



## MAY NEWSLETTER 2016

**Topics: Springing into action. New bantams, new faces and a new training room.**  
**Featured product: Diatom, Our local weather forecast, Special Offers, New Products & Services**  
**Poultry Zest, Quail, Pekin Bantams, Weekend Beekeeping Course, Hatching Eggs & Plant sale**

### Springing into action

#### **New Bantams, new faces and a new training room**

Our barn is springing in to life again with all the Pekin Bantams shuffling around in their pen, more chickens visiting us boarding for their holidays, and the usual commotion from the hybrid hens when they lay their first eggs, don't they like to tell everyone!

Our little bantams have been really enjoyable with a pretty coloured feathers and little booted feather feet, they have been incredibly friendly and we are sure will become much loved pets. From this Sunday we will have our next little flock available, in a great choice of colours.

May will also see our little Quail arriving, so look out in the pens down our corridor and listen for their distinctive call. It is not long after these little birds arrive that they start to lay their speckled eggs so we will no doubt have quail eggs available soon as well.



#### **When visiting the shop you will see some new faces:**

Andrew is normally working away behind the scenes, managing our websites, social media and much more all important stuff we couldn't do without, but he has escaped from the office and is now helping out in the shop each Friday, Andrew has been with us for some time now and knows much about our business but is keen to learn more about the hands on side of what we do.

Josh has been with us for just a few weeks, helping out with the animal care and working in the shop on a Sunday. Josh has been a customer for many years, keeping chickens and bees at home, he has a great deal of experience in garden farming and has also been working in retail so it's great to welcome him to our farm.



So, please take time to say hello to them both, things can be a little hectic here at times and so it's always nice to see a customer's familiar and understanding face.



Our training room is now up and running and we held our first beekeeping course a couple of weeks ago, so don't forget to look out for new courses on our new website: <http://mantelfarmshop.co.uk/>

The next course to be held is our Beekeeping weekend in June, we have just a few spaces left, so please ask for more information if you are interested in coming along: <http://www.beekeepingcourse.co.uk/>

# This month's product feature:

## VermX Poultry Zest

Poultry Zest is specially recommended for improving all-round condition and performance in birds. It acts as a nutritional supplement that helps your birds recover quickly after moulting. Poultry Zest is invaluable for rearing poultry, ducks, geese, racing pigeons, turkeys and game birds.

Poultry Zest is enriched with Tumeric, Ginger Root, Fenugreek and Aniseed with added Sunflower Oil and Micronised Ground Wheat. Poultry Zest contains no chemicals so you can keep using your eggs whilst using Poultry Zest.

Poultry Zest is fed by adding one 5ml scoop (the scoop is included in each pack) per 10 birds into their daily feed. Poultry Zest is designed to be fed all year round but can also be used in a targeted 'pick-me-up' programme when required (for example when birds are in moult.) Full feeding instructions are shown on each pack.

**Composition:** *Micronised Wheat, Wheatfeed Meal, Wheat Meal, Aniseed, Molasses, Sunflower Oil, Ginger, Fenugreek, Tumeric.*

### New product special offer:

Recommended retail price £5.95 **Our introductory price: just £4.50**



## Our local weather forecast



April has been unusually cold, normally we'll get a warm weekend somewhere but by and large it's been very chilly, which is not good for our bees which need some extra feed to help them.

For the next week or so it is expected to remain cold and unsettled, with a mix of sunshine and showers, often accompanied by brisk winds. Not great news for the bank holiday.

May usually starts with sunny and settled weather but it doesn't look like this will be the case. Temperatures will be below average, with frost overnight, but not feeling too cold out of the wind in afternoon sunshine. Although the

nationwide prediction is for an unsettled month we should fare better down here in Sussex with some longer, drier, sunnier periods with shorter spells of rain or showers.

Off shore we are now catching Plaice in numbers and they are getting fatter better for the table. Although we're not allowed to land any Bass until the end of June they will start to move in to some inshore marks and we'll start to catch a few. Bees should start to multiply and will be flying regularly as the days warm up and we're expecting piglets will be delivered during the month which is something to look forward to.

[www.sussexanglingmedia.co.uk](http://www.sussexanglingmedia.co.uk)

# Special Offers, New Products and Services



## Poultry Zest

Ideal to give your hens a boost following a long wet winter:

**New product special offer:** Recommended retail price £5.67

**Our introductory price: just £4.50**  
**Only while stocks last**



## Quail

**Available again from 13<sup>th</sup> May:**

Quail make great little pets are easy to care for and lay lots of lovely tasty little eggs,.

Our quail are a hybrid developed for their calm nature and high egg production, they are unlike many other scatty little breeds! They make perfect pets for back garden farming, laying up to 200 eggs per year.

Available at point of lay, guaranteed girls, and just £9.50 each

[http://mantelfarmshop.co.uk/epages/950003783.sf/en\\_GB/?ObjectPath=/Shops/950003783/Categories/Poultry For Sale/Quail](http://mantelfarmshop.co.uk/epages/950003783.sf/en_GB/?ObjectPath=/Shops/950003783/Categories/Poultry%20For%20Sale/Quail)



## Pekin Bantams

**More available from 1st May:**

Pekin Bantams are a very docile friendly bird, they make a perfect pet for young children as they are easily handled and love a cuddle. They also make an excellent broody and mum to their chicks, looking after their young until they are able to fend for themselves. Pekins are a small and rounded bird, their shape often called a 'tea-cosy'. The hens can lay up to 180 small pale cream eggs a year.

**Our hens will be approximately 10 weeks old, vaccinated and guaranteed hens. £30.00 each**

[http://mantelfarmshop.co.uk/epages/950003783.sf/en\\_GB/?ObjectPath=/Shops/950003783/Categories/Poultry For Sale/%22Pekin%20Hens%22](http://mantelfarmshop.co.uk/epages/950003783.sf/en_GB/?ObjectPath=/Shops/950003783/Categories/Poultry%20For%20Sale/%22Pekin%20Hens%22)



## Weekend Beekeeping Course , just a few weeks away:

**Beginning your beekeeping weekend**  
**21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2016 9.30am - 4.30pm**

**To book:** Simply reserve a place in our shop or visit the training page on our website:

<http://www.beekeepingcourse.co.uk/beginning-your-beekeeping>



### **Hatching Eggs:**

**Several of our breeding hens have come into lay and so hatching eggs are now available:**

Including: Pekin Bantams, Wyandotte Bantams, Chamois Polish, Scotts Grey and mixed layers:

Reserve though our website or call into our shop



### **Crowhurst Horticultural Society Plant Sale:**

**For all those interested in gardening, don't forget to visit the plant stall at Crowhurst Village Market, to be held on Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup> May, 10am - noon**

*With best wishes from all at Mantel Farm*

**[www.mantelfarm.co.uk](http://www.mantelfarm.co.uk)**