

Ruminants

**FEEDS FOR SHEEP, GOATS, DEER,
PET PIGS & EXOTIC HERBIVORES**



VERSELE-LAGA

Nutrition inspired by nature

Dear Customer,

In 1937 the visionary founder Prudent Versele started an animal feed company in Deinze, Belgium. Already in the beginning of the thirties he decided to specialize in the production of compound feed.

The 'market' was highly positive and the brand name Versele soon became a synonym of quality, customer orientation and expertise. Now after more than 70 years, Versele-Laga is an internationally renowned company in the animal feed and animal care sector.

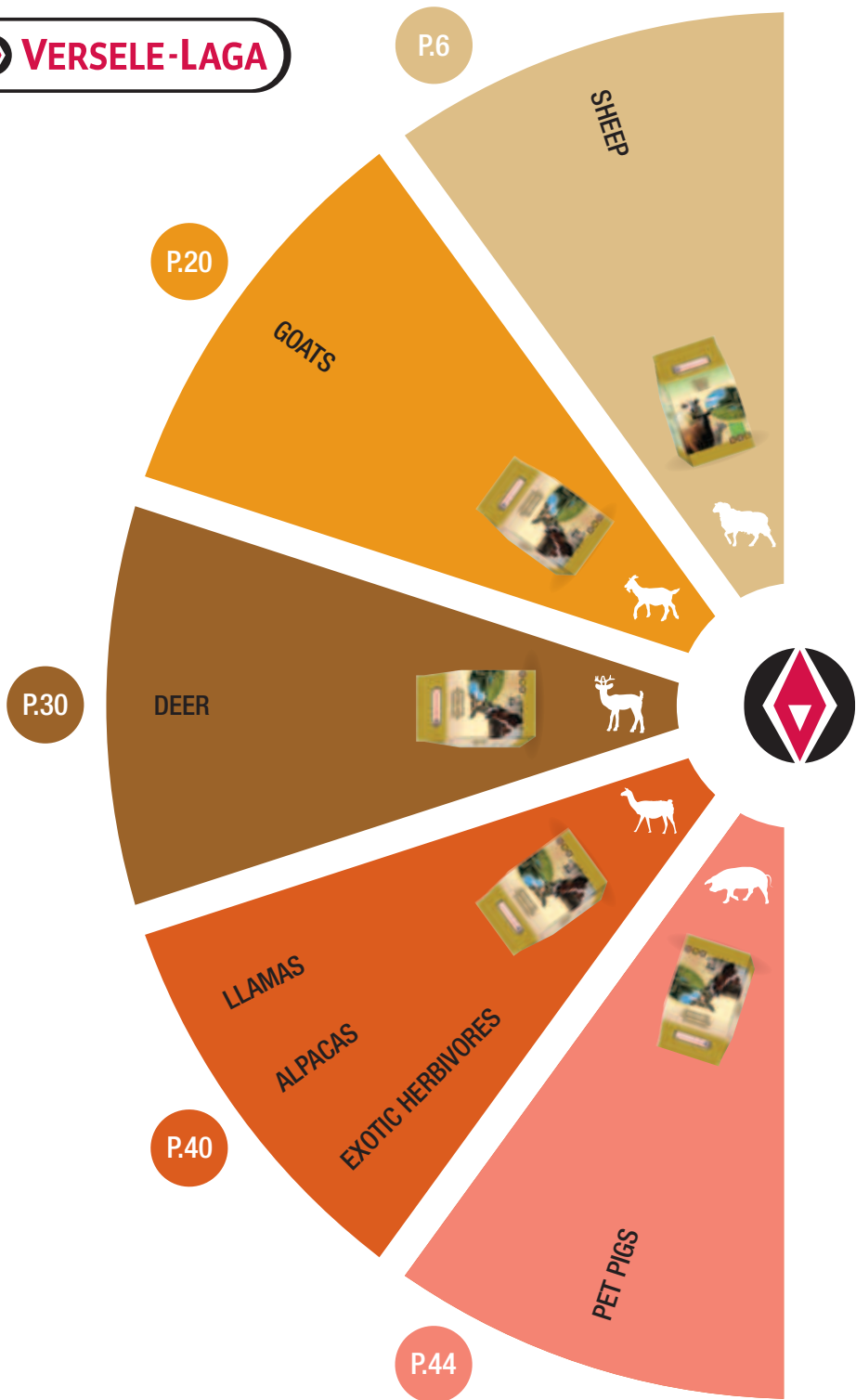
For Versele-Laga "Nutrition inspired by nature" is more than just a slogan. It is a way of life and work, a message that is put into practice with great enthusiasm every day.

Versele-Laga feed for farmyard animals consists of vegetable raw materials that are selected with the utmost care. Its balanced composition guarantees an improvement of the physical condition, the resistance and the general health of the animals.

Our products are further developed, refined and adjusted continuously. This is done in close cooperation with nutritionists, veterinarians, universities, research centers, breeders and sporting clubs. Furthermore, we have an own research team that thoroughly tests the products with regards to taste, quality and natural digestion.

Because only the best is good enough for your animals.







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100% Appetit Use of top quality ingredients guarantees good intake.



Natural Does not contain animal raw materials. Made from top quality, selected ingredients.



