

IT'S ALREADY COMING TO THE END OF ANOTHER FINANCIAL YEAR, WITH PLENTY OF GOVERNMENT TAX INCENTIVES FOR INSTANT ASSET WRITE-OFFS.

The instant asset write-off was initially raised to \$30,000 as of the 2nd April 2019. However, in light of the coronavirus outbreak and the subsequent harm to Australian businesses, as of the 12th March 2020 the instant asset tax write-off will be raised to \$150,000.

This write-off is a great way for small businesses to make essential purchases without needing to wait to claim. Examples of instant asset write offs could include stock yards, cattle crushes, sheep handlers, grain and pellet silos, water tanks & troughs, spray units, fencing materials, weighing scales & platforms, tag readers and scanners.

Or if you're not looking to purchase major assets, why not consider forward-purchasing everyday farming inputs to claim in this financial year? This could include items you know you're going to need over the next 12 months such as herbicide, drench, fertiliser, ear tags, woolpacks or similar. If this is the case, please come and talk to us about your possible requirements.

If you would like prices or any information regarding the purchase of "assets" or everyday items, please contact the Hill and Crofts team. Also contact your financial advisor to confirm all details surrounding asset purchases and write-offs.

In the paddock

The new pastures that I've inspected over the last 2-3 weeks are looking great with a

good soil moisture profile and some mild weather to help with growing conditions.

Please be on the lookout for Red Legged Earth Mites, as there are plenty of them about doing a lot of damage to these new pastures and also existing pastures & crops. They kill new pasture seedlings (especially clover) and damage leaves in cereal crops by sucking out nutrients.

Applying seed dressing such as Gaucho and Poncho Plus pre-sowing will help prevent mite damage. Insecticides such as Le Mat 290 can be applied after mite eggs hatch and has systemic control, where products such as Fastac offer more direct contact control. But as always, it's good to use a mix of products to prevent the build-up of resistance.

If you looking for extra feed from your lambing or calving pasture paddocks then ProGibb is the most cost effective treatment at the start of winter. ProGibb is a plant growth regulator that can be applied to pastures as the growth rate starts to decline due to cold weather.

Sheep Programme

Autumn lambing has almost finished and it's been the perfect autumn for lambing, with mild weather and generally plenty of feed.

The winter lambing of crossbred ewes is getting closer. We've had some reports of problems with ewes being too fat and not being able to cope with multiple pregnancy, resulting in prolapse or pregnancy toxaemia. Pregnancy toxaemia is a common metabolic disorder of ewes that is caused by the increased energy requirements in the late

stage of pregnancy being greater than the energy provided by the diet consumed. Onset of the disease is often triggered by one of several types of stress including nutritional or inclement weather.

Supplementing energy requirements during inclement weather will help, with products such as DDG pellets, feed barley or Lambli lick blocks doing a great job.

A pre-lambing roundworm treatment such as Hatrick, Startect or Q-Drench is also important to help keep ewes healthy and pastures clean for when the lambs arrive, and to minimise the worm challenge to the new lambs. The timing of this treatment can coincide with vaccinating the ewes with 5-in-1 or Glanvac. This will boost the ewes' immunity levels against clostridial diseases, which can then be passed onto the lamb via colostrum until their own immunity has developed.

Rural Property News

Hill and Crofts Property and Elders Bathurst will be offering for sale by auction the adjoining properties Linden Park (612 Ha) and Summer Hill Creek (258 Ha) located in the Caloola district, approximately 30km from Bathurst and 26 km from Blayney.

These properties will go to auction in July and would ideally suit someone looking to expand their sheep breeding or cross-bred lamb enterprise.

For more information contact Angus at Hill and Crofts on 0427 682121.



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