



Grasstrac makes the difference

Providing minerals in grass to help maintain livestock health and performance



Percentage of pastures deficient in trace elements

Copper 82%

Selenium 75%

Cobalt 52%

Iodine 99%

Zinc 92%

Sodium 48%

Extensive analysis, carried out by ADAS and others, of herbage samples from around the country.

The bar chart illustrates that most pastures are deficient in essential trace elements. These need to be replenished if grass is to meet the nutritional needs of grazing animals. Grasstrac and Grasstrac Sheep Special are combinations of key trace elements in granular form for application to grazing pastures and silage fields.

Grasstrac nutrients are drawn up from the soil by the grass root system and into the grass which animals graze throughout the season. The nutrients will also be in conserved grass which has been treated.

An ideal pasture will provide a plentiful supply of nutritious and inexpensive feed and enable livestock farmers to produce the best quality lamb and beef, and help ensure dairy cows achieve their full potential. Unfortunately not all pastures are ideal. This is where Grasstrac can play a vital role.

Signs of Trace Element Deficiencies

Copper

- Anaemia leading to stunted and unthrifty Growth
- Scouring / diarrhoea
- Reduced milk production and quality
- Coat colour change (rusty)
- Loss of hair pigment from around eyes (spectacles)
- Loss of wool crimp (steely wool)
- Lesions in brain stem and spinal cord (swayback)
- Poor oestrus, reduced conception
- Bone disorders
- Loss of immunity to disease

Selenium

- Depresses muscle growth, white muscle disease (muscular dystrophy) in young stock)
- Increased incidence of retained placenta due to reduced muscle power in the uterus
- Reduced antibody response when challenged by infection

Cobalt

- Inability of the animal to utilise energy in the diet (pining)
- Anaemia
- Poor growth or weight loss
- Reduced milk production
- Infertility
- Susceptibility to infection
- Loss of appetite

Iodine

- Enlarged thyroid (goitre)
- Reduced milk production
- Reduced growth rate
- Reduced reproductive activity (irregular oestrus)
- Increased number of weak and stillborn calves and lambs
- Increased incidence of retained placenta

Zinc

- Dry, crusty, scaly skin
- Feet problems, poor hoof strength and lameness, interdigital skin between the claws
- Poor fleece quality
- Reduced sperm production

Sodium

- Depraved appetite (urine drinking)
- Retarded growth
- Reduced milk production

These are visible signs of trace element deficiencies (clinical)

But

It must be remembered, the effect of slight deficiency (Sub-clinical) is likely to be invisible to the naked eye, a 5-10% loss in general performance could still result.

Grasstrac - boosting grass with essential trace elements -

Grasstrac contains the essential trace elements – Copper, Selenium, Cobalt, Iodine, Zinc, plus Sodium and by adding it to deficient soil the grass becomes richer and capable of sustaining the production levels required. It helps nature provide the quality of pasture needed for healthy livestock growth and economic production.

Livestock farmers everywhere have confirmed that Grasstrac provides an easy and yet very effective method of enriching grass, making it more nutritious and productive. Read the experience of a few of them in the following pages.

Using Grasstrac

Application Rates and Timings. Apply one 20 kg bag per acre (50 kg/ha) ideally up to ten days before stock are expected to graze, or six weeks before silage is due to be cut, using a conventional spinner or spreader.

Only one application each year is necessary. Fields for grazing or 1st cut silage should be treated from February to May.

Grasstrac is in granular form and can be spread alone or mixed with standard fertiliser. The granules are dense (1.19 kg/l) and can be routinely spread at 12 metres, or 18 and 24 metres, if desired. Tractor speed is normally 11 kph (7mph). Spreading on a dry day is preferable since the granules are liable to become sticky when moist and this will prevent even spreading.



Spreading Alone

There are fertiliser spreader settings for 5 machines tabulated on the reverse of every Grasstrac bag. To supplement this information there is a booklet available from your distributor or from Yara UK, giving settings for a comprehensive range of spreaders.

Mixing with Fertiliser

The following example is for treating 6 acres of grass. That will require 6 bags of Grasstrac to be mixed with the fertiliser which is likely to be in 600 kg big-bags. A top corner of each Grasstrac bag should be cut and the opened bags placed alongside the spreader. Do not make a large cut in the bottom of the big-bag, but rather a small cut so that the fertiliser runs into the spreader at a manageable rate to ensure that the Grasstrac is added evenly as the big-bag is emptying. The resultant mix will give an even spread in the field.

Finally, remember to adjust the spreader setting to 120 kg/acre.

100 kg fertiliser/acre
20 kg/acre Grasstrac



Analysis

Grasstrac

Sodium	33%
Copper	2.3% (23,000 ppm)
Zinc	1.1% (11,000 ppm)
Cobalt	0.1% (1,000 ppm)
Iodine	0.1% (1,000 ppm)
Selenium	0.03% (300 ppm)

Grasstrac Sheep Special

Sodium	33%
Zinc	1.1% (11,000 ppm)
Cobalt	0.17% (1,700 ppm)
Iodine	0.1% (1,000 ppm)
Selenium	0.03% (300 ppm)

"Grasstrac put the trace elements back and our stock have done better".



