

Top 4

January 31 2022

ACIDOSIS

Barley is the main problem- once reach 0.5kg/day, there are risks with high starch (acidosis).

Can use acidbuffers, or add lime- covers calcium needs too! Have 20% of the diet consisting of roughage- older stubbles, straw or hay.

Don't forget to introduce barely slowly if you haven't already-start at 50g/hd/day and increase by 25% each 3 days until reach desired ration. This applies to moving stock into fresh stubbles too- fill their bellies with hay before they move to reduce impact.

If affected, feed only hay. For individuals (eg expensive rams!) drenching with Bicarb soda can help (13g bicarb in ~2L water, but check with a vet!)

Relisten to AgPro Cast's episode 11 for more.

STUBBLE VALUE

Dean Thomas's Modern Stubble Value project has showed feed value varied between components and crops. Stem and leaf material from barley stubbles was approximately 1MJ/kg higher in energy compared with wheat. Fine stem, leaf and pod material from lupins had the highest ME content of the different crops.

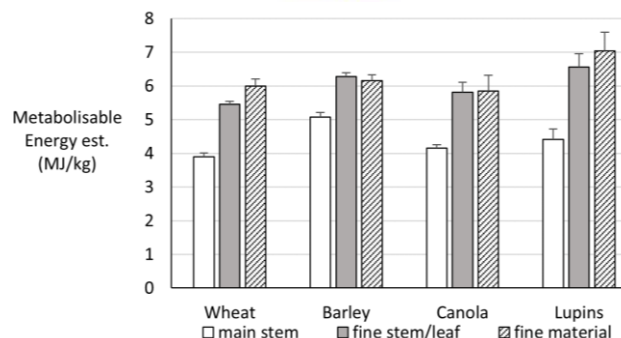


Figure 4. The estimated metabolisable energy content (MJ/kg DM) of chaff collected from winter crop stubbles in Western Australia (2018)

MIKE'S FEED APP

In case you missed it during harvest, AgPro'er Mike Young has made an easy feed tracking app. Handy if never quite sure what's been fed out, or what's on hand. Check it out: [HERE](#)

To set up:

1. Enter your available storage space in the settings window.
2. Enter current amount of grain on hand using the 'top up' command in the feed entry window.
3. Keep it up to sate by entering each time grain is purchased or fed.

COVID: ON FARM GUIDES

Legally, all businesses need a COVID Safe plan. Rumor has it consequences are about to increase and so will policing, so get it sorted. Its pretty simple and you can set one up in 20 minutes here: [COVID plan template](#). Its all about paper trail!

Flick through this PDF, and use this [TOOLKIT](#). The basics are:

- Contact register (hard copy or QR code- easy to set up- [COVID Check in](#))

- Written instructions to staff on how to respond to a COVID incident (add to this [POSTER](#))
- Informed staff of COVID symptoms to watch for, encourage them to get vaccinated/ you should record their vaccination status
- Signage- for check in, cleaning, handwashing, symptoms
- Provided adequate PPE (eg soap, disinfectant for vehicles & tools, masks)
- Clean 'high touch' items and areas frequently (have disinfectant in machinery shed for tools, in vehicles etc)

Shearing and other contractors is a tricky one- keep this on file and make sure they 'check in'. Signage covers most issues, and keep this document on file: [COVID SHEARING](#).