



Agri Talk

www.gorstrural.com.au

November 2021

At a Glance...

- Cam's Update.
- Crop Topping
- Late Insecticide use (WHP, ESI & EGI)
- Summer drenching
- Have YOUR sheep got "The Silent Killer"?
- Perfect Storm for Pinkeye
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- Online Ordering



We have had some wild spring weather; mild frosts, wind & rain, all interesting as we head into a LaNina Summer. A big thankyou to all that turned up to see some of the trials and information on offer, a great job by the Agro team. For those who missed out talk to your agronomist about a follow up or wait for the trial results book, early next year.



New Online Ordering—AVAILABLE NOW!

November also sees the launch of our new website and online ordering system, scan the QR code to check it out. We have all got used to doing things online with 6 lockdowns and Gorst Rural can now offer an online catalogue and ordering service. **To create your online account contact Davina or Nick.** Once created you will receive an email with your login details and you then simply login and order away for pickup or delivery! Your online account allows you to order your requirements any time of the day or night and provides you with an order history. If you require any assistance ask our friendly team to walk you through the process or for further instruction please refer to the back page of the newsletter.

Don't forget on the 11th of November is our pre Joining workshop for sheep production, lots of good information and some handy door prizes. Please see the flyer included and remember to RSVP for COVID purposes.

Inputs Update

Ag Chem—At time of writing, I am struggling to give you clear informative insights, and certainly nothing new. Suppliers are consistently updating us on manufacturing with themes of disrupted supply out of China and prolonged / expensive freight channels. It has been a year of close communication with major manufacturers and suppliers and plenty of forward planning. I would assure growers that we have reasonable supplies on hand and our supply partners: Nufarm, Bayer, Syngenta, FMC, BASF have constantly updated us on product supply.

Main Points

- Glyphosate still seems to be a discussion point with some generic traders struggling for volume. We still have supplies of Crucial, Weedmaster Argo, Wipeout Pro, Gladiator & Kelpie Rico available. If you wish to discuss your upcoming requirements and put it away—give us a yell.
- Gramoxone 360 is in good supply with all pack sizes available.
- PreEmergents we have reasonable supplies of most herbicides with extra product rolling in Dec-Mar (as traditionally would happen). Don't forget to discuss new options such as Mateno Complete, Luximax, Overwatch, Callisto, Reflex, Ultro and Tenet which are all good rotations (& available).
- Propyzamide we do have some supplies, and once we have confirmation of final supplies we will consider on an allocation basis.

GORST RURAL

Lake Bolac
P 5350 2440 F 5350 2301
Derrinallum
P 5597 6668 F 5597 6713
Skipton
P 5340 2262 F 5340 2321
Tatyoon
P 5354 0585 F 5354 0571
Willaura
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FIELD SERVICES TEAM

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Seed

We are taking orders for leading canola & cereal varieties now and working towards our pasture seed range, as up to date trial data comes to hand. Canola varieties on order:

Winter Canola: Hyola 970 (tight), Phoenix, Feast

RR Canola: Condor (Truflex), 45Y28, 45Y25, Garrison XC, InVigor 5520P

Clearfield Canola: 44Y94, 45Y95, 45Y93

TT Canola: Trident, Trifecta, Trophy, Blazer, Ignite

Wheat Varieties: Big Red, Cesario & Valiant CL

Talk to your agronomist or Ryan now and put your name down (pending Harvest & seed tests).



Fertiliser

I am almost at a loss to give any new information on the phosphate front. The fundamentals suggest that US markets are flat or falling, China is building a domestic surplus but still seems adamant of an export ban. Sentiment shows growers want fert in your sheds but with no real pricing or tonnes on offer (at time of writing) – there is not much to talk about.

Main Points:

- Suppliers are seeking alternative arrangements (other than China) from Morocco and Saudi Arabia. There is some talk of PhosAgro (Russia) supply also but in the past this has not been great quality.
- If China decides to change tact, then market could level out \$150-200/t. A domestic surplus (in China) of 1-1.2m tonnes doesn't make sense, at 10 year price highs. (The entire Australian market is 1-1.3 million tonnes).
- It is still 6 months until sowing and without many current options (not unusual for this time of year), we will keep an eye on markets and shipments and will forward more info as it comes to light.

Crop Topping:

2021 has been a year where resistance has been noticeable around the district, given the cooler and wet season there have been a few paddocks that had less than optimum controls of weeds. One of the tools that can be used is to crop top spray or desiccate spray and is highly effective in stopping weed seed set. This can sometimes be a salvage option for paddocks that have seen a blowout of weeds during the year. The practice is mainly undertaken in canola and pulse crops, as generally the timing matches the seed formation of ryegrass. Crop topping reduces the weed pressure in the following season by stopping any weed seed being able to germinate the following year.

