

Poaching & Winter Feeding

Extracts from Nibblers online discussion forum

I do not know how you are getting on in civilisation but over here in Wales in the wild west there was a cross compliance that required all cattle feeders to be moved daily. Along with a couple of other hundred people I told them in no uncertain terms that if you put half a ton of silage in a ring feeder you cannot move it until the silage is finished. The next wheeze was that only if whole fields were cut up would this constitute a breach but now the latest rumour is that all cattle will have to be in wintered to comply.

This might be serious stuff for some of your conservation graziers, and the idea needs to be drowned before birth !

What the half wits think you should do about ground cut up near water troughs I have no idea but maybe you stop the stock from watering for the winter.

Richard M

Re water troughs

According to a recent CLA meeting, a degree of poaching around water troughs would be considered a better outcome than poaching of riverbanks or ditch edges. Water troughs should ideally be situated away from existing water courses in order to avoid run-off. Farmers would not be expected to relocate all water troughs to achieve this, but if new troughs are being installed or there is a plan to move them anyway, this should be taken into account. Also worth considering whether a concrete base should be laid to avoid excessive poaching.

Of course, it would be down to the individual inspector to decide if a breach were occurring, so just hope you get one that lives in the real world!

Cathy Wainwright
