2,200 Angus bulls are included in this analysis.

In the National Beef Herd we have 4 Invincible sired calves born in 2010 and a number of cows were inseminated with his semen this past joining. Another bull used in the NBH is Lawson's Dinky Di Z191 which was a trait leader for both calving ease and milk production of his daughters. We have 2 calves by this bull and cows were also inseminated with his semen again this year.

Early Weaning and Nutrient Cycling

Spending time with Don and Tom Lawson I picked up some interesting information on early weaning of calves which the Lawsons swear by. With their calves needing to meet their genetic potential both as bulls and female replacements in their high performance herds, calves are weaned around 4-5 months old. They feed a special supplement that is designed to ensure that the calves' rumens develop to their optimum size and food digestive capacity to ensure that the growth rate is at the maximum possible. Relatively small amounts of supplements are fed whilst they are yard weaned and grown out on high quality legume and grass pastures. All cattle as a consequence are quiet, move readily through yards when being weighed, drenched or inseminated or shifted between paddocks.

Part of the philosophy is to feed supplements containing the major elements and trace elements directly to stock rather than putting them on pastures and crops where in many instances they are 'locked up' in soils and not immediately available to stock that graze the pastures or crops. The cycling of nutrients occurs through animal manure and urine being distributed across intensively grazed paddocks. Tom has regular soil audits done on his paddocks and lime, phosphorus, potassium, sulphur and other trace elements are applied to pastures along with composted humates (compost-type material which includes brown coal). The humates not only provide water holding capacity but also provides soil micro-organisms an ideal environment to thrive in.

The high quality clover and ryegrass pastures that abound on all the Lawson owned or leased properties I visited attest to this biologically sustainable system with healthy pastures, crops, soils and cattle attaining optimum productivity with minimal use of chemical fertilisers.

Paringa Red Angus, Stabilizers and Charolais

Tom Lawson has developed a highly productive Red Angus seed stock line of cattle which he maintains are easier to handle than black Angus, despite all Lawson cattle being very quiet and easily handled. Many of these red Angus cattle have evolved from high performance black Angus cattle carrying the red gene.

The red colour gene is a simple recessive gene. Red Angus cattle have 2 copies of the red colour gene. All genes come in pairs. Cattle with only a

single copy of the red colour gene will have a black coat, but can have red calves if joined to cattle carrying the red recessive gene. The red tag 27 Waitapu Governor sired bull bred by Jimmy Forster at Bold Cove leaves a number of red calves out of black Angus cows and is likely to be a carrier of the red recessive gene. If a red gene carrier bull and cow are mated, 25% of the progeny are expected to be red; 25% will be black non-red gene carrier calves and 50% will be black gene carrier calves.



Some other extra beefy black bulls I saw with Tom and Don were Stabilizers which are progeny of black Gelbviehs (a French cattle breed) or Simmentals (a German cattle breed) mated to high performance Angus cows. The Stabilizer is a trademark developed by the large Leachman Cattle Company (USA) and Paringa. Basically it is a crossbreeding programme using maternal crossbred cow herds combined with terminal (meat sires) to produce 20 % more kgs of beef per hectare. (See pictures Angus Gelbvieh Stabilizers)

Tom also breeds Charolais bulls from cattle that have low birth weight, easy calving and small frame scores, unlike many Charolais strains. Essentially these cattle are high performing 'white Angus'.

Future Breeding Objectives

Much as it is interesting to catch up on the latest beef cattle breeding trends and methods of improving beef turnover and profitability, my view is that it is important that the National Beef Herd is developed and maintained as a pure Angus herd. These crossbreeding options such as using Gelbvieh, Simmental, Charolais or other breeds to produce more beef through hybrid vigour are available to all Falkland Islands farmers to take up as they see fit in the future. The future introduction of yield based payment for beef carcasses is a likely future driver for crossbreeding of high performance breeds and strains of cattle.

