

ALL THINGS MOLASSES newsletter

Welcome to the latest edition of United Molasses GB's All Things Molasses newsletter where we focus on the importance of adding sugars this winter to silage based diets that are high in fibre and need a good level of rapidly fermentable carbohydrates added, we also provide an update on the current molasses market.

ON FARM FOCUS

Get your RFCs level right to maximise your cows productivity!

BY RICHARD COLLEY, FARM CONSULTANT AT COLLEY BEEF AGRI

The first results reported by Trouw Nutrition for this year's early first cuts silage quality is that they are lower in sugars and higher in NDF than last year's typical averages.

One of the suspected reasons for this trend is many farmers have aborted a multi cut system this year to emphasise on a greater number of cuts however the higher lignin levels reported indicate although cut earlier the crop is more mature likely due to last years mild winter. When the forage is more mature and higher in NDF (Neutral detergent fibre) the role of sugars becomes even more important as it is vital to get a good level of RFCs (Rapidly fermentable carbohydrates) in the diet to encourage enough good fibre digestion and keep the rumen in balance.

We witnessed a great example of the positive benefits of adding a Molasses liquid to a diet low in RFCs last winter at Dundraw Farm in Cumbria, the silage quality in their dairy diets was high in fibre and low in Sugars (RFC's) so the resulting ration was out of balance with the recorded RFC level below the minimum required at 174 g/kg DM. By adding 0.5kg of Cane-flow molasses to their ration they were able to raise the RFC level to 184 g/kg DM while keeping the rest of the diet nutritionally balanced. By adding the Cane-flow molasses it did increase the feeding costs per cow by 22p per day however the resulting extra milk yield the RFCs promoted across the herd resulted in a 65p per cow per day better net return! The below table (all recorded from robot milk data) summarises the benefits that Dundraw farm saw from the beginning of December to mid-December after the Cane-flow molasses was added to their dairy ration:-

	Early Dec 2021 Diet (3:1 Grass to Maize Silage, Selco Plus and Blend)	Mid Dec 2021 Diet (addition of 0.5kg Cane-flow Molasses)	Difference
Crude Protein % DM	15.9	15.8	-0.1%
Starch % DM	15.9	15.8	-0.1%
RFC g/kg	174	184	+10g/kg
Av. Daily milk yield per cow	35.7 Kg <small>(238 cows recorded on 7th Dec 2021)</small>	38.4 Kg <small>(240 cows recorded on 16th Dec 2021)</small>	+2.7Kg
Av. cost of feed £ per cow per day	£4.17	£4.39	+£0.22
Av. milk return £ per cow per day	£11.42	£12.29	+£0.87
Av. net milk return (£ per cow per day after feed costs)	£7.25	£7.90	+£0.65



MOLASSES MARKET IN BRIEF

Forward molasses prices are firming significantly due to expensive bulk sea freight and poor £ to \$ exchange rates, a movement of one Cent causes a cost movement of nearly £2.00 per metric tonne!

Bulk sea freight costs have more than doubled in recent months, due to an increase in global demand and reduced availability in the traditional trade flows.

Cane Molasses costs at source are relatively stable and not currently following more normal seasonal movements.

Other raw materials used in our farm products have been driven up in price by energy cost rises and the firm pricing in the molasses market.

Imported Beet molasses showing even more dramatic rises due to the issues in the Black Sea region, the rise in Cane Molasses is minor in comparison.

Transport costs have been impacted by recent inflation and high fuel costs.

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CONTINUED...

Dundraw farm subsequently switched from Caneflow to Nutrimaize 40 in the early spring this year as their later silage cuts were much lower in protein so they needed a molasses product with both sugars and protein and United Molasses GB's bonded urea liquid did the job really well with even further gains in milk yield recorded.

The positive outcome that adding molasses to their dairy ration brought to Dundraw farm last winter is a great example of the benefits of getting the RFC level right and basis this year's early silage results it could be even more important to do it this year in order to maximise a dairy herd's productivity and financial returns.



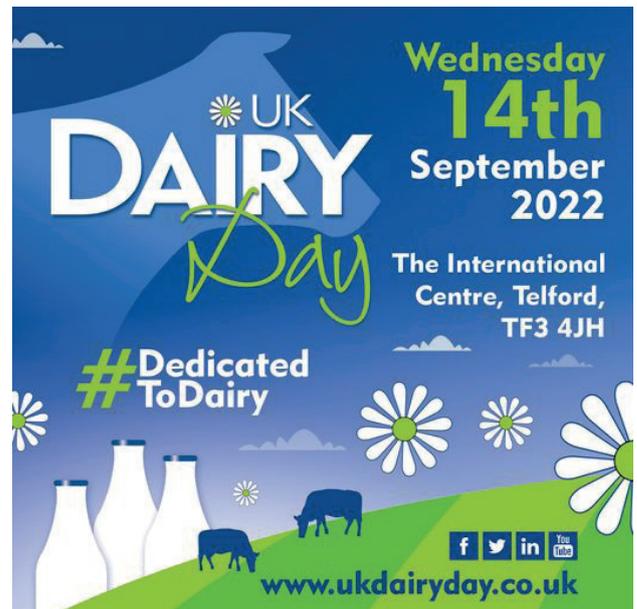
For more information about any of United Molasses GB **extensive product range** please contact us on **0151 955 4850** or visit **unitedmolasses.com**.

MOLASSES NEWS

UK Dairy Day show 2022

United Molasses GB are looking forward to the return of the **UK Dairy Day show at Telford** this year on **Wednesday 14th September**, we will be there in person on stand **H136** in **Hall 1**.

We look forward to seeing some our customers again and talking all things molasses for this winter.



OTHER NEWS:

An interactive digital version of the definitive guide to Farm Molasses

is now available to download by simply scanning this QR code:

