



End of Year Financial and Feed/Fertiliser Reports

It is that time of year when our customers request various reports for their annual accounts and for the purposes of derogation compliance. The reports that are normally required to apply for a Nitrates Derogation, are the 2020 and 2021 Feed and Fertiliser Tonnage Summary. There is also a requirement to report the Crude Protein of the feed purchased from 1st April – 15th September 2021 for animals over 2 years of age. This is in addition to the 2021 Feed Tonnage Report. For 2021, the maximum level of Crude Protein permissible for grazing animals aged 2 years and over on a 100% grass diet was 15%. Calf and weanling feed are excluded.

If you require assistance, please email details of the specific reports required to farmreports@brettbrothers.ie and we will return via email or post hard copies if that is your preference.



VARIABLE SILAGE QUALITY

In 2020 we saw a significant improvement in overall silage quality and the benefits were seen at farm level, last winter and spring. However, this year we are seeing a variation in silage quality. The most important message for all our customers is to know what silage quality you have within your own yard and have a plan for the various categories of livestock on your farm. In general, silage cut in May has a lower dry matter (DM) and early June cut silage has a lower dry matter digestibility (DMD) and energy content. Silage pits that are over 30% Dry Matter are prone to 'heating' and the development of moulds at the pit face.

Management Tips

- The body condition of dry cows needs to be assessed now and if animals are outside the target range of 2.75-3.0 at drying off, they need to be batched and fed accordingly.
- With escalating fertiliser prices, it is important for all tillage and grassland farmers to have accurate and up to date soil analyses. Please contact a member of the Brett's Technical Team to seek advice and to interpret your soil analysis results accurately.



Dear Customer,

Season's greetings to you and your family.

It has been an amazing year, quite unlike any before. We have got over Brexit, we continue our struggles against Covid, and our agricultural industry is in the midst of an unprecedented inflation cycle. Thankfully, farmers have enjoyed decent grain, milk, cattle, and sheep prices, but pig prices are suffering since mid-year.

Feed raw material prices are spiralling, and this has led to higher feed prices. We have done our best to mitigate increases, but unfortunately, we are facing further rises in the New Year. Fertiliser costs are crazy, and we are only able to secure limited tonnages at this time. All of this, we are told, is due to rocketing gas, electricity and shipping costs. Factory capacity has been reduced due to virus shutdowns.

We plan to offer limited contract tonnes of fertilisers to our customers once we have secure supply contracts and firm prices.

The world is rightly concerned with the climate crisis, but there is a danger of a food crisis if the obsession with reducing farm output and reducing meat consumption is followed blindly. According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation there are 820 million people hungry on our planet. The global population is expanding and demand for food will rise accordingly. The Common Market was set up after the war to guarantee peace and food security for Europe. With tight world grain stocks, a bad harvest in any major production area could create scarcities.

We have faced many challenges in the past and, I'm sure we will in the future. Let's hope for a good early spring and a great growing season ahead.

Happy Christmas to you and your family and thank you for your support.

James J. Brett
Group Managing Director

To efficiently manage deliveries over the Christmas holiday period, we would ask that orders are placed by 5 pm on **Thursday 16th December**. We will endeavour to satisfy all your needs; however, we may not be able to fulfil orders submitted after this date.

Christmas/New Year Delivery Schedule 2021/22

Thursday 23rd December	DELIVERIES
Friday 24th December	LIMITED DELIVERIES
Saturday 25th December	CLOSED
Sunday 26th December	CLOSED
Monday 27th December	CLOSED
Tuesday 28th December	CLOSED
Wednesday 29th December	DELIVERIES
Thursday 30th December	DELIVERIES
Friday 31st December	DELIVERIES
Saturday 1st January	CLOSED
Sunday 2nd January	CLOSED
Monday 3rd January	CLOSED
Tuesday 4th January	DELIVERIES

PRODUCT FOCUS



Brett's PIP Dry Cow Minerals

Brett's PIP Dry Cow Minerals are specifically formulated to meet the requirements of the dry cow, taking into consideration that Irish silage is generally high in potassium and low in trace minerals. The incidence of problems such as retained afterbirth, milk fever, and stillborn calves can be reduced greatly with good dry cow management.

We suggest feeding minerals twice per day or include as part of a diet feeder ration.

ORDER TODAY!

Contact your local Brett's Sales Representative or request a copy of our Dry Cow Management brochure available from the office or visit our website.

Brett Brothers Ltd.,
Callan, Co. Kilkenny
Tel: 056 7755300

Brett Brothers Ltd.,
Windgap, Co. Kilkenny
Tel: 051 648204

Brett Brothers Ltd.,
Ardfinnan, Co. Tipperary
Tel: 052 7466208

Brett Brothers Ltd.,
Portlaw, Co. Waterford
Tel: 051 387396

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