Cu Low Made from raw materials low in copper to prevent copper poisoning.



Opti-Coat Extra addition of essential fatty acids, vitamins and zinc for a glossy coat.



Sheep

Whose heart doesn't melt at the sight of a newborn lamb in a pasture? Sheep form part of our natural environment. They make good pets, but they are also useful animals, providing humans with delicious meat, warm wool and even milk.

Ovi

Healthy sheep require good care and an appropriate balanced diet. This means that the feed level must be constantly adapted depending on age, developmental phase and production level. Versele-Laga's Ovi range contains a number of well-balanced feeds, each of which is tailored to the needs of your sheep. As some breeds of sheep are highly sensitive to copper, all our feeds are copper-free.

OVIGRAN

25 KG

ENERGY RICH PELLETS FOR BOTH BREEDING AND MEAT LAMBS

Ovigran is an energy rich **pellet feed** that can be given to lambs **from the age of 3 weeks to 1 year old**. The high energy content ensures that lambs grow quickly and makes them ready for slaughter at a young age.

25 KG ART. NO. 451136 - EAN 5410340511367



OVIMASH

20 KG

FLAKE MIXTURE FOR LAMBS AND FULLY-GROWN SHEEP

Ovimash is a universal **flake mixture**, suitable for all types of sheep and lamb from the age of **6 weeks** onwards. In addition to pellets, this mixture also contains corn and barley flakes and it is ideal for the care of your animals.

20 KG ART. NO. 451194 - EAN 5410340511947



OVIPEL

GESTATION PELLET FOR NURSING EWES

The **increased protein content** of Ovipel helps to ensure milk yield is optimally stimulated in nursing ewes. This means that lambs receive all the essential nutrients they need for a balanced growth.

25 KG ART. NO. 451135 - EAN 5410340511350

25 KG



OVI ALLROUND

BASIC PELLETS FOR LAMBS AND FULLY-GROWN SHEEP

Ovi Allround is a **pellet feed** suitable for all types of sheep and lamb from the age of **6 weeks** onwards. This feed is ideal for the maintenance of your sheep and mixed herds.

25 KG ART. NO. 451158 - EAN 5410340511589

25 KG



OVI GRAN

ENERGY RICH PELLETS FOR BOTH
BREEDING AND MEAT LAMBS



OVI MASH

FLAKE MIXTURE FOR LAMBS AND
FULLY-GROWN SHEEP

OVIMILK

ARTIFICIAL MILK POWDER FOR LAMBS

Ovimilk is soured artificial milk for lambs up to a maximum age of **16 weeks**.
This **milk powder** contains 50% skimmed milk.

5 KG ART. NO. 451137 - EAN 5410340511374

25 KG ART. NO. 451138 - EAN 5410340511381

5 KG // 25 KG



OVILIC

MINERAL BUCKET FOR SHEEP

Ovilic is a **mineral bucket** which perfectly meets the daily vitamins, minerals and trace elements requirements of both ewes and lambs. This feed does not contain any added copper. The added herbs and plant extracts (garlic, thyme, Corsican moss, male fern, goosefoot and wormseed) reduce the risk of worm infestation and help to keep the hind quarters clean, resulting in a lower risk of the dreaded myiasis disease.

20 KG



20 KG ART. NO. 451199 - EAN 5410340511992



OVIPEL

PROTEIN RICH PELLET
FOR NURSING EWES



OVI ALLROUND

BASIC PELLETS FOR LAMBS
AND FULLY-GROWN SHEEP



OVIMILK

ARTIFICIAL MILK POWDER
FOR LAMBS



Feeding schedule

	ANIMAL'S LIFE PHASE	FEED	CHARACTERISTICS	FORM
FULLY-GROWN SHEEP	Maintenance or rest	Ovimash	Tasty muesli	Pellets + flakes
		Ovi Allround	Maintenance pellets	Pellets
	Flushing	Ovimash	Tasty muesli	Pellets + flakes
		Ovi Allround	Maintenance pellets	Pellets
	Gestation	Ovimash	Tasty muesli	Pellets + flakes
		Ovi Allround	Maintenance pellets	Pellets
		Ovipel	Gestation pellets	Pellets
	Lactation	Ovipel	Gestation pellets	Pellets
LAMBS	Day 1 - weaning	Ovimilk	Artificial milk	Powder
	3 weeks - weaning	Ovigran	Growth pellets	Pellets
EWE LAMBS	Weaning - end of growth	Ovimash	Tasty muesli	Pellets + flakes
		Ovi Allround	Maintenance pellets	Pellets
MEAT LAMBS	Weaning - ready for slaughter	Ovigran	Growth pellets	Pellets

ALL SHEEP FEEDS ARE COPPER-FREE



The right feed at the right time

FULLY-GROWN SHEEP

Sheep are kept in pastures for most of the year. The most important thing ruminants need is roughage, but the quality of the pasture also contributes to a balanced diet. For fully-grown sheep, the need for concentrated feeds depends on the weight of the animal and the availability of quality roughage.

The weight of a fully-grown sheep varies greatly from breed to breed. In general, rams weigh more than ewes, so they have a greater need for concentrated feeds.

