

LKL Newsletter December 2018



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ARLA CUT 0.86PPL TO 31.57PPL

Arla Liquid is similarly cut to 30.35ppl. Arla Organic increases 1.72ppl to 42.71 liquid and 44.43ppl manufacturing.



MILK PRICES

- Cost of production contracts up
- Some hold
- Some falling

0.43ppl milk price increase for Waitrose from 1 December, a milk price of 31.85ppl.

Muller confirmed a 1ppl price drop for 1 December to 28.5ppl.

1ppl milk price reduction for Glanbia. Liquid milk price of 27.99ppl and manufacturing 29.00ppl.

1ppl reduction for Meadow Foods to 28.5ppl.

1ppl reduction for Pensworth to 28.8ppl.

1ppl reduction for Yew Tree Dairy to 28.5ppl.

Wyke hold until 1 January 2019 at 29.65ppl.

Lactalis hold at 29.00ppl and manufacturing 30.03ppl.

Barber's hold liquid litre at 29.58ppl and manufacturing 30.68ppl.

First Milk hold liquid milk price of 28.9ppl, manufacturing 29.47ppl.

RURAL PAYMENTS AGENCY CONFIRMS BPS 2018 RATES

The 2018 rate will be: £93.77/acre.

MULLER INTRODUCES NEW 0.5PPL PREMIUM

Muller announced a new initiative offering a premium to Muller Direct farmers committing to health and welfare standards in 2019, worth 0.5ppl. Farmers will have to sign up to three initiatives, an on-farm health and welfare assessment, the Muller Direct antibiotic programme and the national Johnes management plan.

MILK PRODUCTION UP 2%

World milk production is forecast to reach 827m tonnes (803bn litres) in 2018, up 2.0% from 2017, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation. Milk outputs are expected to increase in all major regions. World dairy exports are forecast to reach 75m tonnes, up 2.5%.



UK HERD DECREASE TO 1.57M

The GB milking herd is down 23,000-head or 1.3%, according to BCMS data, shrinking by 3.4% since the beginning of 2016, to 1.57 million-head. UK milk volumes averaged 38.61m litres per day, 1.28% more than last year and 3.5% more than the long-term average.

LARGE DAIRY FARMS CAN PROFIT FROM BREXIT

Larger dairy farms are set to prosper post-Brexit as a result of lower rents and cost savings. Rob Hitch, of Dodd and Co Accountants, speaking at the recent Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers business and policy conference, said the change could mean some beef and sheep units heavily relying on Basic Payments, could be forced out of business. This, he said, would have an impact on land rental prices. Smaller farms, with less than 100 cows, would also be at risk post-Brexit. He added there would potentially be other benefits post-Brexit, including savings on variable costs.



SPOT MILK AND B PRICES FALL TO 20PPL

At the time of writing spot prices have fallen to @20ppl and that price is being paid by some milk buyers with contracts on B litres currently. This B litre price has fallen from @28ppl in the summer.

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NEWS

RISKY ANIMAL TRADING ATTACKED IN NEW TB REPORT

Farmers must ramp up biosecurity and stop trading high-risk cattle according to the recent Godfray report. Its authors claimed farmers were wrong to place all the blame on badgers. Poor uptake of on-farm biosecurity measures and trading in often high-risk cattle is hampering disease control measures. Studies estimated a voluntary risk-based trading scheme might reduce the number of infected animals traded by 23% and a statutory scheme by 37%.

Other recommendations

- Investing in the creation of a DIVA (differentiating infected from vaccinated animals) test to allow cattle to be vaccinated.
- Investing in an immunocontraceptive for badgers.
- Using a more sensitive test to detect infections as early as possible.
- The caudal fold test, where tuberculin is injected into the flap at the base of the tail, is safer and quicker for vets. It is not currently approved in the EU, but is used in the USA, Canada and New Zealand.
- For herds with persistent infections, in cull areas where wildlife must not be re-infected. The review recommends combining a skin test, the interferon gamma test and the IDEXX ELISA serological test.
- Use of whole-herd slaughter when there is evidence of multiple infections with risky or reckless purchasing behaviours.
- Exploring new gene editing techniques to improve TB resistance in cattle.