Border collie comprehends over 1,000 object names as verbal referents - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.vetsci.org/publish/items/006378/index.html

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Border collie comprehends over 1,000 object names as...

Border collie comprehends over 1,000 object names as verbal referents

Researchers at Wofford College discovered that a border collie comprehends the names of over 1,000 objects, differentiating between names of objects and orders to fetch them. This research deepens the findings of researchers in Germany, who had discovered a dog that knew the names of a couple of hundred objects. Important questions were left open as to how far a dog could go, and whether the dog really understood that the object names were nouns and not commands to retrieve the object. John Pilley and Alliston Reid answered two central questions with their research: How large can a dog's vocabulary become if given extensive training? What do dogs actually understand when we use human language to communicate with them? These findings are published in the Elsevier journal *Behavioural Processes*.

The authors demonstrated that their dog, Chaser, learned the names of 1,022 objects - no upper limit is apparent - they stopped training the dog after three years due to their time constraints, not because the dog could not learn more names. This study demonstrates Chaser's ability to learn the names of proper nouns, and her extensive vocabulary was tested repeatedly under carefully controlled conditions. The authors admitted that she remembered the names of each of her 1022 toys better than they could. Chaser's ability to learn and remember more than 1000 proper nouns, each mapped to a unique object, revealed clear evidence of several capacities necessary for learning receptive human language: the ability to discriminate between 1,022 different sounds representing names of objects, the ability to discriminate many objects visually, an extensive vocabulary, and a substantial memory system that allowed the mapping of many auditory stimuli to many visual stimuli.

Their second experiment demonstrated that Chaser really understands that these are names, and not commands to fetch the object. In order to test independence of meaning of nouns and commands, the authors randomly combined nouns with commands to see if Chaser would produce the correct behavior toward the correct object in each trial. Without special training, Chaser responded to each combination correctly, even on the first trial, demonstrating that Chaser understood that the commands and proper-noun names had independent meanings. The dog understands that names refer to particular objects, independent of the action requested involving that object.

Their third experiment demonstrated that the dog also understands names for categories of objects or common nouns, and not just individual names or proper nouns. For instance, she learned that name "toy" referred to the 1022 objects she was allowed to play with, each with a proper-noun name. By forming categories represented by common nouns, Chaser mapped one label onto many objects. Chaser also demonstrated that she could map up to three labels onto the same object without error. For example, Chaser knew the proper-noun names of all objects used in the research. Chaser also mapped the common noun "toy" onto these same objects. Her additional success with the two common nouns "ball" and "frisbee" demonstrates that she mapped a third label onto these objects. Her demonstrations of one-to-many and many-to-one noun/object mappings reveal flexibility in the referential nature of words in border collies.

Each of these experiments showed that the dog could learn names using procedures involving associative learning. Their fourth experiment demonstrated that Chaser could also learn names by exclusion -- inferred the name of a novel object by exclusion of familiar already-named objects. Retention of these names using this procedure was limited to short periods, however, just as usually observed with children. According to Alliston Reid, "This research is important because it demonstrates that dogs, like children, can develop extensive vocabularies and understand that certain words represent individual objects and other words represent categories of objects, independent in meaning of what one is asked to do with those objects."

Science Daily
January 24, 2011

From the Veterinary Sciences Tomorrow website
Original web page at Science Daily

Done Internet 100%

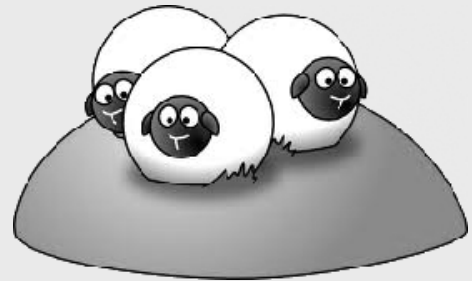
Rural Business Association Sheep Show Saturday 9th April 2011, hosted by Fitzroy Farm

This will coincide with the ferry that weekend so we are hoping that we may have some entries from the West as well as East this year.