For **fully-grown sheep** in a rest or maintenance phase, we recommend **Ovimash** or **Ovi Allround**. In summer, when plenty of roughage is available, 250g per sheep per day should be sufficient. In winter, this amount should be increased to 500 g.

If you are looking to prepare your sheep for the breeding season or want to flush your ewes, **Ovimash** or **Ovi Allround** are ideal. Give your sheep an additional 200 g up to as much as 500 g per animal per day for at least 3 weeks before breeding.



FLUSHING

The term **flushing** is well-established among sheep keepers. Flushing means increasing feeding levels just before and during the breeding season in order to increase fertility. When the nutritional state of a ewe improves, it has a positive effect on its general condition. However, it is not possible to bring animals in bad condition up to top condition in these three weeks. You should therefore make sure you keep an eye on the condition of your sheep, and avoid under- or overfeeding.

DURING GESTATION

After tupping successfully, a ewe will become pregnant. **The first month** is when the risk of the embryo dying is at its highest. During this month, the most important thing is to meet the animal's basic needs and keep additional feeds to a minimum. In summer, roughage on the pasture will usually suffice. In winter, we recommend adding 150 g of **Ovimash** or **Ovi Allround** to roughage, which is often less rich in protein than it is in summer.

In the second and third months of the gestation, the diet should not be too energy rich, in order to avoid excess fat and overweight lambs. It is therefore best to limit the amount of concentrated feeds during this time.

At the end of the gestation period, during the last six weeks, lambs grow very quickly in the womb. This means that the need for nutrition increases. Because of this, the ewe should be given more food of a higher quality than just roughage to eat, which will prevent acetonaemia in ewes carrying multiple lambs.

Lambs with a high birth weight are full of life, have better immune systems and will grow better. However, you should make sure your lambs do not become too heavy, which could result in complications at birth and could be fatal.

Plenty of concentrated feeds should be given to ensure your ewe reaches its target weight of around 80 kg during the last 4 weeks of gestation. In winter, this weight can be achieved with an additional 250 g to 500 g of **Ovipel**. In summer, feed up to an additional 250 g.



ACETONAEMIA

Acetonaemia or pregnancy toxemia is caused by a shortage of energy in ewes. The risk of this disease is highest during the final weeks of the gestation, when a ewe has a higher body temperature and there is less space for food in its stomach. If sufficient amounts of nutrients are not taken in, the ewe will need to use reserves in its body. When the body reserves become too low, the general condition of the sheep will quickly deteriorate, and viability of the lambs will be reduced. Sheep with too much body fat are also susceptible to this disease. It is also best to avoid stress, illness or sudden changes in diet.

DURING LACTATION (BEFORE WEANING)

The growth rate of lambs is determined by different factors, such as correct nutrition, genes and health. In the first few months after birth, the mother's milk production is determinant for the growth of the lambs.

Optimal milk production can be achieved by providing lactating ewes with 1 kg of **Ovipel**, in addition to good roughage. If only low quality roughage is available, which may happen in winter, this ration may even be increased.

You should keep an eye on the milk yield and general condition of a ewe to prevent exhaustion. In case of insufficient milk yield or unusually large litters, raising the lambs on artificial milk is recommended. It is also highly recommended to give 150 g of **Ovigran** per day to lambs over 3 weeks old. This portion of **Ovigran** should of course be kept out of the ewe's reach.

Lambs can be weaned from the age of 5 or 6 weeks, or whenever they have reached a body weight of around 15 kg. During the weaning period, the amount of milk will be replaced with water.



COLOSTRUM

At birth, lambs will only retain a limited supply of nutrients. If the lambing process goes correctly, the ewe will immediately feed the lambs milk. This first milk (colostrum) not only contains the necessary nutrients, but also antibodies against a range of diseases. It is therefore very important that newborn lambs get enough colostrum to drink.

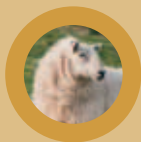
THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL MILK

Lambs can be weaned after their first day, during which they will have received sufficient amounts of colostrum from their mother. If it is necessary to change to feeding artificial milk, it is best not to leave lambs with their mother for too long, as this makes it more difficult for them to get used to artificial teats.

It is also possible to milk colostrum into a jug, in order to bottle feed it to lambs. The advantage of this is that they will get used to the lamb bar (bucket with artificial teats) even quicker.

On the first day a 0.3 litre bottle (minimum) should be given four or five times. **From the second day** colostrum should be replaced by artificial milk **Ovimilk** and lambs can start to use the lamb bar. The milk must be prepared as directed, and should only be given once it has settled at ambient temperature.

AGE	OVIMILK/DAY	NUMBER OF MEALS
Day 2 - 7	1 litre	4
Week 2	1 litre	3
Week 3 - 4	1,5 litre	3
Week 5 - 6	1 litre	2



THE IDEAL ENVIRONMENT FOR SHEEP

- It is best to take sheep off the pasture during autumn and winter in order to preserve the grass.
- Make sure there is plenty of drinking water. After lambing, a ewe can easily drink 5 to 10 litres of water per day.
- Provide adequate fencing, so that your sheep do not wander off onto new pastures.