GLOBAL MILK PRODUCTION AND COSTS

Global dairy farm numbers fell 1% to 118 million and milk production per farm increased by 3.8% to an average of 7300kg in 2017, according to IFCN; the total amount of milk produced to 867m tonnes. Releasing its Dairy Report 2018 the organisation calculated the average price was \$35/100kg, 26.5ppl - up 30% on 2016.



Global cost of milk production varied from US\$20-\$105/100kg, with Canada, Sweden and Finland having the highest cost of \$60/100kg upwards. China's cost was between \$50 and \$60/100kg; and most of Europe was at \$40-\$50/100kg. The UK was generally put at \$30 and \$40/100kg, about 26p. Australia and New Zealand had some of the lowest at between \$20 and \$30/100kg.

MAJOR €40M DAIRY RESEARCH CENTRE

Ireland's ministry of agriculture have opened a major €40m dairy research centre in Cork - The VistaMilk SFI Research Centre.

PENSWORTH CONTRACT OUT PROCESSING TO MEDINA AND WELLS DAIRIES

Pensworth will shut their own processing facility in Southampton and contract out this to Medina (ex Watsons Dairies) and Wells Dairies. The move is an indication of the excess liquid processing capacity in the UK.

VEGANS SEND DEATH THREATS OVER TURKEY OFFER

Militant vegans made death threats to a farmer after he offered shoppers the chance to look after their Christmas turkey. Matt Carter, 35, of Exeter, posted the offer on Facebook. His post went viral, attracting more than 4,000 comments, shares and reactions, after it was picked up by angry vegans. Vandals sprayed "Murder!" and "Go Vegan" on the doors of his farm shop. The farm's butcher has since received death threats. Mr Carter said sales have soared with all the publicity and support he has received!



ATV LIFEGUARD (ANTI- ROLLOVER BAR £798)

Preventing injury from quad bike rollovers, New Zealand company Ag Tech Industries have launched ATV Lifeguard.

A flexible, horseshoe-shaped roll-over hoop that attaches to the rear rack of the bike. It will support



the weight of the machine, allowing the rider to escape safely. The Lifeguard is made from plastic segments bound together by a strap, it can deform around the rider should it land on top of them. Unlike a rigid roll-frame it spreads the weight of the bike, reducing the chance of injury. Imported by Dorset-based Handley Enterprises the ATV Lifeguard costs £798.



NEWS

ABATTOIR STAFF SHORTAGE

Staff shortages have resulted in 10,000 posts unfilled at meat plants. The lack of capacity could put traditional Christmas sales for red meat producers under threat, said British Meat Processors Association (BMPA) chief executive Nick Allen. He explained between 10% and 15% of 75,000 jobs in the meat processing industry are now unfilled. "Abattoirs have put in facilities and not got the staff to use them," he said. "It does seem to be that the salary is the issue. People simply do not want to do this work." The industry employs 69% of its workforce from other EU countries, the exodus is blamed on the declining value of the pound since the Brexit referendum reducing the attractiveness of a job to an EU worker wanting to send cash home.

DEFRA ILL-PREPARED FOR BREXIT

Michael Gove's department was criticised in a Public Accounts Committee (PAC) report. Chairwoman Meg Hillier said: "Anyone working in the dark is prone to stumble but in Defra's case I am concerned that the department has lost sight of its priorities." Six months on from PAC's last report in May 2018, the situation for Defra's stakeholders had changed 'very little'. Ms Hillier added: "Brexit border planning is not sufficiently developed, six critical IT systems are still to be tested."