Barry and David Evans Ceredigion - (8 years)

Farm Profile

The Evans' farm has light land on the higher permanent grass fields running down to heavier soil in the bottom fields.

The Stock

The sheep breeds are mainly Speckle-faced mated to a Suffolk ram and also Mules. Sucklers are a mix of Limousin, Simmental, Hereford and Belgian Blue.

The Problem

Barry says that they had been taking a lot out of the permanent grass/clover swards over the years and had not been replacing the trace elements. *"We thought the light fields in particular were missing something and that the lambs could have done better. We decided that Grasstrac could be the answer."*

The Grasstrac Difference

The lambs, which are sold on the 'hook' from July onwards, have done better since using Grasstrac on the grazing fields.

Growth rates have improved significantly and better grass utilisation led to a reduction in NPK fertiliser application, saving approximately £4 per acre. In 2005, Grasstrac was applied to silage fields as well as pastures to get the benefit in the winter feed for both sheep and sucklers.

“Grasstrac is a very convenient way to get trace elements back into the grass”.



Shirley and Thomas Sims Derbyshire - (10 years)

Farm Profile

This 350 acre farm is 400 ft above sea level with 280 acres down to permanent grass. The River Amber runs through the land creating a flood plain of fertile soil except that it cannot provide adequate copper.

The Stock

Pedigree bulls – 2 Belgian Blue, 2 Limousin and a Charolais are run with 40 cows each, out of a 200 cow suckler herd of the same continental breeds. Heifer calves are reared as replacements and the bulls are finished entire at 12 to 15 months.

The Problem

There was a copper deficiency on the farm which had to be corrected.

The Grasstrac Difference

Grasstrac was used for the first four years to enrich 200 - 250 acres of grazing and silage ground. Shirley says *“that since using it the cattle look better and graze the grass more evenly without leaving tufts. The calves are much stronger and fitter.”*

“Grasstrac is a very convenient method of getting the trace elements back into the soil and into the grass, We are still relying on it today says Shirley.”

“The bulls grow extremely well on a ration of Grasstrac treated silage, a 50-50 mix of wheat and barley, sugar beet nuts and a liquid protein supplement. The last 5 bulls through Derby Auction Mart averaged 597 kg LW at 114.8 p/kg LW at 432 days old.”



“We’ve found Grasstrac to be more efficient and easier to use”.



The Heard Family Devon - (7 years)

Farm Profile

John and Sandra run a 750 acre, all grass farm lying at 750 feet. The soil is fairly light with broken stone. Most grass is down to long-term leys with some permanent pasture. About 20 acres of grass is re-seeded each year under rape.

The Stock

Stock comprises 500 lowland ewes, 1,200 hill ewes and a 280 suckler herd of Limousin x Friesian and South Devon cows. Bulls are Limousin, Charolais, Saler and Belgian Blue. Calving starts in March, when the majority calve, through to November with calves being sold as stores from 7 to 20 months old. The lowland sheep are Mules crossed with a Suffolk and also Mule replacements. Hill ewes are Scotch Blackface. Lambing starts in mid-March.

The Problem

John had been using other forms of trace element supplementation which were increasing in use year after year. Another farmer suggested that Grasstrac would be more economic, more efficient and less of a hassle.

The Grasstrac Difference

Alternative trace element treatments were dropped and Grasstrac was spread on silage ground, which is grazed before being shut-up for silage. Weaned lambs were then turned onto the silage aftermath. John says the Suffolk x Mule lambs are fitter than ever before, without the check in mid-July that he has experienced in the past.



“Grasstrac restored the trace element balance and improved performance”.



Alister MacKenzie

Black Isle, Ross-Shire - (7 years)

Farm Profile

Lying at 500 feet above sea level, Alister MacKenzie's 360 acres is predominantly a grass farm with 20 acres of both barley and swedes. The land has a good medium loam soil.

The Stock

The stock consists of 400 ewes. They are pedigree Suffolk, Charollais, Bluefaced Leicester and Blackface. The latter are mated to a Charollais ram to produce fat lambs. The Blackface are lambed outdoors, in April, with the rest lambed inside. There are also 200 sucklers which are based on the French Saler breed.

The Problem

When the ewes and lambs grazed a 45 acre piece of ground that had previously been a forestry nursery, they didn't do well. Alister was disappointed with the performance of the Suffolks in particular. A soil analysis revealed a poor trace element profile.

The Grasstrac Difference

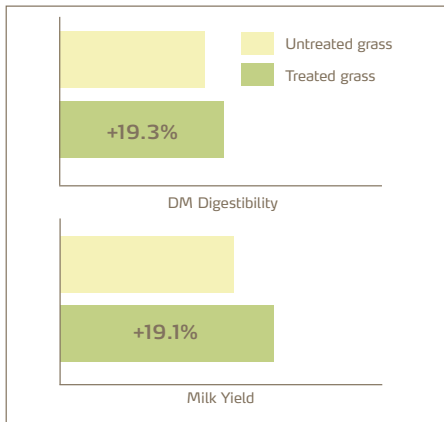
Alister applied Grasstrac to the problem 45 acres for the first two years. The lambs grew well with the Charollais x Blackface lambs being sold fat in Dingwall Auction Mart at the end of September for the first time ever, they were weaned about one month before. Alister says he is well satisfied with Grasstrac and has now being using for seven years.