PROBLEM-FREE REPRODUCTION

- A sheep's gestation period is 147 days on average, and its heat cycle lasts around 17 days.
- Most breeds of sheep go into heat when the days start to shorten, usually from August to January.
- Ram lambs should be weaned promptly to prevent them from mating with their mother or sisters.
- Keep track of mating. This way, you will be able to better predict when lambing will take place.
- Use a different marking colour for each heat cycle to ensure you know for certain whether sheep have mated.

RAISING EWE LAMBS AFTER WEANING

Lambs will usually grow if you let them graze on the pasture. For optimum growth, young lambs should have access to good grass: preferably young grass, or grass which has not been grazed by ewes and their lambs in spring.

The weather can be an uncertain factor when it comes to allowing lambs onto the pasture. A lot of rain will make the grass too wet for lambs to obtain sufficient dry nutrients from it, but long-term drought can drastically reduce the amount of grass available.

Additional concentrated feeds should be given if the quality or availability of grass is unsatisfactory.

Ewe lambs raised with the intention of replacing the sheep stock should be fed in a way that they reach a weight of at least 40 kg at six months old, before mating.

Ovimash or **Ovi Allround** can be used as concentrated feed. The amounts to be given will depend on the season, the quality of roughage available and the pasture.



TIPS FOR RAMS AND EWES

- Sheep are first and foremost ruminants, and they must have access to roughage. Their daily diet should not contain more than 60% of concentrated feeds.
- The weight of a ewe usually varies between 60 and 80 kg. For a ram, it can easily vary between 80 and 115 kg.

PREPARING MEAT LAMBS FOR SLAUGHTER

Meat lambs can be raised either on pastures or in a stable until they are ready for slaughter. If you choose to raise them on pasture, then protein-rich **Ovigran** is a good choice.

From their third week onwards, the young lambs can be given 150 g Ovigran per day. As soon as you start weaning the lambs, this amount may be increased to 250 g per day and it should then steadily be increased up to 500 g per day.

Providing concentrated feeds - in addition to the available roughage - has many advantages: better growth, higher carcass quality and quicker delivery of lambs, or heavier lambs. Differences in the quality of the available roughage will also be accommodated more easily.

If lambs are raised for slaughter in a stable, their diet should mainly consist of concentrated feeds. Take into account that sheep are ruminants, and will always need roughage. This means that their daily diet should not contain more than 60% of concentrated feeds. For good results, it is recommended that each animal is given at least 250 g of hay per day in addition. Another option is an unlimited amount of good silage, and about 500 g **Ovigran**.



PREPARING FOR SLAUGHTER

- The time at which lambs are ready for slaughter depends greatly on their breed.
- Texel lambs are usually ready for slaughter at around 4.5 months, with a weight of about 45 kg.
- Suffolk sheep are ready for slaughter as soon as they reach 3.5 months and a weight of 35 to 40 kg.
- Hampshire lambs, a rustic breed which matures early, possess an excellent meat quality up to a living weight of 20 to 25 kg. Once this weight has been exceeded, the lambs will be too fatty.



Goats

Goats have strong herd animal instincts, which means they really appreciate company. They also add plenty of liveliness to your surroundings. They're energetic animals, and they really enjoy climbing, which of course means that they require feeds tailor made for them.

Capri

When it comes to food, goats can be quite fussy. Because of this, a diet that is varied and above all appetizing is the basic requirement to keep your goats healthy. Just as with humans, feeding levels and the types of food needed vary depending on age, developmental phase and even production level. With its Capri range, Versele-Laga offers you a choice of well-balanced feeds.

CAPRIFLOC

20 KG

SUPPLEMENTARY FLAKE MIXTURE

Balanced mixture of **pellets and flakes** suitable for goat kids from the age of **3 weeks to 3 months** old.

20 KG ART. NO. 451133 - EAN 5410340511336



CAPRINA

25 KG

SUPPLEMENTARY MAINTENANCE PELLETS

Caprina is a quality **pellet** feed suitable for all types of goats and dwarf goats from the age of **3 months** onwards. Caprina is especially suited to keeping the milk production of dairy goats as high as possible.

25 KG ART. NO. 451196 - EAN 5410340511961



CAPRIMASH

20 KG

SUPPLEMENTARY FLAKE MIXTURE

This maintenance feed is suitable for goat kids from the age of 3 **months** onwards, and for **fully-grown animals**. The mixture consists of pellets with corn and barley flakes, which greatly improves taste and intake.

20 KG ART. NO. 451140 - EAN 5410340511404



CAPRINA
SUPPLEMENTARY
MAINTENANCE PELLETS



CAPRIFLOC
SUPPLEMENTARY
FLAKE MIXTURE



CAPRIMASH
SUPPLEMENTARY
FLAKE MIXTURE

Feeding schedule

	ANIMAL'S LIFE PHASE	FEED	CHARACTERISTICS	FORM
FULLY-GROWN GOATS AND DWARF GOATS	Maintenance or rest	Caprina	Maintenance and gestation pellets	Pellets
		Caprimash	Tasty muesli	Pellets + flakes
	Gestation (2nd month - end)	Caprina	Maintenance and gestation pellets	Pellets
		Caprimash	Tasty muesli	Pellets + flakes
	Lactation	Caprina	Maintenance and gestation pellets	Pellets
KIDS	Day 1 - weaning	Ovimilk	Artificial milk	Powder
	3 weeks - weaning	Caprifloc	Growth mixture	Pellets + flakes
	Weaning - end of growth	Caprina	Maintenance and gestation pellets	Pellets
		Caprimash	Tasty muesli	Pellets + flakes
DAIRY GOATS	Milk production	Caprina	Maintenance and gestation pellets	Pellets



