

# Focus

**Our Informative Quarterly Newsletter**  
Issue 14 **Summer 2021**

**Image:**  
Megastart Improves Colostrum Yield!  
**Main Story**

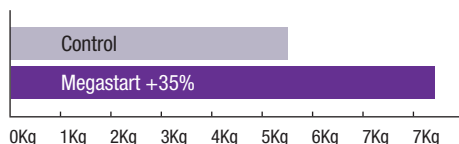
Main Story

## MEGASTART Dry Cow: Research Proven to Improve Colostrum Yield!

**A trial commissioned at Myerscough College looked at the effect of supplementing pregnant Holstein cross Friesian cows with MEGASTART Dry Cow 4-6 weeks pre-calving, when compared to an ordinary dry cow mineral.**

The outcome of the trial was a statistically significant with an extra 1.96kg of colostrum ( $P=0.024$ ) produced by the MEGASTART group at first milking.

Colostrum Weight (Kg)

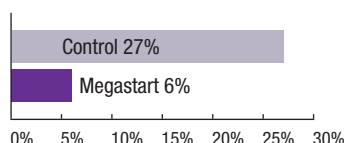


This 35% increase in colostrum production immediately post-calving is good news; extra nutrition (fat, total solids, proteins, electrolytes, vitamins etc.) for the neonatal calf, just when it is required!

Looking at immunoglobulin (Ig) content there is more good news. The increased colostrum yield did not come with reduced colostrum quality as can be the case with other products. In this trial the Ig content of the colostrum was not

statistically different between control and cows receiving MEGASTART resulting in an increased yield of IgG.

Percentage culled for not conceiving



The huge reduction in cows culled for not conceiving in the MEGASTART group suggests a stronger immune response and improved egg quality.

Keeping just one extra cow in the herd for another lactation saves the rearing cost of a replacement heifer (£1819 average, MDC data) or allows another heifer to be sold to improve farm income. ■



## Win a £100 Scotmin Voucher Every Month

**The team at Scotmin want to stay in touch and keep you up to date with the latest news, offer and product information.**

Each month we will be running an online competition giving away a £100 Scotmin voucher to one lucky person subscribed to our newsletter list.

Visit our website to sign up or keep an eye on our social media channels for more details. ■





## Megalix Garlic Grazer, the Natural Way to Keep Biting Insects Away from Livestock

**Livestock farmers have limited options to help keep nuisance biting insects away from stock, however Megalix Garlic Grazer offers a natural solution.**

Garlic Grazer, as the name suggests includes garlic. The peculiar penetrating odour of garlic is due to high sulphur compounds, which when expelled through the skin in natural body secretions, produces an invisible barrier which flies and other biting insects find repellent.

The minerals, vitamins and trace elements included in Megalix Garlic Grazer balance the recognised deficiencies in summer grass, whereas the included Zinc helps to maintain skin integrity and strength to further guard against biting insects.

For optimal animal performance at grass and to help in the fight against airborne biting insects, ask our team about Megalix Garlic Grazer. ■



### Dale's Diary

The song says 'Summer time and the living is easy'. I wish that were the case but warm weather brings its own problems not least of which is flies. In particular the head fly (*Hydrotaea irritans*) has been shown to transmit mastitis causing bacteria, in particular *Trupeerella Pyogenes*.

Whilst not generally fatal summer mastitis can cause serious financial loss in the herd.

Heifers are especially susceptible and this can result in blind quarters thus reducing

productivity. This applies to both beef and dairy heifers.

July, August and September are the worst months with cases often increasing over 100 fold in that time. A single case can cost upwards of £300 in lost income and animal value.

**Steps can be taken to prevent or at least reduce the incidence of this.**

1. Keep animals away from wooded areas
2. Keep access to ponds and still water ways to a minimum
3. Use 'spot ons' and 'fly tags' to reduce fly populations

## Be the First to Receive the Very Latest Fashion Accessory

**To keep both our staff and customers safe at work a consignment of Scotmin Nutrition face coverings have been acquired.**

Keep an eye out on social media to find out how you can get a hold of one. ■



4. Keep stress to a minimum
5. Use Garlic tubs to create a natural fly repellent layer on the animal

Megalix Garlic Grazer has proved to be a useful product in reducing the risk of fly strike. As well as supplying garlic, Megalix Garlic Grazer also includes a range of trace elements to help maintain a strong immune system.

Don't forget that garlic has also been shown to have natural antibiotic activity also.

**Now there's something to think about!**

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