Grasstrac - facts

Fact - Sodium boosts DM intake and opens up milk yield potential

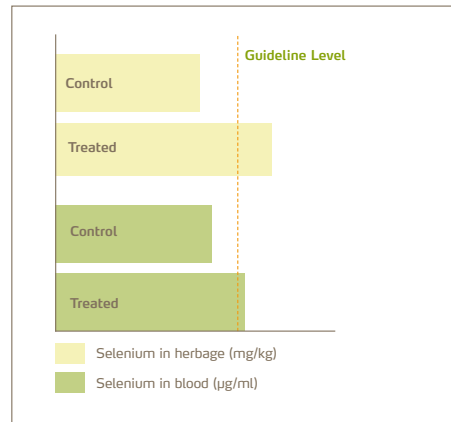
The application of sodium to pasture improves the palatability of grass. As a result, grass intake increases and this was demonstrated in trials carried out by the University of Wales which also confirmed improved DM digestibility. Increased grass intake and improved digestibility allows the cow to realise her natural potential in milk yield as demonstrated in the chart.



Fact - Grasstrac praised in Teagasc trials

Trials carried out by Teagasc at Johnstown Castle, Co. Wexford showed selenium and copper status improved throughout the grazing season in the Grasstrac treated pasture. The untreated control remained below recommended levels.

The research team concluded that the results were 'highly promising'



Fact - Using Grasstrac in organic farming and environmental schemes

A deficiency can be identified by soil analysis and then approval should be sought from the Soil Association or other certification bodies, before Grasstrac application.

Most environmental schemes forbid the use of seaweeds because they act as liming agents and alter the pH of the soil. The trace element content of seaweeds is minimal.

Grasstrac, by comparison, supplies very significant quantities of trace elements but has no liming effect. It can therefore be used on land which is under liming restriction and wherever trace elements are required.

Grasstrac Sheep Special Promotes Lambs into the Premier League

A 5:1 return achieved

It's never too early to think about marketing your lambs and to produce the top quality demanded by consumers. Allow Grasstrac Sheep Special to help make your lambs jump into the top league.

Independent farm demonstration work supervised by IGER over an eight-week period comparing Grasstrac Sheep Special treated grass fields with untreated fields resulted in:

- An 11% improvement in the growth of weaned Texel and Beltex cross lambs.
- Twice as many finished lambs from the treated fields.
- Improved carcass grades (68% E & U compared with 47%).
- Ideal fat cover (90% 3L compared with 71%).
- An extra return per lamb of 5:1 was achieved when comparing carcass value to treatment cost, when grazed at 15 lambs per acre.
- Less hassle treating the land rather than the lambs, coupled with lower labour costs.



Grasstrac Sheep Special contains cobalt, selenium, iodine, zinc and sodium and is spread on grass fields at one (20 kg) bag per acre. At this time consider treating fields cut for first-cut silage along with aftermath fertiliser for your weaned lambs.

If you require copper then Grasstrac is the answer. Cattle and horses as well as sheep will respond with better production and fertility from healthier stock.

Trace element supplementation pays off in Hybu Cig Cymru/IGER demonstration.

A demonstration trial, carried out by Hybu Cig Cymru and the IGER Grassland Development Centre and funded by Farming Connect, has shown that the productivity of land in the foothills of the Preseli Mountains in Pembrokeshire was greatly improved by trace element supplementation from Grasstrac Sheep Special.

The results showed that an extra 13kg of lamb per acre was achieved over the 8-week trial.

Two matched groups each of 100 Texel and Beltex cross weaned lambs grazing a silage aftermath ley at a stocking rate of 15 lambs per acre were monitored over a 58-day period between August and October last year. One group grazed fields spread with the trace element supplement Grasstrac Sheep Special at 20 kg per acre, whilst the fields the control group grazed, received no supplementation.

The area is known to have a low cobalt status and normal practice for the farm was to supplement all stock with a cobalt drench.

IGER's Charlie Morgan says the trial was set up to confirm that a lack of cobalt in the soil was restricting the growth and finishing of weaned lambs and to test the idea of treating the land instead of the animals. He said:

"The results of this initial trial were very promising. Growth rates of the lambs grazing the treated fields were improved by 11% (151 g/day v 136 g/day) and carcass data showed better conformation and fat classification with twice as many of the Grasstrac lambs reaching the desired finish than the controls."

Because the lambs were heavier and had better conformation, they produced an extra lamb weight worth a 5:1 return when compared to treatment cost per lamb.

Blood analysis showed that the cobalt status of the Grasstrac lambs was significantly better (+64%) than the controls at the end of the trial period and close to the guideline to maintain an adequate cobalt level, indicating the effectiveness of supplementation.

Worm drenching was carried out in both groups at the start of the trial but faecal egg counts during the trial showed that only the control group required a further drench.

Mr Morgan continued: *"The other important factor we discovered is that treating the land is far less of a hassle than treating the lambs and labour costs are reduced as a result!"*

Growth Rates

Start Date (8/8/05)	First Weigh (13/9/05) 36 days	Second Weigh (5/10/05) 22 days	Average 58 days
Control	171 g/day	79 g/day	136 g/day
Grasstrac Sheep Special	190 g/day	88 g/day	151 g/day

An 11% improvement in the growth of weaned Texel and Beltex cross lambs.

