



SHINE LAMB MILK HELPS ORPHAN LAMBS ACHIEVE SALES TARGETS

ANOTHER INNOVATION FROM BONANZA CALF NUTRITION

A farming business that prides itself on setting benchmark standards in sheep productivity is capitalising on the benefits of feeding a replacer manufactured from ewes' milk to its orphan and triplet lambs.



A.W. Jenkinson runs a flock of 2,500 Texel/North Country Mule-cross ewes, producing in excess of 4,000 lambs per year.



Three years ago, Shine Lamb Milk was introduced into the system and it has been a huge success. Shepherd Andrew Howe says it allows pet lambs to be treated the same as other lambs. "We sell them as soon as they are fat. Ideally the lambs go at 12 to 14 weeks, depending on the market for fat," says Andrew.

The stock is crossed to achieve a 75% Texel/25% North Country Mule animal. The flock is largely self-supporting with only a few North Country Mules bought-in each year to ensure a healthy genetic blend.

Tups were turned in with the ewes on August 21st for early lambing. Mules scanned at 211% and the rest of the flock at 180%.

Lambs are tubed with cows' colostrum and all triplet lambs are tubed again after 12 hours.

Ewes are housed in group pens for lambing and transferred to individual pens for 24 hours after lambing. Ewes and lambs are

then turned out to grass, although if the weather is bad they will remain indoors for a further 24 hours.

Kade lambs, triplets and small lambs are fed Shine Lamb Milk through a Forster Technique machine hired from Messrs Robison of Skygarth, who supply the business with Shine Lamb Milk.

Lambs have access to the machine ad-lib with a good quality lamb creep pellet available from day one.

"When the lambs are weaned they are taken off the machine and put into a big pen with bales in. The lambs play on these and it takes their minds off the fact that there is no milk," says Andrew.

Lambs are sold fat through markets at Carlisle, Penrith and Kirkby Stephen, from mid-June onwards.



In Photo Malcolm Robinson (Messrs Robinsons & sons, Skygarth) and Shepherd, Andrew Howe