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## NEWSLETTER

**October 2023**

### Red Mites in the Chicken Coop

With the weather warming up, we need to be thinking about keeping those pesky red mites under control. Mites can survive the harshest of winters and start to breed up once the warmer weather comes. They are often introduced by wild birds so try to keep your coop as bird proof as you can and don't leave food inside the coop that will attract wild birds in.

Give your coop a spring clean. Hose or waterblast, scrub perches and nesting areas. Once dry, spray with Neem Oil ensuring you get in to all the cracks and crevices where mites like to hide. Change all bedding and nesting material, and sprinkle with Smite or DeBug Powder. Retreat with the powder on a weekly bases.

Available from  
Kiwi Seed



### What to feed when:

**Chick crumble:**  
birth to 6 weeks of age

**Pullet grow meal or Pellets**  
6 weeks to 20 weeks

**Layers Meal**  
20 weeks onward

**Layers Pellets**  
20 weeks onward

**Layers Pellets Extra**  
(Layers Pellets, grit, wheat,  
corn and peas)  
20 weeks onward

**Meat bird crumble  
designed for**  
broilers, turkeys, ducks and  
gamebirds.

## Kiwi Seed Layer Pellets & Meal

TOP QUALITY, NUTRITIONIST FORMULATED  
including Meat and Bone Meal, 19% Protein and 4% Calcium  
"Your Chooks will love you for it."

### WHAT TO FEED DOMESTIC DUCKS

Ducklings from 0 - 2 weeks can be fed on a commercial Meatbird Crumble as these are high in protein and are non-medicated. The danger of feeding ducklings medicated chick starter is that they eat a lot more than chicks so can become over medicated. Coccidiosis is also quite rare in ducks so medication is unnecessary. Ducklings require a good supply of Niacin (Vit B3) to develop correctly. Foods that are a good source of Niacin include:

Peas, Tuna (Packed in water), Salmon, Sardines (packed in water) and Pumpkin.

Ducklings 3 - 20 Weeks require less protein to prevent "Angel Wing". Dilute your Meatbird Crumble down with 20% Rolled Oats. Continue supplementing with Niacin rich foods. Make sure they now have access to shell grit. Can introduce greens (lettuce, grasses, herbs, etc) now. Also treats like mealworms.

Adult Ducks 21 weeks + can now be switched to Meatbird Pellets or Hen Layer Pellets. You will no longer need Niacin rich foods in their diet.

Also offer

\*crushed oyster shells (great source of calcium for laying ducks)

\*lettuce/greens (opt for darker greens like kale or romaine – but do not feed them spinach as this can effect their calcium absorption causing issues with laying and egg binding)

\*herbs – toss some in their water or pool and watch them fish them out. Pretty much any fresh herb will be appreciated but some to try include oregano, parsley, basil, mint, sage, dill and marjoram

\*weeds – only if your yard has not been treated with any chemicals please! Some favourites include dandelions (flowers & leaves), clover & chickweed

Always have fresh/clean water available at all times (all ages and stages)

## Spring = Itchy Dogs

Here are a few ideas to help your dog become less itchy over the warmer months

- Regular good quality flea control – while some dogs can be allergic to fleas, and even in those who are not, one flea on an already itchy dog can send its itch into overdrive.
- A good diet containing no beef such as Coprice Family Dog or Our range of frozen Raw Food will keep food allergies related itchiness at bay.
  - Shampooing with an appropriate dog such as Lillidale Itchy Wash.
- Omega 3 fatty acid supplementation such as FourFlax Skin & Coat to reduce inflammation, moisturise the skin, and aid in the skin's protective barrier.

For dogs that have irritated skin use OmegaFlex Itchy Skin Relief to Hydrate, soothe, calm and nourish the skin.





If you haven't already, sow lawn seed to patch up bare spots in your lawn.  
Talk to us about the mix that would best suit your needs.

Stop Slugs and Snails from attacking your seedlings by sprinkling Yates Blitzem pellets around them.  
For a more natural protection use Debug powder.

Check out our range of Mr Fothergills seeds in store and grab a bag of Daltons Seed Raising Mix to start growing your veges for the summer.

Liquid feed all plants with Maxicrop to help grow strong plants.

Plant new roses and use Daltons Compost and Nitrophoska Fertiliser at planting time.

## Seed Potatoes available in store

Buy 1 or many.

Old fashion favourites and some new varieties for  
you to try



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## THE GREAT KIWI SEED DOGGY BAKE OFF & BAKE SALE

**SATURDAY 4 NOVEMBER—9AM**

Enter your favourite dog treat recipe to be in to win great prizes!

Grab your entry form in store or email  
[orders@kiwiseed.co.nz](mailto:orders@kiwiseed.co.nz)

All proceeds from the bake sale will go to Marlborough 4 Paws  
(Please bring cash to purchase baking on the day)



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## Wildflowers for Marlborough blended here at Kiwi Seed

Talk with Bruce or Leila about what you can do to increase beauty and  
biodiversity on your property.



We would like to do our bit for the environment by sending out our accounts and newsletters via email.

Please subscribe by emailing us at [info@kiwiseed.co.nz](mailto:info@kiwiseed.co.nz).

You can also use the same address to unsubscribe from the newsletter if you wish.

**Thank you from all at Kiwi Seed.**