Also Brian and Diana Aldridge have offered to pick up sheep off the ferry for anyone on the West who wants to enter sheep but can't go. They will take them to the show, enter them and then deliver them back to the ferry for you. If you want to take them up on their very kind offer please give them a call.

The classes are as follows;

- Class 1 Mature Ram over 24 months of age
- Class 2 Shearling Ram over 12 months but under 24 months of age
- Class 3 Ram Hogget less than 12 months of age
- Class 4 Mature Ewe over 24 months
- Class 5 Shearling Ewe over 12 months and under 24 months of age
- Class 6 Ewe Hogget under 12 months of age
- Class 7 Pen of three flock hoggets male or female under 12 months of age
- Class 8 Pen of three flock shearlings male or female over 12 months but less than 24 months of age
- Class 9 Terminal Sire of any age suitable for producing prime lambs
- Class 10- Ewe of any age suitable for producing prime lambs
- Class 11 - Pen of three non breeding prime weaner lambs
- Class 12 -Under 16's open entry
- Class 13 - Dual Purpose Ram Lamb/Hogget
- Class 14 - Dual Purpose Mature Ram
- Class 15 - Dual Purpose Ewe



If all entries can be sent by email to rba@horizon.co.fk no later than the 1st April that would be great. The Show will also have stands available and if you would like to have a stand to sell vegetables, meat or craft at please let us know soon so we can plan the shed and know what to advertise. The more the better!

For further information about the show please give us a call on 22432 or email us.

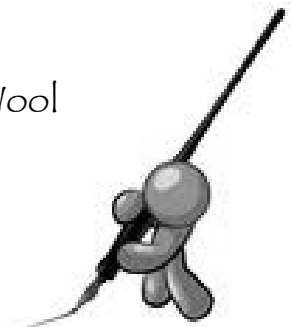
Cheers
Sa'as

Do you have something to share? Then let us
know!

If you want to contribute an article, advert or a recipe to the Wool
Press, contact Teenie on telephone 27355, fax 27352
or email tross@doa.gov.fk

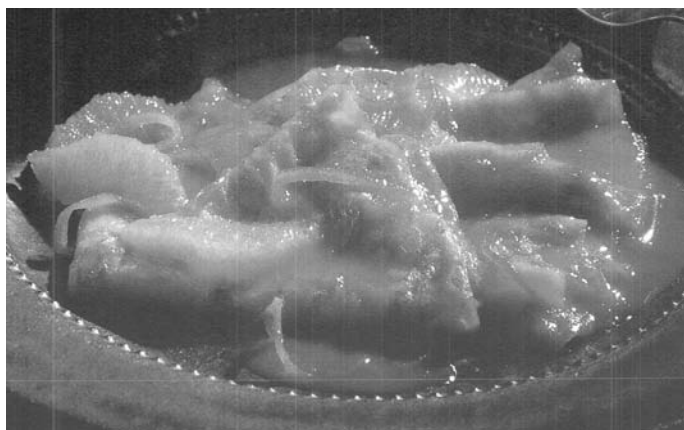
Submissions need to be in before the end of the month.

All contributions are gratefully received.



WOOL PRESS RECIPE CORNER

Pancakes



Pancake Day
8th March 2011

Ingredients

(Makes 6-8)

115g/4oz/plain flour

Pinch of salt

2 eggs -lightly beaten

300ml/10 fl oz

1 tbsp cooking oil or melted butter

Method

Sift the flour and salt into a mixing bowl. Make a well in the centre and drop in the eggs. Gradually beat or whisk in the milk until the batter is smooth and not lumpy. Leave the batter to rest for 30 minutes, then add the oil or melted butter and give another whisk (It should have the consistency of cream). Heat the pan until it is really hot, swirl some oil around to coat the base, pouring off any excess. Add about 2tbsp of batter to the pan and swirl around evenly. Cook for about a minute until the underside is golden, then turn it or toss it and brown the other side. The pancakes can be stacked on top of one another, and kept warm in a buttered oven-proof dish, covered in foil in a low oven. Serve pancakes drenched in lemon juice and sprinkled with sugar.