TIPS ON AN APPROPRIATE ENVIRONMENT FOR YOUR GOATS

- Provide a stable which is draught free and watertight, made from solid and resistant materials. Ensure that the stable can be ventilated.
- It is not necessary to insulate the stable because goats are perfectly equipped for winter.
- Make sure the stable is sufficiently high up to prevent rain or ground water from entering. You could also lay a concrete floor.
- Goats can be allowed on to pasture both in summer and winter, but they still need a place to shelter from rain.



The right feed at the right time

In addition to roughage such as wheat, straw, hay, grass and beets, concentrated feeds are an important element of the diet. Above all, goats are ruminants, and they must have access to roughage at all times. Because of this, their daily diet should not contain more than 60% of concentrated feeds.

FULLY-GROWN GOATS AND DWARF GOATS

For fully-grown goats, the required amount of concentrated feeds depends upon the quantity and quality of the available roughage (grass, hay...) and the season (summer or winter).

In spring and summer, when there is plenty of grass, the risk of nutritional problems is particularly low. However, it is recommended that some hay is provided in the morning to stimulate good digestion. Also, make sure there is always plenty of water.

For the maintenance of your fully-grown animals **Caprina** or **Caprimash** are good choices. An amount of 200 to 300 g per animal per day is plenty to satisfy the daily care needs of your animals.

For pregnant goats, we recommend a steady increase in the amount of concentrated feeds only after about 2 months. The amount of concentrated feed given should reach 600 g to as much as 800 g per animal per day as kidding approaches.

Dwarf goats will equally enjoy these products. However, they can easily become overweight, so concentrated feeds should be given with due care.

In summer, the amount of **Caprina** or **Caprimash** should be limited to between 50 and 100 g. In winter, when there is less quality roughage available, this ration may be increased to a maximum of 150 g per animal per day.

DURING LACTATION

When a kid is born, it is very important to feed it its first colostrum within the first two hours. During its first two days, the young kid should take in about 100 ml per kg of body weight.

It is best to feed colostrum in a number of small portions, spread out across 3 or 4 meals per day. This lessens the risk of stomach and intestinal problems.

After the colostrum period (the kid's first two days), you can change to goat's milk. Should lactation problems occur, you could give artificial milk at any time (see "Using artificial milk" on page 16).

As soon as the kids are able to eat concentrated feeds (**Caprifloc**), you should make these available to them. Keep in mind however that no more than 500 g should be given to any animal in a day. As soon as the weather is good enough, the kids can join the herd on the pasture.



GOAT REPRODUCTION

- Goats go into heat when days start to get shorter. Autumn (August-December) is the primary mating season.
- The heat cycle lasts between 18 and 30 days.
- The kidding season occurs in spring, reaching a peak in February and March.
- Kids reach sexual maturity around the age of 4 or 5 months. However, make sure that they do not mate before the age of 7 to 8 months.

RAISING GOAT KIDS

After lactation, young kids should change from milk to solid food. Before starting the weaning process, you should check whether the kids are ready. The following conditions should be kept in mind:

- the kid should weigh at least 10 kg;
- it should be at least 6 weeks old;
- it should eat around 250 g **Caprifloc** per day;
- it should be in good condition.

Depending on the condition of the kid, weaning can be brought forward or delayed. During the weaning process, it is important not to make too many changes all at once.

The composition of a goat kid's diet is heavily dependent on the foodstuffs used. For very young kids, it is best to use **Caprifloc**, because this mixture is easy to eat and digest. The largest part of its diet should consist of roughage, which stimulates stomach development.

From the age of around 3 months onwards, the kids can change to maintenance pellets such as **Caprina** or **Caprimash**. In principle, the kids should each be given up to 500 g per day, up to the age of 5 months. If unlimited amounts of concentrated feeds are given, kids between 4 and 5 months old could eat up to 1 kg each, which significantly increases the risk of them becoming overweight.

Once they get past 5 months, if the kids have developed normally and if plenty of good quality roughage is available, 300 g per kid per day should be sufficient.

As a guideline, kids should reach an average weight of 35 kg at 7 months, if their development has not been interrupted.

DAIRY GOATS

Dairy goats continue to lactate. A lactation period lasts for around 300 days, and their diet should consist mainly of concentrated feeds. However, the amount of roughage should still be maintained at around 20%, because a lower amount could cause stomach and intestinal problems.

During the first 100 days of the lactation period, dairy goats have a negative energy balance, meaning they use more energy than they can take in via their food. The consequence of this is that the goat's body weight will drop dramatically. In order to prevent exhaustion, the amount of concentrated feed should be steadily increased with 500 g **Caprina** per animal per day, from the second week after kidding onwards.

During the second half of the lactation period, goats should be able to gain sufficient energy from their food to meet their needs. The provision of concentrated feeds should be kept at a consistently high level, to keep milk production as high as possible.