Carcass Data % deadweight

	14.5 kg - 16.5 kg	17.0 kg - 20.0 kg	20.5 kg +
Control	47	36	17
Grasstrac Sheep Special	22	43	35

Carcass weights were heavier

Fat Class %

	2	3L	3H	4L
Control	6	71	23	0
Grasstrac Sheep Special	0	90	10	0

Ideal fat cover (90% 3L compared with 71%).

Conformation Grades %

	E	U	R	O
Control	0	47	53	0
Grasstrac Sheep Special	10	58	32	0

Improved carcass grades (68% E & U compared with 47%).



We have entered into the EasiCare Sheep Initiative with Dr John Vipond, Senior Sheep Specialist of SAC.

"The use of the Grasstrac pasture application technique reduces time spent drenching/treating sheep with trace element supplements and the recent HCC/IGER trial demonstrates its efficacy."

*“Cows get in calf quicker”.
“Copper injecting the ewes has been
stopped, no signs of swayback”.*



Andrew Stanwix

North Yorkshire - (7 years)

Farm Profile

A 160 acre grass farm, including 30 acres of woodland, faces north and lies at approximately 750 feet. The fields contain light, well-drained soil.

The Stock

Andrew runs a dairy herd of 45 British Friesians yielding about 8000 litres a lactation. Calving is mainly in the autumn. The heifer calves are kept as replacements and the bull calves sold as forward stores at 2 years old. He also carries 80 Mule ewes mated with a Suffolk ram for fat lamb production.

The Problem

Andrew was not happy with the fertility of his cows and read in a Grasstrac promotion that another farmer improved his herd fertility by using the product. Also he has a field which the cows were not keen to graze after mid-season. His sheep were injected with copper at lambing to prevent "swayback".

The Grasstrac Difference

Andrew treated 100 acres for the first two years, both grazing and silage grass. After about 6 months, he found a *"noticeable improvement in the speed of getting cows in-calf"*. Approximately 20% fewer insemination straws were needed. Grazing of the difficult field was considerably improved and the cows were settled instead of bawling to be moved.

The copper injection for the ewes has been stopped and there were no signs of "swayback". Lambing percentage has improved to 184% and there was only one geld ewe as against the normal 3 or 4. Fat lambs are sold at Darlington Auction at 45 kg and the last batch (4 August) averaged 104 p/kg LW. (2006)

"I use Grasstrac because I need to put trace elements back into the land".



Malcolm Gribble

Devon - (10 years)

Farm Profile

Malcolm Gribble's 425 acre, all-grass farm lies at 600 to 700 feet. The top ground is free-draining, but the bottom is fairly heavy clay. It is predominantly a dairy farm with beef and sheep as well.

The Stock

180 Holstein Friesians yield almost 7000 litres from 2 tonnes of concentrates. Calving is all-year-round and turn-out is around the 20th April. Both set-stocking and strip-grazing are used to get the most out of the long-term leys and permanent grass. Beef is produced from the dairy cows and 300 ewes are run. All replacement heifers are bought-in.

The Problem

Malcolm was experiencing problems which he felt were a result of trace elements in the soil being depleted over the years. He decided they needed to be replenished.

The Grasstrac Difference

He has spread Grasstrac on 50 acres of milking and dry cow grazing for the last 10 years. Application at turnout time is along with fertiliser.

Malcolm says that grazing efficiency is high and he is well satisfied with the performance of his dairy herd. He reckons the lambs have done better too. He no longer has the chore of drenching the sheep with cobalt and selenium drenches which he says was necessary before he started using Grasstrac.



*“ Greatly reduced milk fever problem”,
“Our cows look good and are performing
well”.*



Rob & Wendy Woodley

Devon - (6 years)

Farm Profile

A traditional mixed all grass farm of 220 acres, mainly permanent pasture, on rolling Devon land which has some quite steep areas. It supports a mixture of dairy, beef and sheep enterprises.

The Stock

60 Holstein Friesian cows yielding about 7,000 litres at 4.46% butterfat and 3.39% protein. Calving is all-year-round, heifer calves are kept as replacements and cross-bred calves are fattened for beef.

A flock of 250 Suffolk-Mule and Suffolk Mule Lleyw ewes, these are mated to a Charollais ram to produce fat lambs from grazed grass. We also have a Pedigree Shorthorn suckler herd, this has been a "hobby" for 2 years but could be more important in the future.

The cows are kept on a conventional grazed grass, silage and concentrate system and do not receive supplementary minerals other than those supplied by the concentrate.

The Problem

An acute milk fever problem occurred in many of our cows, even the second calvers were affected, at its worst it was about 40%. The cows were treated with calcium, under the skin and in the vein, but the response was very slow and 2 – 3 bottles were often needed.

The Grasstrac Difference

Since 2004 Grasstrac has been applied yearly in the March/April period. All the cow grazing fields are treated and some of the first cut silage areas, with the view, that the minerals would be in the silage and the cows could graze the treated grass for the rest of the year.