Optimum time for spraying:

The best time to spray ryegrass is just as the seed head is fully out of the sheath. This allows for seed sterilisation, which will in turn stop any germination of the seed the following year. This technique can stop up 90% of weed seed set if applied at the correct timing according to a study done by the GRDC in 2019. This does not mean that it will kill 90% of the weeds in the paddock, as some weeds that are present will not die, it just stops the weeds from germinating the next year. The timing will depend on the crop you are spraying over the top of and the weed stage. Rye grass needs to be sprayed as the final seed head is just emerging from the sheath. If spraying canola the correct timing needs to be at 20% colour change. This means that as you examine the various pods on a canola plant, 20% of the seeds need to be black in colour as a minimum. In figure 1 the colour change can be viewed. When checking your canola make sure you grab pods from all levels of the plant as they mature at different times and will determine the spraying timing. If sprayed at the incorrect time it can affect the yield of the crop. For optimum control with no yield affect these two conditions need to coincide in the paddock.



Figure 1: Canola seed colour change.,

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How to Spray:

The use of a self-propelled sprayer will have advantages over a three-point linkage sprayer or a tow behind, as less crop is knocked down. The ideal range for water rate is between 100 and 120L of water per hectare. Droplet size also plays an important part of the spray droplets reaching the ryegrass plants beneath the canopy. A coarse droplet size allows you to penetrate the canopy well and contact the weed plants.

When thinking of crop topping your paddocks, discuss with your Gorst Rural Agronomist, as they will be able to give you the correct timing for optimum weed control whilst having the least crop damage.

Late Insecticide use (WHP, ESI & EGI)

With spring weather approaching, the Trapview & UHLMG Trap network, and monitoring is detecting insect flights. If we need to control insects late in crop we need to observe WHPs. To ensure that the Australian red meat products are safe for human consumption, the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) has established and maintains a series of Withholding Periods (WHP), Export Slaughter Intervals (ESI) and Export Grazing Intervals (EGI).

- **WHP** is the minimum period following application of a Pesticide/Herbicide to harvesting or use of the animal or crop commodity for human consumption for domestic markets.
- **ESI** is the minimum time that stock must spend on an alternative untreated feed source before slaughter for export purposes, after grazing on a crop or pasture that has been treated with a chemical.
- **EGI** is the minimum period that must elapse between the application of a chemical and slaughter of the stock for export purposes, where grazing has continued the crop/pasture.

Some of the older pesticides did not have a EGI or ESI on their label, however it may still have a EGI or ESI so make sure you check before applying the insecticide.

Some common insecticides for use at the moment:

Product	HWHP	GWHP	ESI	EGI
Alpha Scud Elite	28 days (Beans)	35 days (Beans)	42 days	56 days
Trojan	7 days	7 days	42 days	56 days
SumiAlpha Flex	14 days	7 days	14 days	14 days
Vantacor	14 days	14 days	TBC	TBC
Karate Zeon	14 days (Beans)	14 days (Beans)	42 days	56 days

Extra ESI/EGI information from; [Australian plague locust: insecticide spraying guide | Agriculture and Food](#)

For example in the table below is Trojan a

common Insecticide used. Using this example if stock has been fed a crop treated with Trojan, then the livestock must be fed untreated feed for 42 days (6weeks) before being exported for slaughter. If stock is grazing pasture or a crop treated with trojan then they must wait 56 Days (8 weeks) before being sold for Slaughter.

Insecticide	Trojan (150g/L Gamma-cyhalothrin)
HWHP	14 Days or 7 Days for Canola and Faba beans
GWHP	14 Days or 8 Days for Canola and Faba beans
EGI	56 Days
ESI	42 Days

Now stocking for this hay season, Delmhorst F-2000

The Delmhorst F-2000 moisture meter is the market leader for hay producers looking to enhance their quality control. The F-2000 is a compact handheld device that can check hay moisture in windrow or in bales with a moisture reading range of 6%-40%. The kit contains a carry case which houses the F-2000 meter, the H-4 handle, the 831-windrow tester as well as an 830-3 18" bale prod which gives greater reach into the hay bale. A 10" bale Prods are also available to help get into high density bales.

PRODUCT FEATURES

Bright, clear digital display; Averages up to 100 accumulated readings; Displays average and highest of accumulated readings; Moisture Range: 6%-40%; Built-in calibration check; Audible, adjustable alarm alerts you when a pre-selected MC has been reached; Interchangeable 9V battery; Same accuracy and clarity as the FX-2000! Made in the USA.