During the lactation period, goats should be allowed as much as 2 kg **Caprina** per day.

After their lactation period, it is important that the goats start their dry period in good condition. Keep providing 500 g **Caprina** or **Caprimash** at this time, in addition to good quality roughage.





Deer

The two predominant deer species to be kept in captivity are fallow deer and red deer. These beautiful, impressive animals are mainly kept in deer enclosures. Aside from a vast and varied pasture, the secret of balanced deer nutrition is additional concentrated feeds.

Capri

Just like sheep and goats, deer are true ruminants, although they differ in that they are slightly less able to digest raw fibre. A deer's metabolism is strongly influenced by the season. In winter, a deer's growth tends to stagnate, regardless of the amount of food provided. Because they have much in common with goats, the Capri range is also suitable for these animals.

CAPRIFLOC

20 KG

SUPPLEMENTARY FLAKE MIXTURE

Balanced mixture of **pellets and flakes** suitable for fawns from the age of **3 weeks to 3 months**.

20 KG ART. NO. 451133 - EAN 5410340511336



CAPRINA

25 KG

SUPPLEMENTARY MAINTENANCE PELLETS

Caprina is a high-quality **pellet** feed suitable for fawns from the age of **3 months onwards, as well as fully-grown does and stags**.

25 KG ART. NO. 451196 - EAN 5410340511961



CAPRIMASH

20 KG

SUPPLEMENTARY FLAKE MIXTURE

This maintenance feed is suitable for stags and does from the age of **3 months** onwards, and for **fully-grown animals**. The mixture consists of pellets with corn and barley flakes, which greatly improves taste and intake.

20 KG ART. NO. 451140 - EAN 5410340511404



CAPRINA
SUPPLEMENTARY
MAINTENANCE PELLETS



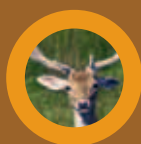
CAPRIFLOC
SUPPLEMENTARY
FLAKE MIXTURE



CAPRIMASH
SUPPLEMENTARY
FLAKE MIXTURE

Feeding schedule

	ANIMAL'S LIFE PHASE	FEED	CHARACTERISTICS	FORM
FULLY-GROWN STAGS	Rut	Caprina	Maintenance pellets	Pellets
		Caprimash	Tasty muesli	Pellets + flakes
DOES	Gestation	Caprina	Maintenance pellets	Pellets
		Caprimash	Tasty muesli	Pellets + flakes
	Lactation	Caprimash	Tasty muesli	Pellets + flakes
DEER FAWNS	Day 3 - weaning	Caprifloc	Increased protein content	Pellets + flakes
	Weaning - end of growth	Caprina	Maintenance pellets	Pellets
		Caprimash	Tasty muesli	Pellets + flakes



WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT STAGS AND DOES

- In nature, stags and does live in separate groups for a large part of the year. The doe group contains does, fawns and female fawns from the previous season.
- Deer can be a danger to humans. Stags in rut and does with fawns in particular can pose a potential threat.
- Stags and does reach sexual maturity at around the age of 16 months.
- Does will fawn for the first time at the age of 2 years.



The right feed at the right time

FULLY-GROWN DEER

Following a summer spent on pasture, deer will usually have gained enough weight to enter the rutting season. Fat reserves will have been built up to help survive the winter. Additional feeding before the rutting season is more important for stags than for does. During the rut, stags will barely eat or even not eat at all for a few weeks, leading to significant weight loss. At this time, they will often use up to 80% of their fat reserves, as well as a part of their protein reserves.

If you are looking to prevent deterioration of the animals' condition during this time, the quality of winter feeds must be excellent in order to compensate for low food intake.

The winter diet of fully-grown red deer could consist of:

- 2 kg Caprina or Caprimash per animal per day, with sufficient hay or other roughage made available;
- or 15 kg haylage per animal per day.

A stag's appetite will pick up again after the rutting season, but its energy requirements will remain relatively high at this time.



THE IDEAL HOME FOR STAGS AND DOES

- Try to keep stags and does separate from each other outside the rutting season.
- Install a fence at least 2 metres high, because deer can jump very high when startled.
- The recommended population density is 12 to 16 does with their fawns per hectare.

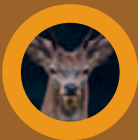
DOES DURING GESTATION

Deer are so-called “seasonal breeders”. Their fertile period starts in autumn and can last for around 4 or 5 months, reaching a peak in October and November.

The fertility cycle of a doe lasts 19 days for red deer and 22 days for fallow deer. Once a doe has become pregnant, it will take 231 days on average (234 days for fallow deer) until fawning. This means that deer young are usually born between the middle of May and the middle of July.

The body weight of does usually is determinant for the number of problem-free births. Heavier does will mostly have heavier fawns, which have a better chance of survival. However, this often will involve a greater risk of problems during fawning.

Yearling does, which have a lower chance of having a fawn because they are underweight in autumn, can still gain weight from additional feeding during the rutting season. They will enter their fertility cycle later than usual, and they could then still become pregnant.



RED DEER

- Red deer are between 162 and 200 cm long and weigh 90 to 150 kg on average.
- Their weight can reach up to 300 or 400 kg!
- Does are a third or a quarter lighter than stags.
- They have a reddish brown colour in summer and more of a brown-grey colour in winter. Fawns have spots in their fur.

