

# MAGNESIUM

## PREVENTION OF GRASS STAGGERS



### Why opt for magnesium in molasses?

#### Key benefits

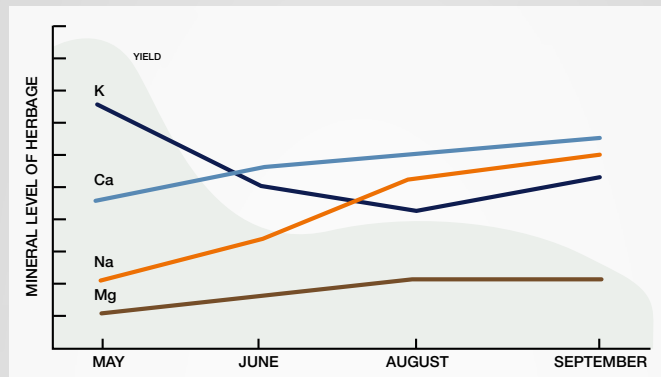
- Molasses based liquid feeds are a source of highly palatable, highly fermentable sugar.
- The sugars help mask the unpalatable taste of magnesium ensuring that intakes are maximised during a period where providing effective supplementation is essential.
- Sugars increase rumen function and activity which helps reduce the risk of grass staggers through the prevention of excessive build up of ammonia in the rumen.
- Research has shown that sugars speed magnesium absorption across the gut wall.
- ED&F Man Liquid Products only use magnesium chloride which is the most bio available form of magnesium to the animal.

Magnesium deficiency, also known as hypomagnesaemia, grass tetany or grass staggers, occurs when the output of magnesium exceeds the intake. The clinical signs can occur very quickly as ruminants depend on a constant dietary uptake of magnesium since magnesium metabolism is not regulated.

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ED&F Man Liquid Products offer a large number of magnesium rich molasses-based liquid supplements.

The increased risk of grass staggers at spring turnout is caused by rapidly growing grasses which are typically low in magnesium, as shown in Graph 1. The low concentration of magnesium can further be reduced by fertilisers due to potassium directly inhibiting the uptake of magnesium by the grass. Additionally, lush pastures are low in fibre and increase the rate of passage of food material through the rumen which reduces the time available for magnesium absorption.



Graph 1

#### Magnesium-rich bulk molasses

Ideal for producers who order bulk molasses, i.e. 10 tonnes at a time, and tend to buffer feed at turnout. The percentage magnesium inclusion can be varied to suit feeding requirements.

Magnesium Inclusion in Blend %	Feed Rate to achieve 35g supplement (kg)
3.5	1
3	1.2
2.5	1.4
2	1.75

#### Your local Commercial Manager:

**Richard Dobson** 07764 344716

**Angela Sutherby** 07957 642669

**Danielle Goatley** 07710 075824

**Georgina Chapman** 07485 192774

Nutritionist | Technical Support Manager

**Freephone** 0800 3898450

[www.edfmanliquidproductsuk.com](http://www.edfmanliquidproductsuk.com)

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