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Summer drenching

The first summer drench is usually given in November/December. The first summer drench serves two main purposes.

1. Removes the worm burden that has survived the winter and spring period.
 2. Works with the summer weather conditions to reduce worm burdens in paddocks.
- ⇒ This creates safer grazing for young stock in the autumn/ winter period.



****Myth****

Weaning drench and the first summer drench are the same!!

****Fact****

Weaning drenches are done based on worm egg counts VS the first summer drench is a standard yearly drench.

Weaning drench followed by summer drench:

For lambs weaned and drenched before October the drench period will be expired before the end of spring, leading to zero worm protection over summer. In this case a worm egg count test could be undertaken at weaning to determine whether it is necessary to drench the lambs then. Regardless of drench given at weaning the first summer drench is undertaken around November/December.

Second summer drench

Worm egg count monitoring is the best way to indicate whether a second summer drench is required.

Key points to remember

- Worms that have survived over the winter & spring are killed by the first summer drench
- Important not to delay the first summer drench if the season is abnormally wet
- 3 months of hot weather will reduce worm larvae in paddocks
- hay cutting time is a great time to worm egg monitor all mobs
- A second summer drench may be required after worm egg monitoring

Worm larvae survival is 20 x higher in dry, hard sheep dung than in soft, wet dung!



The importance of selecting a highly effective first summer drench is instrumental to a livestock producers' business. The financial impact of roundworms represents the highest single animal health cost to the Australian sheep industry, estimated at about \$6/head, or an average of \$6000 for each mob of 1000 sheep (thefeedzoetis.com.au)

We recommend Startect or Zolvix Plus for your first summer drench.

For more advice or a summer drench promo form, please contact the Animal health team on 5350 2440.



Have YOUR sheep got "The Silent Killer"?? Is YOUR farm the 2/3 with Campylobacter??

Campylobacter, predominantly the 'fetus fetus' strain, is a bacterial infection affecting sheep which can cause ewes to spontaneously abort their lambs. Ewes are most susceptible to these bacteria in the second half of pregnancy when their immune system is weakened as they are having to support themselves as well as a rapidly growing lamb/lambs.

Campylobacter may be present on your property if you see any of the following:

- A large difference between scanning % and marking % (especially in maidens)
- Ewes with blood-stained breeches
- Birth of weak/non-viable or dead lambs
- Ewes aborting late in pregnancy
- A rapid spike in the number of abortions occurring over several days.

50% of Campy lamb deaths occur while lambs are still in the uterus!!

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Blood tests are the only way to see if your sheep have Campy!

Campylobacter is very common across the high rainfall areas of Australia as cool and moist conditions are optimal for its survival. The bacteria, which can be expelled in afterbirth from infected ewes as well as through faeces or even transported by predators preying on infected foetuses, is subsequently picked up from contaminated pasture or water.

Of the farms tested around Australia, almost 100% returned a positive result for campylobacter with almost 2/3 exhibiting the presence of the main abortion-causing strain. Studies conducted by Meat & Livestock Australia show the average lamb losses due to Campy to be around 9%!!

While it poses a serious threat to ewe productivity and in turn lamb survival, campylobacter is preventable so long as the response is a proactive one. Ensuring that ewes are in prime physical condition and are adequately protected from disease prior to joining will assist in providing the most fruitful out come possible, from conception through to marking.

Coopers Ovilis Campyvax is the only vaccine against campylobacter for sheep. It should be used as part of a best practice approach to ensure that the vaccine is given every chance of successfully controlling the bacteria and limiting the damage it can cause.

Dosage:

- ⇒ First use in your flock: Given 2ml dose 4 weeks prior to rams in
- ⇒ Rams in: Give 2ml dose to all ewes
- ⇒ Rams out: Give 2ml dose to all ewes
- ⇒ Annually @ rams in: Give 2ml dose to all ewes

While the potential effects of campylobacter can have a significant impact on sheep and producers, taking the right steps at the right times will ensure that both ewe and lamb are given the best chance to be able to reach their full potential, and that growers continue to achieve excellent results. For more information, please feel free to contact our Gorst Rural Animal Health Team on 5350 2440



Black dots show where Campylobacter is prevalent in Australia.

Perfect Storm for Pinkeye

Pinkeye occurs mainly in spring and summer and is most often caused by the *Moraxella bovis*1 bacteria.