The start of the gestation period usually coincides with the autumn. During this time, food intake will decrease and weather conditions will be less favourable. To prevent too much weight loss leading to a higher incidence of miscarriage, loss should be limited to a minimum of 10% during the winter months.

It is recommended that additional concentrated feeds are given (up to 500 g **Caprimash** or **Caprina** per animal per day), as well as providing hay and fresh water.

During the final 9 weeks of the gestation period, fawns will grow very quickly. As a consequence, the energy and protein requirements of does will increase, which means they will need more food. Quality spring grass satisfies these needs perfectly. Does which fawn very early or which are kept indoors do not have access to good spring grass, and they will need additional concentrated feeds. The same applies if there is a shortage of spring grass, or if it hasn't grown sufficiently.

DURING LACTATION

The milk production of does, which can reach 2 litres per day in June and July, requires a lot of energy and proteins. At this time, they will need up to twice as much energy as they did during the gestation period.

To fulfil these higher energy requirements, we recommend that you provide 500 g of **Caprimash** per doe per day, in addition to grazing.

Additional feeding in the months of August and September also prevents weight loss at the start of the rutting season.

The feeding levels of young does kept for breeding purposes are best kept high in winter.

After weaning, the energy requirements of the mother doe are not very high. However, if it has lost a lot of weight during lactation, it is very important to bring it back up to its weight from before the rut.

RAISING FAWNS

Before attempting to wean them, it is important to introduce young fawns to concentrated feeds. Because of this, we recommend that you provide **Caprifloc** from their third day onwards to stimulate stomach function. As soon as the fawns are able to take this concentrated feed, the amounts provided can be steadily increased.

In nature, fawns will start to eat some roughage as early as their second or third week. However, the amounts of concentrated feeds they consume will only become substantial from the age of 6 weeks onwards.

Fawns are gradually weaned from the age of 4 to 6 months onwards in nature. It has been known however for fawns to still suckle their mothers after reaching the age of one year. Stag fawns can be weaned as soon as they have reached 6 to 8 weeks, but it is recommended that they are weaned at around 3 to 4 months.

From the age of around 3 months onwards, we recommend changing to **Caprina** or **Caprimash**. Before attempting to wean them, fawns should be consuming sufficient amounts of roughage and concentrated feeds.

It is recommended to keep weaned red deer fawns on a good pasture, and to give them an additional 500 g **Caprina** or **Caprimash** per animal. The young can be kept with their mothers up to the age of 10 months.



FALLOW DEER

- Fallow deer are between 120 and 175 cm long.
- On average, stags weigh between 55 and 125 kg, and does between 25 to 50 kg.
- Their usual colour in the wild is reddish brown with many lighter spots and a lighter underside. In winter, their colour becomes more grey and spots will fade.

If fawns are kept indoors, a diet with unlimited amounts of concentrated feeds (**Caprina** or **Caprimash**) is a good choice. Each animal will eat around 1 kg to 1.2 kg of concentrated feed per day, in addition to as much hay as necessary.

For optimal stomach development, it is important that at least 15% of their dry feed is roughage.

From December to February, food intake will decrease and fawns will not grow very much. The amount of concentrated feeds at this time can be reduced to 500 g.

From the beginning of March onwards, food consumption will once again increase and more additional feeds can be provided. By September, slow growth during the previous winter will have been fully compensated for.

Red deer have a target weight of around 65 to 70 kg at the age of 16 months. Fallow deer should weigh 28 to 30 kg at this age.





Llamas, alpacas and exotic herbivores

Exotic animals such as camels, giraffes and elephants can increasingly be found in zoos and animal parks. Llamas, alpacas and kangaroos are also becoming a popular addition to the pastures of hobbyists.

Capri

Llamas, and alpacas in particular, are very choosy when it comes to food. They certainly won't appreciate all feeds equally. The feeds in the Capri range are the best possible choice for these types of animals too. Exotic animals such as elephants, giraffes and kangaroos are used to a poorer diet than herbivores native to our regions. To meet the nutritional needs of these animals, Versele-Laga has developed Herbikuben as a supplement to roughage.

CAPRIFLOC

20 KG

SUPPLEMENTARY FLAKE MIXTURE

Balanced **mixture of pellets and flakes**, suitable for young llamas and alpacas from the age of **3 weeks to 3 months**.

20 KG ART. NO. 451133 - EAN 5410340511336



CAPRINA

25 KG

SUPPLEMENTARY MAINTENANCE PELLETS

Caprina is a quality **pellet** feed suitable for llamas and alpacas from the age of **3 months** onwards.

25 KG ART. NO. 451196 - EAN 5410340511961



CAPRIMASH

20 KG

SUPPLEMENTARY FLAKE MIXTURE

This maintenance feed is suitable for llamas and alpacas from the age of 3 months onwards, and for fully-grown animals. The mixture consists of **pellets and flakes** of corn and barley. These ensure a better taste and increased intake.

20 KG ART. NO. 451140 - EAN 5410340511404



HERBIKUBEN

25 KG

MAINTENANCE PELLETS

This additional feed is suitable for exotic herbivores which need a **poorer diet** than goats or sheep. The pellets contain certain grains, oily seeds and the necessary vitamins and minerals.