In the first year of Grasstrac use *"the milk fever problem almost disappeared"*. In recent years the numbers have stayed down to an acceptable level, if we do treat the occasional one, *"it responds very quickly"* with only 1 bottle now needed under the skin.

"The cows are eating the grass better", which could be due to a mix, of Grasstrac use and the policy of improving lime levels in recent years. *"Our cows look good and are performing well"*.

How Grasstrac Helps Reduce Milk Fever

There is increasing evidence that Grasstrac use is linked to a reduction in the incidence of milk fever in dairy cows.

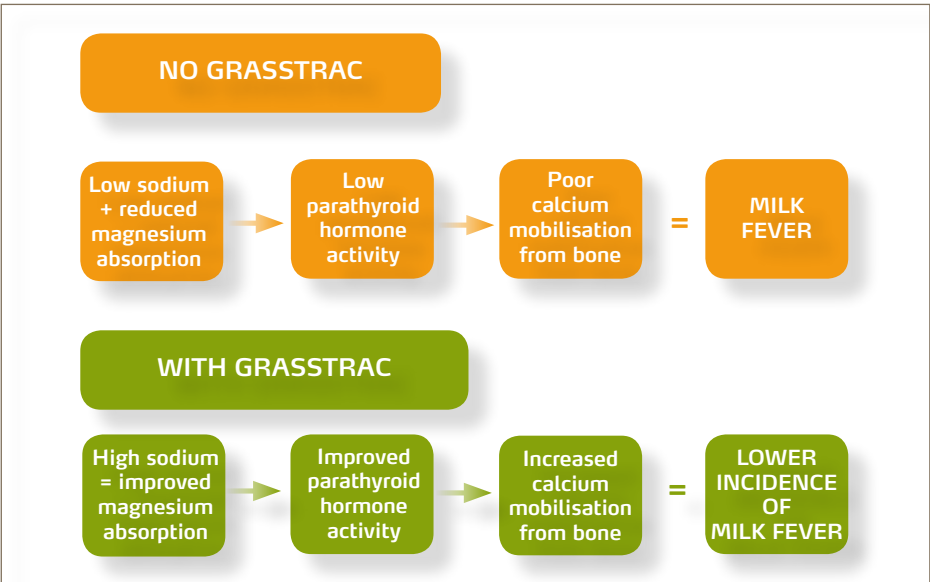
For example, one dairy farmer experienced a reduction in his milk fever problems from 11 to just 2 cases when Grasstrac was used.

We have discussed the possible reasons for this with Dr Duncan Pickard, formerly of Leeds University, but now farming in Scotland, and a 'milk fever' expert.

The science is rather complicated, but the following flow chart explains what occurs.

This improvement is partly due to the sodium content of Grasstrac. However, there is evidence in the literature that copper may also be involved. A copper deficiency can reduce the ability of the cow to provide sufficient vitamin D metabolites needed to combat milk fever.

Therefore it follows that improving the sodium and copper levels in grass will give the observed reduction in the incidence of milk fever.



Grasstrac - Facts

Fact - Copper availability

The soil on many farms contains high levels of molybdenum, iron and sulphur, which ultimately can reduce the amount of copper available to the animal.

An application of Grasstrac increases copper levels in grazed grass and conserved forage, but more importantly it is held within the plant structure in a chelated form. With grass enriched in this way, cattle and sheep take in available and essential copper little and often.

Fact - The real cost of trace element deficiencies

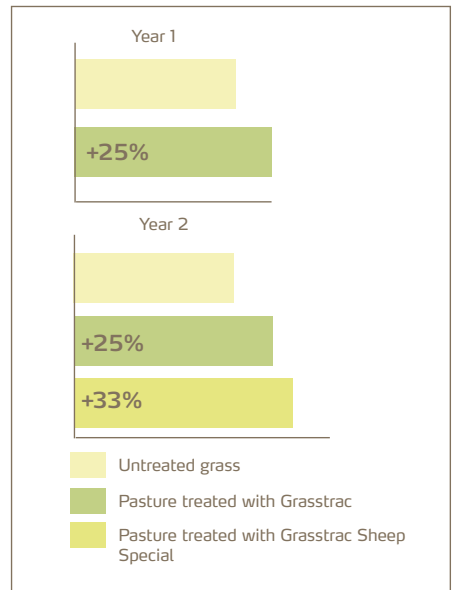
The cost in lost production per cow caused by common ailments related to trace element deficiencies has been calculated by the Reading University DAISY Information Service. It is estimated that income loss due to disease and poor fertility costs the dairy farmer around £150 per cow every year.