GENOMIC TEST FOR IMMUNITY LEVELS

Semex has launched a genomic test to identify the healthiest cows. An average of about 16% of cows will have low levels of natural immunity, 68% will have average levels and the remaining 16% will have high natural levels. These cows have 42% less disease than the low and average groups combined. Semex claims that its new Elevate genomic test offers a way of identifying which heifers will make tomorrow's healthiest cows. It effectively offers female genomic rankings plus a trait unique to Semex, namely immune status. Farmers can improve the health status of their herd through planned breeding policies to Immunity + sires, or corrective matings and culling policies for lower immune status cows. At £26/test, Semex claims Elevate is the most competitively priced on the market.



TWO FATALITIES

Ian Whellans, 26, died in an incident involving a quad bike in Kelso on November 11. Less than 24 hours afterwards 47-year-old Neil Ironside died in a farm machinery-related incident in Turriff. His brother Alan was killed when he was dragged into a combine harvester on the same farm in 2015. The latest HSE figures showed 33 people were killed in agriculture in 2017/18 – three more on the previous year.

FIZZY KEFIR MILK

Kefir is a fermented milk drink that has a subtle fizz and a sour taste. The fizz comes from carbon dioxide, produced from the fermentation. Health benefits associated with kefir are driving the growing consumption of probiotic yoghurts and fermented dairy products. Kefir is similar to a sour yoghurt with a creamy texture. People who are lactose intolerant can drink it.



JOHNE'S TEST FOR CALVES

A new blood test for Johne's in calves as young as a day old has been developed at PBD Biotech. A 16-month trial tested the company's Actiphage Rapid Kit and compared them with a PCR test on blood and faeces. The Actiphage Rapid Kit picked up infection four weeks earlier than faecal PCR samples. Current tests can only detect the MAP (*Mycobacterium avium* subspecies paratuberculosis) in 18 to 24 month old animals and cannot distinguish between active and passive infections.

OLDER PEOPLE NEED FARM SAFETY RETHINK

The Health and Safety Executive revealed that despite making up just 10% of the national farm workforce, the 60-plus age group contributed to more than 40% of work-related fatalities; 29 in the agricultural sector, 14 of which were over the age of 65. It is worrying that half the farm workers killed (14 of 29) over the past year were over the age of 65, with three-quarters of those killed over the age of 60.



PEOPLE CELEBRATING SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS!

John Hair, Liviu-Gabriel Salajan, Josh Lewis, Boguslaw Rajm, Elliot Dineen, Edward Szewczyk, Lee Cook, Jim Phillips, Alina-Diana Vasilescu



WELCOME TO:

FARMERS

Nixon Farms Ltd, Green Lanes Farming Ltd, Rosneath Farms Ltd, Gilmans Ltd, Gosling Farming Ltd



What do you call it when a bogie comes out at 100 miles per hour?

A: Lamborgreenie!

Did you hear about the cross eyed teacher?

He was sacked for failing to control his pupils.

"This is my step ladder. I never knew my real ladder."



What is a webmaster's favourite hymn?

A: Oh, dot com all ye faithful!

A duck is standing next to a busy road, cars zooming past while he waits for a break in traffic. A chicken walks up to him and says, "Don't do it, man. You'll never hear the end of it".

What has four wheels and flies? A garbage truck.



The temptation to sing 'The Lion Sleeps Tonight' is always just a whim away a whim away.

What's the difference between a poorly dressed man on a unicycle and a well-dressed man on a bicycle? Attire.

A man is washing his car with his son when the boy goes, "Dad, can't we use a sponge?"

Why does Norway put bar codes on all of its ships? So they can Scandinavian.

Why can't you trust an atom?

Because they make up everything.



What do snowmen eat for breakfast?

A: Snowflakes.



We're heading for some very cold weather, so don't forget your anti friesian, available from all good dairy farmers. - view on instagram <https://ift.tt/2TrBgBO>

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