25 KG ART. NO. 472759 - EAN 5410340727591



CAPRINA
SUPPLEMENTARY
MAINTENANCE PELLETS



CAPRIFLOC
SUPPLEMENTARY
FLAKE MIXTURE



CAPRIMASH
SUPPLEMENTARY
FLAKE MIXTURE



HERBIKUBEN
MAINTENANCE PELLETS

Feeding schedule

	ANIMAL'S LIFE PHASE	FEED	CHARACTERISTICS	FORM
FULLY-GROWN ANIMALS	Maintenance and rest	Caprina	Maintenance pellets	Pellets
		Caprimash	Tasty muesli	Pellets + flakes
	Gestation	Caprina	Maintenance pellets	Pellets
		Caprimash	Tasty muesli	Pellets + flakes
YOUNG	Week 3 - weaning	Caprifloc	Groeimengeling	Pellets + flakes
	Weaning - end of growth	Caprina	Maintenance pellets	Pellets
		Caprimash	Tasty muesli	Pellets + flakes
FULLY-GROWN EXOTIC HERBIVORES	Maintenance	Herbikuben	Less rich roughage	Pellets





Pet pigs

Anyone can tell you that dogs and cats are the most popular pets, and that pigs are mainly bred for their delicious meat. However, a large number of pig breeds have become known as real pets, and pet pigs have become part of many families.

Pet Pig Muesli

It goes without saying that the food needed by a pet pig is entirely different to that needed by a meat pig. Feeds for meat pigs tend to be aimed at quick growth and weight gain, but pet pig feeds focus more on balanced nutrition, which is not too energy-rich.

Pigs are omnivores, and they really will eat anything. This makes it all the more important that your pet pig does not become overweight, which may lead to health problems. To avoid this scenario, **Pet Pig Muesli** is the ideal choice.

PET PIG MUESLI

20 KG

FLAKE MIXTURE

This high quality, functional and complete feed for dwarf pigs and pot belly pigs has a low energy content in order to prevent obesity, and consists entirely of vegetable ingredients. The **large proportion of high quality nutritional fibres** (13%) promotes digestion and limits feelings of hunger.

20 KG ART. NO. 451103 - EAN 5410340511039



PET PIG MUESLI
SUPPLEMENTARY
FLAKE MIXTURE

Nutritional table

Crude protein	Crude fat	Crude fibre	Crude ash	Vitamine A I.U./kg	Vitamine D3 I.U./kg	Vitamine E I.U./kg	Copper mg/kg	
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SHEEP

OVIGRAN	17%	3,5%	9%	8%	10000	2000	70	0	
OVMASH	15%	4%	9%	8%	10000	2000	71	0	
OVIPEL	23%	3,5%	7,5%	8,5%	10000	2000	70	0	
OVI ALLROUND	16%	3%	9%	8,5%	10000	2000	70	0	
OVI MILK	23%	22%	< 0,1%	8%	55000	4500	80	0	
OVI LC					150000	3000	150	0	

GOATS, DEER, LLAMAS AND ALPACAS

CAPRINA	18%	4%	10,5%	8%	10000	2000	50	15	
CAPRIFLOC	15%	3%	8,5%	6%	10000	2000	50	15	
CAPRIMASH	16%	3,5%	11%	6,5%	10000	2000	50	15	

EXOTIC HERBIVORES

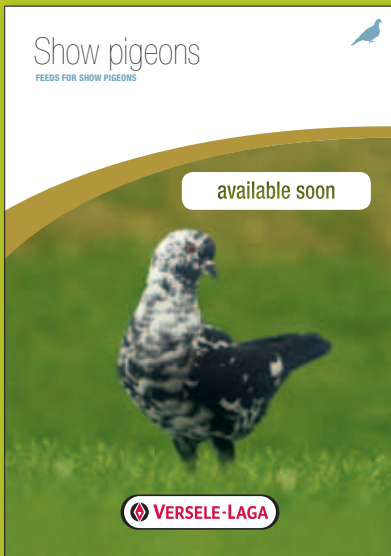
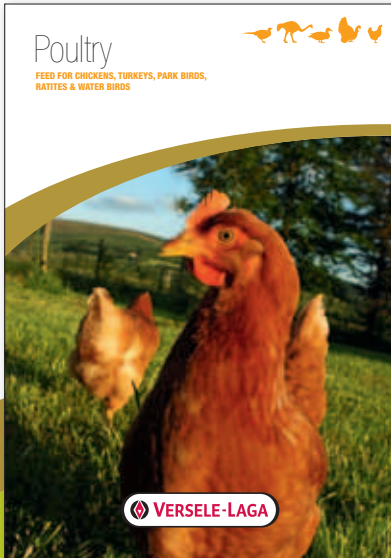
HERBIKUBEN	17%	4%	6,5%	6%	10000	2000	205	15	
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PET PIGS

PET PIG MUESLI	12,5%	2,5%	12%	6,5%	10200	1650	80	8	
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Farmyard product range

Versele-Laga offers an entire range of farmyard feeds.



For more information,
please visit our website:
www.versele-laga.com



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