Alternative Sweet Fillings

Apple Filling

Ingredients

4 large dessert apples

50g/2oz butter

100g/4oz soft brown sugar

Juice and grated rind of 1 orange

Method

Peel, core and slice the apples. Melt the butter in a heavy saucepan and add the apples, sugar, orange juice and rind and cook until the apples are soft. Lay the pancakes in a dish one above the other, sandwiching with the apple mixture. Cover with foil and reheat in a moderate oven over 350°F/180°C/Gas Mark 4, for 10 minutes. Cut into wedges and serve with cream.

Orange Sauce

Ingredients

Grated rind and juice of 1 large orange

Grated rind and juice of 1 lemon

150ml freshly squeezed orange juice

75g/3oz unsalted butter

50g/2oz caster sugar

60ml/4tbsp Cointreau - or other orange liqueur

Bandy for flaming - optional

Orange segments to decorate

Method

Melt the butter in a large frying pan. Stir in the sugar, orange and lemon rind and juice. Add the additional juice and the orange liqueur. Place a pancake in the pan, swirling gently to coat with the sauce. Fold the pancake in half, then in half again to form a triangle, and push to the side of the pan. Continue heating and folding the pancakes until all are warm and covered with the sauce. To flame the pancakes, heat 30-45ml/2-3 tbsp each of the orange liqueur and brandy in a small pan over a medium heat.

REAL LIFE CAT BURGLAR CAUGHT ON CAMARA

A security camera has finally discovered that the cat burglar responsible for a three year crime wave is an actual cat.

Residents wondered what was happening when their clothes, teddy bears and other small items started disappearing.

In total, more than 600 things have gone missing from gardens of homes in the Californian town of San Mateo, near San Francisco.

But it finally became apparent the crook was a kleptomaniac kitty called Dusty who kept returning home with other peoples belongings.

After setting up a night-vision camera they recorded footage of him going out under the cover of night and dragging back his loot.

Owners Jean Chu and Jim Coleman say the cat's



record haul is 11 items in one night.

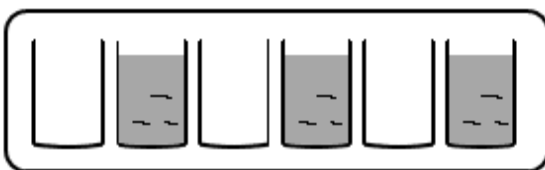
Ms Chu said: "He has taken towels, gloves, shoes, socks, toys..."

Neighbours say he particularly favours female bathing costumes and he was caught on camera swiping a bra.

Source: Ananova.com

February Solutions

9	3	8	5	4	6	1	2	7
7	1	4	8	2	3	9	6	5
5	2	6	9	1	7	8	3	4
6	8	7	1	3	4	2	5	9
1	9	2	7	8	5	3	4	6
4	5	3	2	6	9	7	1	8
8	4	9	3	5	2	6	7	1
3	6	1	4	7	8	5	9	2
2	7	5	6	9	1	4	8	3



