

LKL Newsletter

February 2018



Editor: George Gordon Layout: Amanda Hargrave

FARMING FUNDING PROTECTED UNTIL 2024

Mr Gove reiterated a promise to protect the amount of money allocated to farming until 2022. He also outlined new plans to guarantee the Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) for a 'transition period' ending in 2024, five years after Brexit. BPS payments would be lowered during the transition, with either a maximum cap or a sliding scale of reductions. Gove also guaranteed no farmer entering into a Countryside Stewardship agreement before Brexit would be unfairly disadvantaged. The 'dizzily complicated' bureaucracy surrounding the scheme was lined up for the chop. Mr Gove suggested it was up to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to design their own set of rules.

FIRST MILK CUTS 1PPL

First Milk has reduced its milk price by 1p/litre from 1 February to @29.5ppl for producers supplying Lake District and Haverfordwest. Midlands & East Wales pool will receive 28.40p/litre and those in Scotland will receive 28.09p/litre.

MULLER LOST ALDI MILK CONTRACT TO ARLA

Müller have lost their Aldi milk contract to Arla who will become the main supplier of liquid milk and cream from October 2018.

TESCO + 0.07PPL TO 29.5PPL

Tesco's cost tracker has been recalculated and resulted in a modest price rise based on rising input costs.

#FEBRU DAIRY PROMOTE MILK'S BENEFITS

Please help to showcase what really happens on dairy farms as part of a month-long campaign to counter misleading dairy information online. Try and post one tweet per day using the hashtag #Februdairy.



Cow's milk is the greatest source of iodine in the British diet and a move away from dairy is likely to worsen the already high rates of iodine deficiency. Dairy alternatives derived from soya, almonds or oats do not contain the same nutrients as milk, including iodine and calcium. Low levels of iodine can lead to weight gain and mood swings and can have a significant impact on pregnant women. We need to focus on the middle ground, with reasonable arguments rather than attempt to convert vegans or those with extreme views.

PRICE FALLS

1.11ppl - Freshways to 29.46ppl. 1.75ppl - Pensworth to 28.25ppl.

MEADOW FOODS DROPS 0.75PPL

Meadow Foods will drop by 0.75ppl, taking its standard A litre milk price to 29ppl.



"Dedicated to Dairy"

ARLA DOWN 1.73PPL

This will mean a price fall to 28.2ppl liquid / 29.2ppl manufacturing. Arla have followed softer markets with a 2 eurocent reduction right across Europe to take effect from 1 February. This is likely to trigger other falls by processors. The Arla organic price is unaffected by this cut in the UK but they are cutting the organic price on the continent by 1 Euro cent.



DEFRA CONSIDER £100K SUBSIDY CAP

Defra are considering capping direct payments at £100,000. If plans go ahead, the £100,000 cap would come into effect in 2020 or 2021. Such a cap would save 9% of the English budget, but it would affect several thousand applicants who have more than 400 hectares (1,000 acres). It is thought the cap would continue to drop during the 'transition period' to end in 2024.



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NEWS

TRACTOR CRASHES INTO 130KV PYLON

A farm worker had a lucky escape after his tractor fitted with auto-steer hit a National Grid electricity pylon, demolishing the structure and causing a major power outage which left 1,300 homes without electricity. The pylon toppled over with the tractor entangled in a mesh of twisted metal and electricity cables. The accident occurred while the machine was on auto-steer, allowing the operator to concentrate on the job behind him. It took two days to free the Class Xerion tractor. On average, one farmworker dies each year as a result of contact with an overhead power line.

- Know where overhead power lines are and mark them on a map.
- Certain work should be avoided within 10m of overhead power lines, such as stacking bales.
- If contact is made when you're in a vehicle, stay in the cab.

TIPS FOR ENGAGING ONLINE TO MAKE POSITIVE POINTS ABOUT DAIRY

1. Keep answers short, positive and factual.
2. Answer and engage with sensible questions.
3. Don't reply to everybody. People who are rude or get personal will only waste your time.
4. Call out obvious untruths. Use pictures and videos where you can.
5. Don't block people. Instead, mute people who use unacceptable language or who aren't interested in a serious discussion.

TB TESTING

Farmers in TB high-risk areas will be required to test all herds more regularly from 2019. Routine six-monthly tests will be introduced for all herds in the high risk area. Defra says a stricter testing regime is necessary to identify and remove TB infected cattle more quickly. Defra has stated that TB testing can remain on an annual basis for those herds that have gone five or more years without the disease, or for farms that have been accredited under the industry-led Cattle Herd Certification Standards (CHCS) scheme. Defra announced the changes alongside its evaluation of the 2017 badger culls. 19,274 badgers were culled in 19 licensed cull zones. The latest peer-reviewed data indicates badger control has contributed significantly to reducing TB in herds. Defra said the paper showed analysis following the first two years of culling contributed to a 58% disease reduction in herds in Gloucestershire and a 21% drop in Somerset.



TB CATTLE SLAUGHTERINGS UP 6%

41,000 cattle were slaughtered due to bovine TB in the UK over the past 12 months costing UK tax payers more than £100m in 2017. TB continues to rise in England, where 31,572 TB-infected cattle were culled in the 12 months to the end of September 2017 equivalent to a 6% increase year-on-year from 29,762.

MEADOW FOODS

Meadow Foods has dropped its standard milk price by 0.75p/litre to 29p/litre.