Ailment	Cost
Retained cleansing	£287
Vulval discharge	£161
A lost calf	£314
Milk Fever	£207
Mastitis	£168
Lameness	£258
The cost of not achieving a 365 calving index is £3.35 per day/cow for each day over 365	

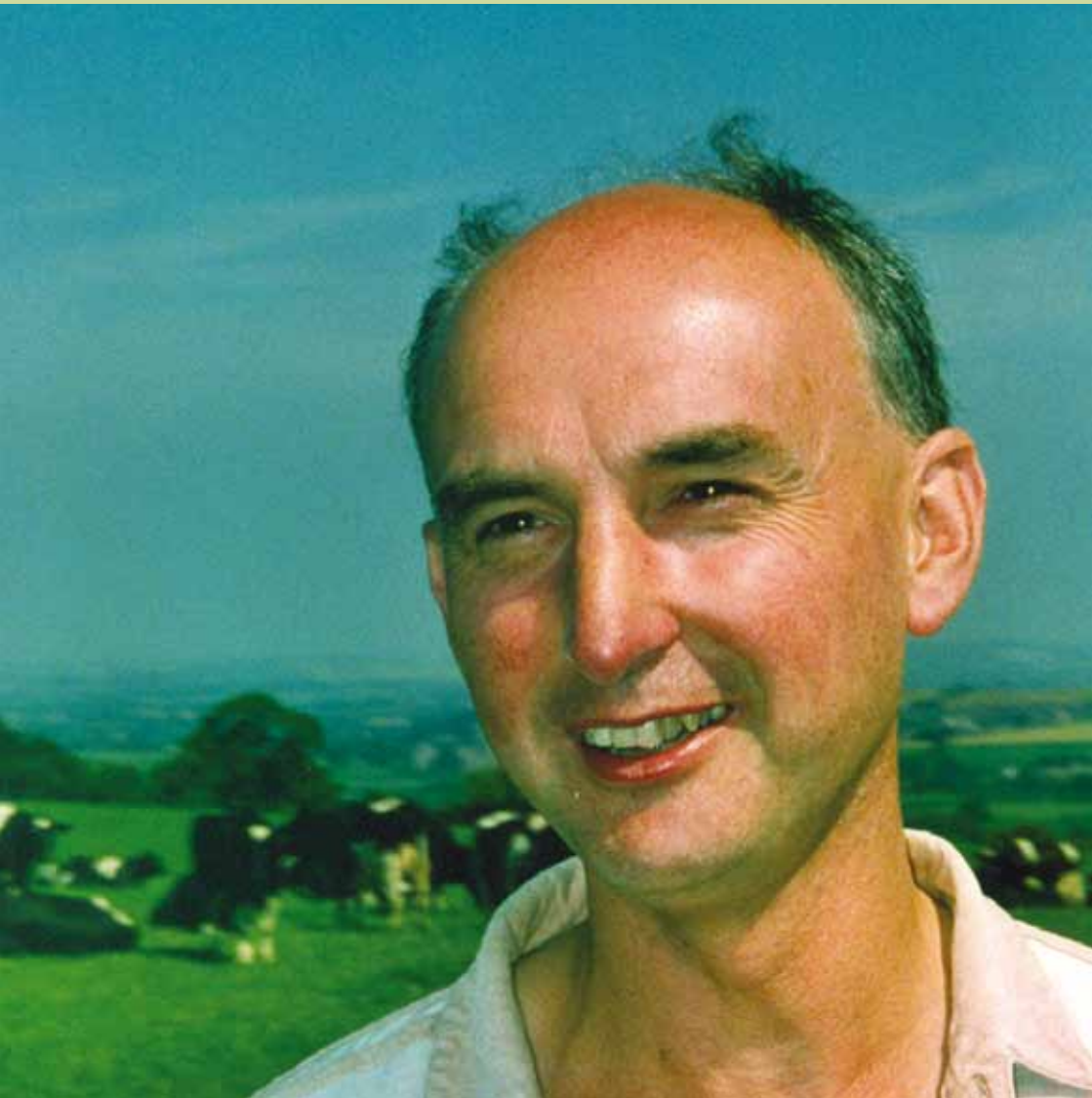
Fact - Grasstrac increases daily liveweight gain

Trials carried out over many years have shown that stock grazing pasture treated with Grasstrac produce better liveweight gains than those grazing untreated pasture.

The trial shown below is one carried out by ADAS over a two year period with weaned lambs.



*"Cows grazed treated fields better"
"Ginger tinges on coats disappeared".*



Bill Wyatt - Somerset (9 years)

Farm Profile

A 250 acre farm with 180 acres of grass. In the top fields, the soil is extremely flinty, while in the bottom fields it is a good loam.

The Stock

160 Holstein Friesian dairy cows, calving all-year-round, yielding approximately 6000 litres per lactation. Paddock grazing is fertilised with straight nitrogen.

The Problem

An area of 25 acres surrounded by trees was poorly grazed with cows preferring adjacent fields. Some grazing fields are treated in spring and some after a silage cut is taken. 75 acres in total are covered.

Bill was also aware of an overall copper problem on the farm, high molybdenum levels seemed to be locking up the copper in the rumen, which could have been affecting fertility.

The Grasstrac Difference

The *"cows grazed the treated fields better"* throughout the season. Any *"ginger tinges to the coats disappeared."* Bill finds Grasstrac a very easy product to apply, he is now in the ninth year of use and the cows look healthy and maintain sleek black and white coats.



“Grasstrac makes up soil trace element shortfall on my organic dairy farm”.



The Green Family Dorset (Organic Farmers and Growers) - (9 years)

Farm Profile

Ian farms his all-grass 246 acre farm organically. The soil ranges from sandy loam to heavy clay.