Take the 2nd glass and pour it into the 5th

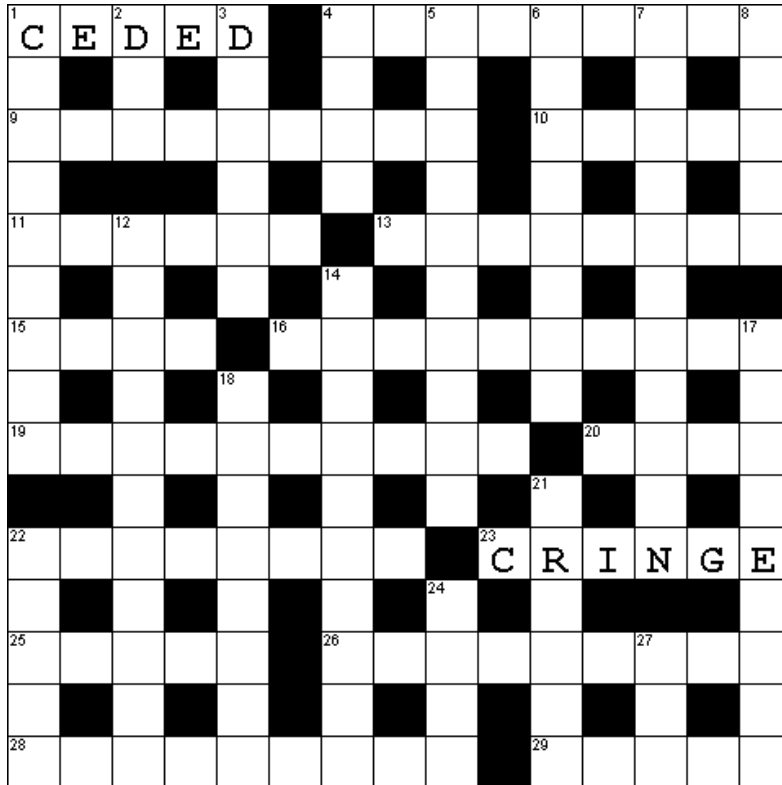
1	C	H	O	K	E		B	R	A	S	S	I	E	R	E		
	R		F		V		A		D		I		X		I		
9	O	S	T	R	A	C	I	S	M		10	T	E	P	I	D	
	S				D		L		I		U		E		E		
11	S	T	A	T	E	D		13	I	S	L	A	N	D	E	R	
	W		C		D		14	A		S		T		I			
15	I	T	C	H			16	U	N	D	I	R	E	C	T	E	D
	S		O		N		18	T		B		D		I		I	
19	E	N	U	M	E	R	A	B	L	E		20	F	O	S	S	
			N		P		G		E		21	A		U		L	
22	O	R	T	H	O	D	O	X		23	P	R	E	S	T	O	
	M		A		T		N		24	I		G				C	
25	E	N	N	U	I		26	I	N	F	L	U	E	N	Z	A	
	G		C		S		S		F		E		U		T		
28	A	S	Y	M	M	E	T	R	Y		29	D	A	N	C	E	

Riddles

- The match
- Still 9 feet because the ladder will rise with the ship!
- One, only I was going to St. Ives
- Throw it in the air

Puzzle Page

Fill-In



Complete the crossword-type puzzle by placing the words provided into the grid.

3 Letters

ACT
DOC

4 Letters

AURA
BIAS
PROD
REED

5 Letters

CAROB
CEED
MATZO
NUTTY
RATIO
RESET

6 Letters

CRINGE

8 Letters

CHANGING
SCENARIO
SERENADE
SUBGROUP

9 Letters

BEDSPREAD
CORRUGATE
NORTHWARD
RAINSTORM
RECOMMEND
YESTERDAY

10 Letters

EXHAUSTIVE

11 Letters

OBSERVATION
WARMHEARTED

Optical Illusion

What is this a picture of?



Logic

Three people check into a hotel. They pay £30 to the manager and go to their room. The manager suddenly remembers that the room rate is £25 and gives £5 to the bellboy to return to the people. On the way to the room the bellboy reasons that £5 would be difficult to share among three people so he pockets £2 and gives £1 to each person. Now each person paid £10 and got back £1. So they paid £9 each, totalling £27. The bellboy has £2, totalling £29. Where is the missing £1?

Sudoku

		1	3		5	2		
			4		1			
9		7				1		5
4	3			6			1	2
			5		4			
6	2			3			5	7
1		2				6		4
			2		8			
		4	7		6	3		

Each Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing. Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.

Good luck!