



# Focus

Our Informative Quarterly Newsletter  
Issue 19 Winter 2022

Duncan Morris  
with Finished Bulls,  
Main Story.



Main Story



MUCL™ 39885

**Biosprint**<sup>®</sup>



## Diet Change Helps Accelerate Bull Beef Finishing by Two Months

**Father and son Martin and Duncan Morris are improving finishing times in up to 200 bulls by supplementing them with Biosprint live yeast.**

The Morris' were producing milk on the 160-acre upland farm before switching to a beef system six years ago.

They source dairy-bred beef animals aged from two to four weeks from dairy farms.

"We have five or six farms that we buy from, farms that we know have good colostrum management protocols," says Duncan. "The calves are from big stocky cows like Fleckviehs and Monbeliardes."

He buys around 125 calves in March and another 80 in September, to spread the workload through the year.

When calves arrive they are bucket reared on milk in groups of 10 and also offered corn.

Weaning is from eight weeks old, depending on calf size and the volume of corn consumed.

At this stage Rearer 18, a pellet containing Biosprint live yeast, is introduced together with barley.

Barley, including homegrown grain from a 40-acre crop, is mill and mixed on-farm with Rearer 18 containing Biosprint. This is fed from weaning to finishing, initially at a ratio of 50:50.

"We gradually reduce the volume of Rearer 18 to bring down the protein level in the diet, to get the bulls fatter," says Duncan.

The Morris' had been feeding rolled barley only and introduced Biosprint to increase intakes and finish bulls earlier.

"I read about the benefits of feeding live yeast and particularly liked the reports of the consistency of Biosprint so decided to give it a go," says Duncan.

Since feeding Biosprint and making other changes, such as increasing the pellet protein content from 14% to 18%, bulls are finishing two months earlier, at 12 months at an average of 300kg deadweight.

"The younger the animal the better the feed conversion efficiency so the sooner we can get them off farm the better," says Duncan, who sells to ABP.

"A bigger animal will consume a lot more feed but will convert less of it into growth."

Not only are animals growing well but they are healthy too, he adds.

"Their coats are silkier and we no longer get issues with bloat. Their tummies are happier so they are happier and because of that they eat more and grow better." ■





## Dale's Diary

**So another year passes by and who would have predicted how things were going to end up. Prices on just about everything rising, high inflation, high interest rates and to top it all a new King.**

Whilst input prices continue on their upward trend we strive to keep costs down and pass those benefits onto our customers. This is reflected in our buying policies and as a result we have secured a deal on silage additives (Bonsilage Fit) that will allow us to offer the same price as this year for next year provided orders are in by December 2022.

Silage quality, I believe, is now more critical than ever as high-quality means less needs to be bought in. Don't miss the opportunity to ensure your forage next year is produced to the best possible quality and keep a cap on other input costs.



**\*£1.30 per treated tonne**



**\*4-8p per dose**



## Order in Time for Christmas

**As is tradition Scotmin Nutrition will be closed over the festive period.**

In order to cause as little disruption as possible the team advise the following with regards to order placement. Orders to be delivered no later than Thursday 22nd December 2022, must be placed by Tuesday 6th December 2022.

Orders required for delivery between 3rd and 6th January 2023 must be placed by Tuesday 13th December 2022. The office will close on Friday 23rd December 2022 at 12.00 and re-open on Tuesday 3rd of January 2023.

May we take this opportunity to wish you and your families a wonderful Christmas and happiness throughout the coming year. ■



## Join us at Agriscot

Join the Scotmin team for a bite to eat and some light refreshment at Agriscot on Wednesday 16th November, stand number 74. Speak to the team about our latest offers and product innovation. ■

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