The Stock

Ian's 95 cow herd is mainly Holstein Friesian with a few Ayrshire and Brown Swiss. Breeding is tending to move back towards the Friesian, calving is all-year-round.

The average yield is 7792 litres @ 3.84% BF and 3.24% Protein, with a margin over purchased feed of £1,394 per cow. 4524 litres are produced from forage. Summer feeding is grass/clover with cake in the parlour. Winter feed is grass silage, whole-crop and cake.

The Problem

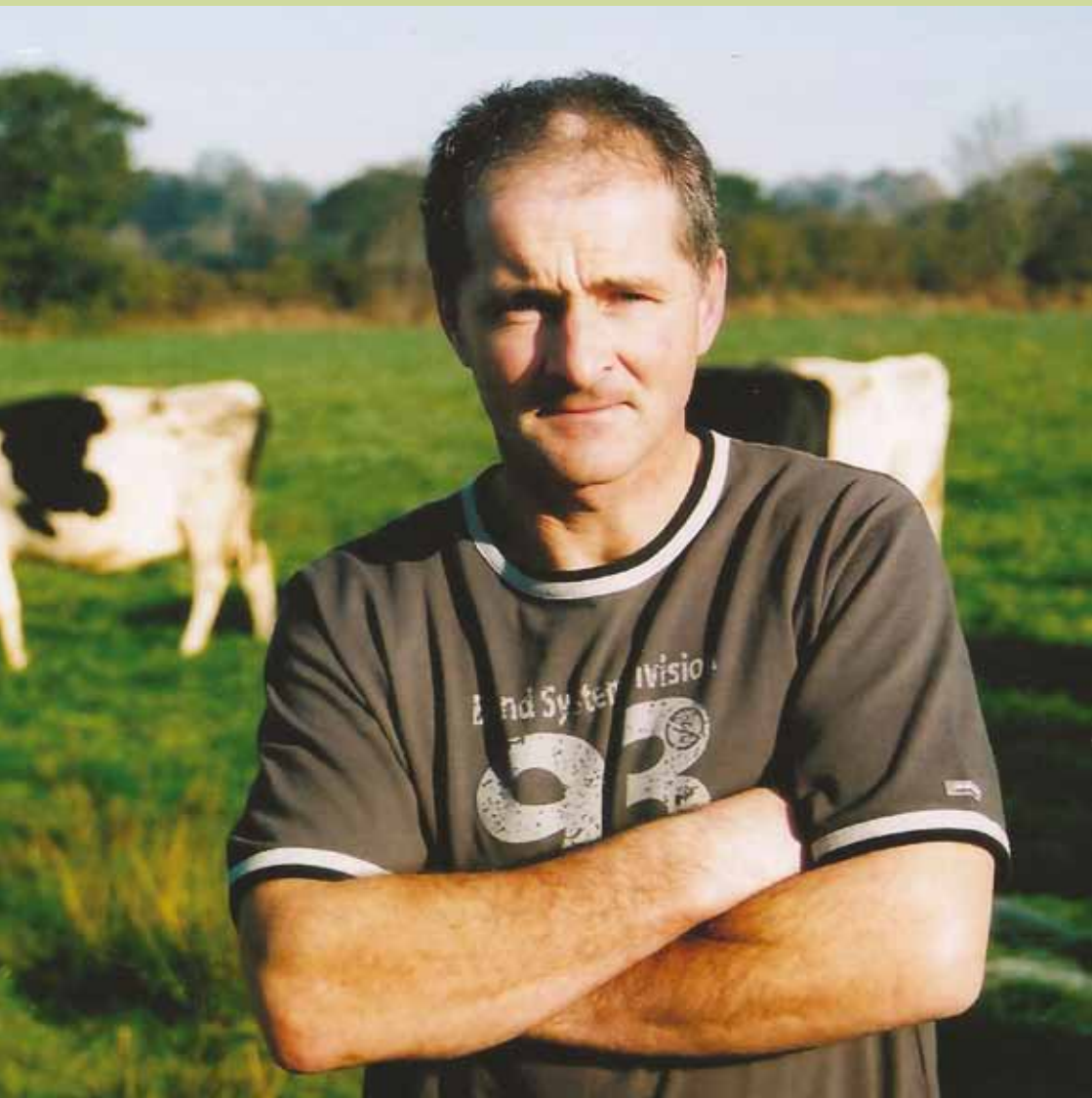
Ian does a yearly broad spectrum soil test to acquire a derogation to use Grasstrac. This always shows low copper and sodium, i.e. Cu 6.6 ppm v guideline of 8.0 ppm and Na 24 ppm v 90 ppm guideline.

The Grasstrac Difference

Using Grasstrac to enrich his pastures each year (since 2002) Ian has successfully overcome his problems and as Grasstrac is approved for use in his organic system Ian is very satisfied.



“The use of Grasstrac makes management of the grass-based system of milk production a great deal easier.”



Aindrias Moynihan Co. Cork - (10 years)

Farm Profile

Aindrias farms 150 acres of grass in North Cork.

The Stock

With 80 spring-calving (February to mid-April) pedigree Holstein Friesians. Milk yield is 6760 litres (1485 gallons) and gradually increasing. Feeding is forage-based – grass in summer and grass silage supplemented with concentrates in winter. The land is a rather heavy, black soil with a percentage free draining, but also a lot of clay. Grasstrac was applied to part of the grazing and silage ground for the first three years. Currently the grazing is covered as well as some of the silage land.