The bacteria can be spread by flies, causing severe inflammation in the eye and infection can lead to temporary or permanent blindness.

Pinkeye is a painful, debilitating condition that can severely affect animal productivity. In severe cases, it can cause temporary or permanent blindness. Pinkeye can affect up to 80% of a mob, with affected weaner calves losing 10% of their body weight. When both eyes are affected, cattle may die from starvation, thirst and accidents.

With the prediction of a higher than average rainfall over the spring season creating humid conditions it will create the ideal breeding conditions for flies.

Environmental conditions that contribute to Pinkeye

- ⇒ Dry dusty conditions
- ⇒ Flies (Humidity for them to breed rapidly)
- ⇒ Loose feed or hay
- ⇒ UV light
- ⇒ Close yard weaning,

Once a pinkeye outbreak starts on farm, it is very difficult to get on top of, as stock are in close proximity and the disease spreads rapidly – vaccination before it starts and fly control are the keys to controlling Pinkeye.

Best practice pinkeye management should include:



Pinkeye clinical signs from mild to severe



Figure 1. Pink Eye vaccination - Piliguard

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1. Pinkeye vaccination – 3-6 weeks prior to the expected onset of the pinkeye season
2. Fly control – chemicals to kill and control flies such as Easy-Dose, as well as management to reduce fly breeding sites (cleaning up spilled feed, manure management etc)
3. Quickbayt spray is a water dispersible sugar-based fly bait used for the control of flies. Quickbayt Spray also contains a unique attractant, the housefly sex pheromone, which lures the flies away from nuisance areas and attracts them to the bait.
4. Dust control – wetting down yards, not yarding animals during the hottest part of the day
5. Pasture management – ensuring good quality feed, controlling thistles.

The advantages of an effective pinkeye prevention program include a reduction in the incidence and severity of pinkeye, reduced animal suffering and production losses and reduced labour costs associated with monitoring and treatment once cattle become infected.

Using an integrated pest management (IPM) plan will help give a whole approach to controlling pests on your farm. IPM programs use current, comprehensive information and control methods to help assess economical means and hazards to environment, property or people. Combining this information helps to create a management plan with the best possible outcome.

For more information on pinkeye prevention and management please call your local Gorst Rural Store!

RM Williams Christmas Orders



If you are thinking of ordering RM Williams boots for Christmas this year, please get your orders in asap. We cannot guarantee a pre Christmas delivery but the sooner you get an order in the better your chances.

We do have good supply of Chestnut Dynamix Flex Craftsman boots in store, and we also have a small range of T-Shirts and other merchandise. Please come in store to view our range.



Trial Tour 2021



November

Pre-Joining Workshop

Are your Rams and Ewes ready to mingle??

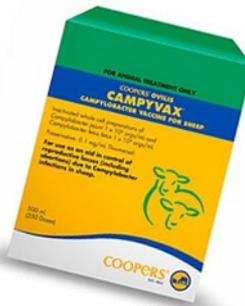


WHERE: Gorst Rural, Lake Bolac store

WHEN: Thursday November 11th 2021,



**FREE bottle of
CampyVax
Vaccine for
every attendee
new to
CampyVax!**



How to get the most from your flock
over joining!!!

- ⇒ Brucellosis
- ⇒ Ram selection
- ⇒ Ewe condition
- ⇒ Campylobacter & CampyVax vaccine
 - ⇒ Nutrition
 - ⇒ Teasers
 - ⇒ Multimin

Guest speakers

- ⇒ **Dr Catherine Bunter (Agriculture Victoria)** – Veterinary Office & Farmer
- ⇒ **Jim Walsh (Coopers)** – Technical Advisor Ruminant/Swine
- ⇒ **Darren Gordon (neXtgen Agri)** – Sheep Nutrition & Breeding Consultant
- ⇒ **Rod Evans (Virbac)** – Virbac Representative

**Bring along a faecal
sample and get your
worm egg results
ON THE DAY!!!**



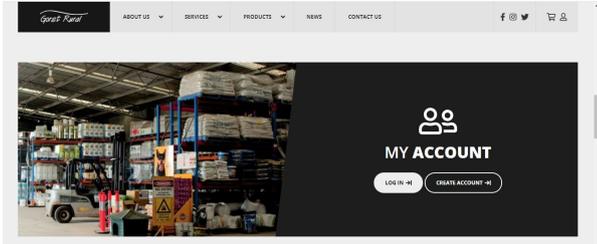
Please RSVP to the Animal health team on 5350 2440 by November 5th