DISCOUNTERS GROWTH

Aldi and Lidl continued their rapid growth. Both grew sales by 16.8% year-on-year in the 12 weeks to December 31, according to Kantar Worldpanel. A 22% boost in the dairy aisles, alongside a £23m increase in sales of fresh produce, helped Lidl grow its market share by 0.6%. Aldi was expecting to continue to grow in 2018 after opening 72 new stores last year, taking it to 762, with the aim of reaching 1,000 UK stores by 2022. Online supermarket sales saw their biggest ever Christmas, with sales up 4.9% year-on-year.



US EATING MORE MEAT

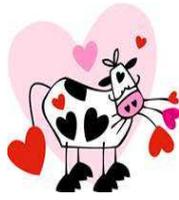
Meat consumption in the US hit a record high with the average American consuming 100.8kg. Egg demand was also expected to hit a record high, with dairy items growing in popularity.



GOAT MILK IN OVER SUPPLY

Arla has served 12 months' on all nine of its goat milk suppliers, while Abergavenny Fine Foods has given four of its 15 farmers only until April to find a new milk buyer. Arla indicated it was leaving the goat milk business altogether. Abergavenny said it was dealing with an oversupply of milk.





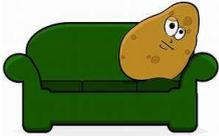
NEWS

IMPARTIAL??

The BBC has said controversial presenter Chris Packham did not breach impartiality guidelines when he told *Autumnwatch* viewers glyphosate and neonicotinoids were 'proven' to be harmful to insects.

DR GEORDIE JONES TALKED AT AHDB DAIRY-ORGANISED EVENTS - 'LET COWS BE COUCH POTATOES'

Dr Geordie Jones, who milks 3,500 Jerseys at his Central Sands Dairy in Wisconsin, and designed the 65,000 cow Fair Oaks Dairy in Indiana, said milk production would come as a result of the absence of stress. Everything we do to take stress out of the lives of cows will make more milk. 65-70% of cow problems of 'bottlenecks' on dairy farms related to cow comfort. Cows should stand to milk, stand to eat and drink and then lie down. Do not keep them away from feed, water and a bed for more than four hours. You should be feeding 5% more than what is needed. Rubbed hocks are a sign of not having enough bedding. Every time a cow moves group they lose milk, explained Dr Jones. Cows can learn 100 individual cow identities and develop a social order.



LACTALIS SCANDAL OF SALMONELLA IN BABY FORMULA

French police searched sites as part of an investigation into tainted baby food. Lactalis confirmed it is recalling 12m products from 83 countries following the detection of salmonella in its baby formula. The dairy giant first detected salmonella in August and despite an initial recall, four of France's major supermarket chains continued to sell thousands of packs of the tainted products, which have been linked to at least 37 cases of salmonella in babies in France, Spain and Greece. France exported 159,000t of infant formula between January and November 2017. French ministers are concerned the scandal will damage the reputation of its dairy products in China, which accounted for 10.2% of total French infant formula exports in 2016.



MARKETS

AHBD market indicators AMPE (Actual Milk Price Equivalent) and MCVE (Milk for Cheese Value Equivalent) fell with AMPE down 10% to 26.4ppl and MCVE down 9% at 31.9ppl.

GDT UP

Dry weather in New Zealand has driven a rise in the latest Global Dairy Trade (GDT) auction. Strong growth in milk volumes was recorded in November, but dry weather hit New Zealand. Fonterra said it expected the dry conditions to intensify as it dropped its milk collection forecast. It also expected to sell less whole milk powder (WMP) in GDT auctions, which drove the index to rise by 2.2%, with prices for skimmed milk powder increasingly by 1.6% and WMP up 4.2%.



REDUCING VOLUME OF SLURRY

Technology has the potential to reduce slurry's volume by up to 80%. Swansea-based Power and Water, a company specialising in electrochemical-based water treatments, is working with Gelli Aur College to trial technology which filters slurry. This de-watering and purification technique produces water of a quality suitable for recycling or discharging into watercourses. The aim is to reduce significantly the risk of air and water pollution while maximising nutrient values. If the project at Gelli Aur is successful, it could result in the technology being rolled out commercially.





PEOPLE CELEBRATING SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS!

Dumitru Diaconu, Tim Stevenson, Tomasz Osiewala,

WELCOME TO: FARMERS

R J & S McKie, Newer Farms



I hate when people ask me what I'm going to be doing in 2 years.... like c'mon guys I don't have 2020 vision

Congratulations to Ashley and Eleanor Grabham on the birth of their son, Arthur, who was born on 16 January weighing 4lbs 11oz. Both mum and baby are doing well!

Lost dog found on Chamberlin rd, no collar, and seems to be a bit aggressive. Also doesn't like baths but she was pretty dirty. Took most of the night, but she's resting comfy now on the bed.

A cold winter day. A woman called her husband. Wife: "The car is not starting. Dashboard shows the sign of a person sitting on toilet." Husband:



"What...?? Send me a picture."



Allison Pohle
@AllisonPohle • 17/10/2017
Someone in the neighborhood Facebook group my mom belongs to washed a coyote because they thought it was a dog

My email password has been hacked again! It's the third time I've had to rename the cat!



I entered what I ate today into my new fitness app and it just sent an ambulance to my house.

iPhone8 (X) has facial recognition. It looked at my face and told me that I can't afford it ...



LKL Services Ltd
Agriculture House / Unit C
Old Sarum Park
Salisbury
Wiltshire SP4 6EB
Phone: 01722 323546
Fax: 01722 335350
amanda.hargrave@lkl-services.co.uk
george.gordon@lkl-services.co.uk



www.lklservices.co.uk