The Problem

In a block-calving system it is necessary to get as close to a 365 day calving index as possible. However there was a fertility problem associated with selenium and copper deficiencies. Injections and boluses had been tried to overcome these issues, but were not fulfilling the requirements.

In the paddock grazing system, with a fresh bite of grass offered after each milking, the cows often grazed selectively and topping was practised to remove clumps of grass.

The Grasstrac Difference

Fertility and general animal health are now a lot better. The cows' coats are shiny and the cows are more placid. Injections and boluses are no longer used. Grazing is cleaner and closer to the ground with no more selection and no need for topping. This benefit was very well demonstrated since a few untreated paddocks had been left for comparison. Grasstrac has been now used for almost ten years and the benefits continue.

"The use of Grasstrac makes management of the grass-based system of milk production a great deal easier."

“Grasstrac improved foal health and mare fertility”.



John Wall

Gloucestershire - (10 years)

Farm Profile

John Wall is Farm Manager for Mr Chris Wright, founder and Chairman of the Chrysalis record label, at Stratford Place Stud in Gloucestershire. The owner has had three classic winners including Culture Vulture.

The Stock

The 400 acre farm has 110 acres of paddocks for breeding purposes. Mares, foals and yearling fillies are mixed grazed with cattle. There is only 4 inches (10 cm) of topsoil above stony Cotswold brash. An organic fertiliser with a low nitrogen content is applied to the paddocks in spring. For 10 years Grasstrac has been spread over 75 acres about four weeks before the horses are introduced, part in spring and part in autumn.

The Problem

Foals suffered from a bone condition called epiphysitis (enlargement at the growth plates above the fetlocks and/or knees associated with lameness). A lack of copper in the diet manifests itself in this condition, as well as showing up in the yellowish coats of the horses. John also struggled to get mares back into foal.

The Grasstrac Difference

The bone condition has almost entirely cleared up in the growing foals. Although additional copper is offered in feed, the benefit of extra copper coming from Grasstrac through the grass is perceived as being the main reason for the difference.

Fertility has also improved with mares being covered more easily and producing good, healthy foals of 110 to 125 lb. (50 to 57 kg).

In addition, Grasstrac improves the grazing habit of the horses such that there are fewer rejected areas and very little topping is needed.



Yara - facts

Yara specialise in the formulation and production of micro-nutrients for a wide range of crops from grass, cereals and potatoes, to every kind of fruit. Our products and services are used throughout the world.

The availability of micro-nutrients is fundamental to profitable farming but soil reserves can no longer meet the demands of modern production methods and supplementation is therefore essential.

Yara expertise in this area is built upon decades of research and practical experience. Our products are renowned for their quality, efficacy and safety and our analytical services are fast, accurate and impartial.

The ever-increasing demands upon the world's food producers are well served by the wealth of knowledge and experience at Yara and our skill in meeting grower needs. Grasstrac is typical of Yara's innovation in its ease of use and effectiveness as well as being friendly to both man and the environment.

Yara UK Ltd is accredited to:
ISO 9001:2008

Advice for the asking

Yara UK Ltd pride themselves on the service they offer their customers. Our highly efficient distributor network is backed by a team of specialists who can offer down-to-earth advice on most aspects of trace element nutrition. If you would like to discuss a problem or want to find out more about Yara UK Ltd products, just contact your nearest Yara UK Ltd Area Manager. Yara UK Ltd has a network of distributors throughout Ireland and contact can be made via Head Office, telephone 01759 302545.

Grasstrac Area Managers



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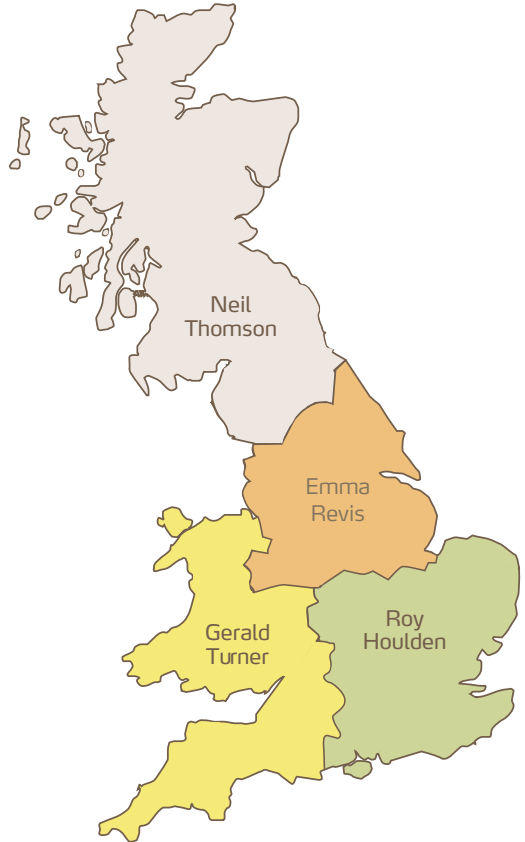
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Knowledge grows

For further information please contact:

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