*** Subject to Covid restrictions – Fully Vaccinated Only (per the DHHS requirements) and density limits ***

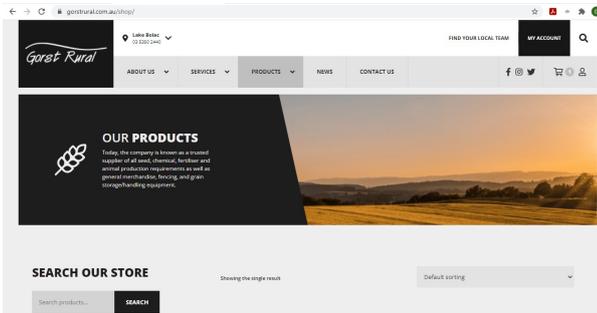
**** Please wear a mask! ****

GORST RURAL ONLINE ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

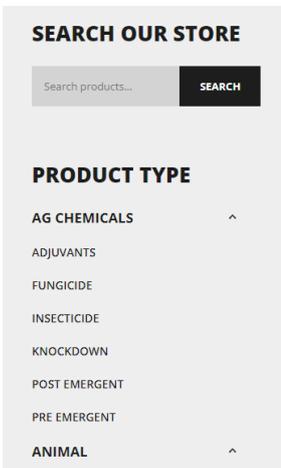
Before your first order please contact Davina or Nick at Lake Bolac or Skipton to be given login details. Once you have received an email with your login details please go to “My Account” to login.



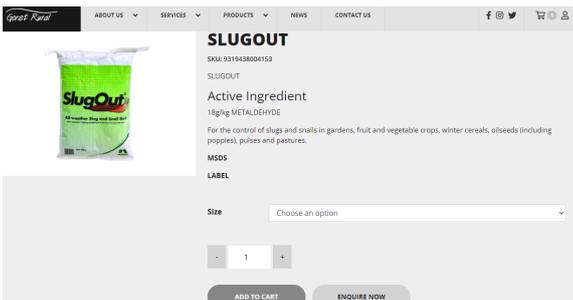
Once logged in navigate to our products page to start looking up items to add to cart.



Use the menus down the side or search to look up products.

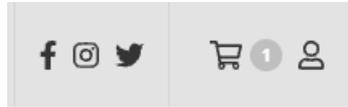


Choose the size from the drop down and “ADD TO CART”.

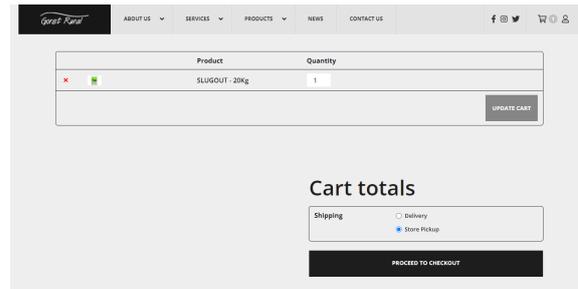


Once you have added an item to your cart, you can navigate back to the products using the product tab or the back button.

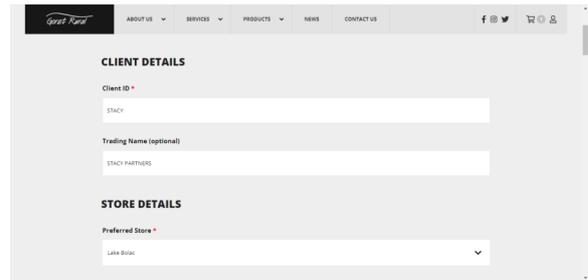
When you have selected all your items click the shopping cart at the top right of the screen.



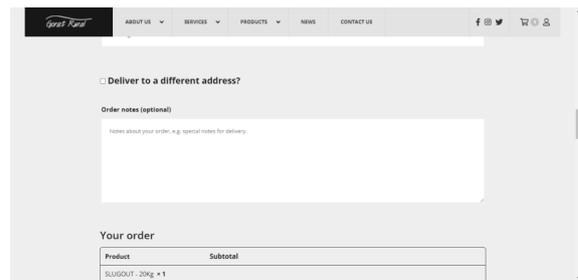
Check the items in your cart are correct > select store pickup or delivery > Proceed to checkout.



Make sure you select your preferred store for pick up and delivery as this will direct your order to that store. Check all your other details especially your delivery address.



Scroll down to add a different delivery address or to add extra notes to the order.



Check your order and make sure you have selected whether you would like store pickup or delivery then click “COMPLETE ORDER”.



You will receive an email confirmation and your order will be automatically sent to our team. Our friendly staff will contact you once your order is ready for delivery or collection.