

The Results (Table 1)

Treatment	Number of ewes	Average IgG units per ml/colostrum	Difference	Level of significance	Probability of results occurring by chance
Ewes feed silage, grass and LIFELINE feed licks	100	228.5	25%	0.007	Less than 1%
Ewes feed silage, grass and standard feed licks	100	182.9			

Farm Trial

Garrowby Estates in Yorkshire (UK) run by farm manager Clive Rowland has a flock of 700 plus Mule ewes tugged to either Texel or Suffolk rams and fatten 80% of their lambs each year, the remainder been sold as stores. Normally ewes are scanned and then fed concentrates outside from 6-8 weeks before lambing with concentrate feeding levels rising to 1kg/day for triplets bearing ewes. The ewes are housed 3 weeks prior to lambing and fed well preserved 1st cut big bale silage.

Last Spring, he selected a group of 140 mixed age twin bearing ewes, and fed them Rumevite pressed blocks and **LIFELINE** Lamb and Ewe buckets to see how they fared. Instead of concentrates the ewes were fed Rumevite blocks from 5 weeks before lambing, and after housing Rumevite, along with **LIFELINE** Lamb & Ewe and good quality big bale silage (See Table 2).

Table 2

Group	8-5 wks before lambing	5-3 weeks before lambing	3 weeks to lambing
Twins	Grass only	Grass + Rumevite blocks	Silage + Rumevite + Lifeline

Ewe condition was good and weight loss prior to lambing in both groups was similar. After lambing Clive made the following observations, firstly he had no cases of twin lamb disease in the **LIFELINE** fed group whereas concentrate fed ewes had several cases of twin lamb disease, usually immediately after being fed. **LIFELINE** fed ewes were more content and no cases of prolapse were recorded compared to concentrate fed ewes who were much more restless and nearly 1% of these ewes prolapsed.

Lamb birth weights were similar in both groups but **LIFELINE** fed ewes produced lambs that overall required less aftercare. **LIFELINE** fed ewes also

took less time to feed whereas it took 40 minutes twice a day to feed the concentrate group. Clive estimated that **LIFELINE** intake was 130g/ewe/day with each pen of 70 ewes using 1 **LIFELINE** bucket every 2 days and 1 Rumevite block every 4 days. Each pen had access to 4 Lifeline buckets and 3 Rumevite blocks at any time.

The essential part of this system is good quality silage and having ewes in good condition prior to lambing. Where silage is lacking in feed value **LIFELINE** could also be used with concentrates to reduce the time concentrates are required to be fed and the amount that is fed.

LIFELINE

For the young as well as the mother

The only Pre-Calving or Pre-Lambing treatment with a European patent



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LIFELINE

LIFELINE was put forward for a European patent based on its ability to increase colostrum antibody levels in 2005 and the application was filed in 2006. **LIFELINE** was finally awarded a Patent EP1707059B1 in April 2011 as an animal feed compound to improve colostrum.

LIFELINE also contains a full complement of minerals and vitamins for the mother as well and should be fed for 4 weeks before parturition.

For commercial reasons many companies incorporate trace elements at the maximum legal limits allowed under EU legislation. With **LIFELINE** we incorporate the correct levels for the calf as well as the cow and for the lamb as well as the ewe.



LIFELINE Pre-Calver

The ONLY product for the calf as well as the cow

Cows with potential low Ig levels include

- Heifers
- Cows producing above 8,000L+
- Older cows (+6)

USA RESEARCH

Calves with ZST levels below 15 had only a 50% of getting to a third lactation.

A heifer calf born to a heifer had only a 50% chance of reaching a second lactation.

Cow breed	IgG1 (mg/ml)
Charolais	159
Limousin x Friesian	170
Simmental x Friesian (x Friesian)	168
Holstein x Friesian	83



LIFELINE pre-calver trail work

LIFELINE contains sugars that stimulate the immune system. The trial below was carried out using incalf cows vaccinated against rotavirus 4 weeks before calving.

Rotavirus antibodies

Control - No LIFELINE prior to calving (titre levels)		
Cows	22345	24381 (+9%)
Calves	6809	12777 (+88%)

LIFELINE

fed to cows for 3 weeks prior to calving (titre levels)

Bucket weight		Mineral crumb	20kg bag
18kg	1 bucket/10 cows		
90kg	1 tub/40 cows		

- Do not over feed Dry cows before calving
- Do not feed beef ration to dry cows
- Grass silage made from mature old pasture that has received no slurry or potash fertiliser is ideal



LIFELINE Lamb & Ewe

In UK trials, feeding **LIFELINE** increased colostrum antibodies by 25% compared to a control group (see trial below). This highly significant result means 25% more protection for the lamb from vaccinations or natural immunity transferred from the ewe in the beistings or colostrum.

Trial work

In an independent trial carried out by Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) 200 twin bearing ewes were fed were fed high quality silage and had free access to feed buckets. Prior to lambing ewes were put out to grass. Both feed buckets were similar in energy and protein content. All ewes were milked after lambing and samples were analysed by Dr Sandy McKenzie at Harpers Adams College.

