

New products and equipment to 'make their house a home'

Refurbish and renew

We showcase a few of the latest products designed to help producers take the pain out of repairing, maintaining and improving cow housing and facilities during the next few months.

text **Rachael Porter**

Simple-fix sheeting

Older buildings, with aging walls and roofs, took a battering on many units this winter and Cembrit may have the solution for producers looking for a suitable replacement material for asbestos corrugated sheeting. The company's corrugated sheeting – Cemsix – has a standard imperial

six-inch corrugated profile, which is the perfect match for traditional asbestos. "This is not only important from an aesthetic point of view, but also simplifies the fixing process," says the company's Ged Ferris.

"With an identical profile all that is required is for the existing fittings to be loosened. Purlins will not need to be repositioned so there is no need for any additional work, except for drilling, mitring and sliding the replacement sheet in place.

"If several sheets need replacing, a whole column of sheets can easily be removed and replaced without damaging the integrity of the whole roof," he adds.

He also urges producers not to take risks when working at height: "We can recommend your nearest farm builder or sheeting installer for the repair and upgrade of damaged buildings."

The corrugated sheeting is available with a range of accessories enabling you to refurbish the building's perimeters, which are often the most vulnerable areas. This includes barge boards, crowns and open-vented ridges.



Update footbathing facilities

Summer presents producers with a window to improve footbathing facilities – and hoof health.

An automated spray system, which is designed to wash hooves with a measured dose of water and solution is now available from Coventry-based Pre-Treatment Solutions.

"Every cow's hooves are cleaned with

the most effective amount of water and a cleaner solution, while reducing the possibility of cross contamination, from cow to cow," says the company's Barry Clements.

The Aqua Hoof Cleaner is manufactured to using stainless and galvanised steel and he adds that it is a low maintenance, self-cleaning unit.

"It's also easy to install and offers low water and hoof care solution usage," he says.

The 'footbath' is 2.4m long, 0.97m wide and two metres high and requires a 400 volt, 16 amp electricity supply. Compressed air is also required to clear water from the pipes in freezing conditions.

Alloy hooks for hanging feeders

Alloy hooks for attaching Milk Bar feeders over rails have been introduced to provide stronger support for the larger models of the range, which is marketed by Dairy Spares. The hooks are fitted to the 10-teat compartment model and 12-teat 'open' model, and

can be adjusted to fit four different rail sizes. Both models come fitted with Milk Bar's patented teats, which make calves 'suckle not guzzle' and help to reduce the risk of scours.

The 10-teat feeder costs £232.50 + VAT and the 12-teat feeder, £208.95 + VAT.

