

SEPTEMBER 2023

# NEWSLETTER

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**The NFU has urged the government to halt reductions in BPS payments – due to fall by another £720m this year alone – until delivery problems with the new post-Brexit scheme are resolved.**

The government’s new Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) should have been up and running to deliver payments by December

However, delays in the roll-out of the farm support scheme mean most farmers are unable to access it.

The NFU warned that this delay, alongside ‘through the roof’ input costs and soaring interest rates, meant farmers were left in a ‘perilous place’.

Ministers should ‘do the right thing’ and halt reductions in BPS payments, which will fall by another £720m during this year alone.

NFU President Minette Batters said: “We

now know that farmers will not be paid this year, despite assurances that they would be.

“The old scheme goes, the new one’s not ready, and farm businesses are caught in the middle. That’s not fair and we are calling on ministers to recognise that and make it right.

“All we’re asking for is government to bridge the gap it has created by taking away one set of payments, but not delivering access to their replacements on time.”

Farmers are not the only ones affected by SFI delays. Government has legislated for environmental targets through the scheme – “public money for public goods” – and farmers have embraced that concept.

However, with the scheme delayed, a lot of on-farm environmental work it is designed to pay for cannot begin.

Ministers had committed that SFI 2023 would be open in August, with payments coming in December.

But it will now only be partially open and not until mid-September. It takes some months between a farmer being accepted on to the scheme and payment being made.

A handful of farmers were able to register ‘an expression of interest’ on 30 August and await ‘an invitation to apply’ meaning the scheme was ‘technically’ open, but the NFU said reality was ‘very different’.

*Continued page 3...*

**FUEL NEWS:** Liquid fuel industry and heat pump lobbyists in agreement over ‘unfair new oil boiler ban issues, government proposes energy bill amendment in response to industry calls to incentivise HVO **Pages 14-16**

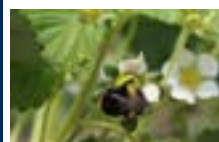
**AGRISOUTH ARABLE NEWS:** GB harvest makes good progress, but variable quality: Grain market daily, NIAB: Maize variety selection for the 2024 growing season... **Pages 6-7**

**PLANT & MACHINERY NEWS:** including - Govt invests in hydrogen-fuelled tractor manufacturing, Protect your machinery from rodents & more... **Pages 21-24**



**LIVESTOCK POULTRY & DAIRY NEWS:** AHDB DAIRY WORKSHOP: UK sheep exports see demand boost while pork and beef shipments fall & more...

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**HORTICULTURE NEWS:** Fully-funded PhDs with NIAB and the UKFS-CDT, MAC Seasonal Workers Call for Evidence from growers & more... **Pages 8-9**

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# BLEATINGS FROM RAMSAK HQ



*Dear Reader*

*Welcome to September, traditionally the month of ploughing matches and autumnal preparations, not 30 degree temperatures but let's enjoy them while they last! We would normally be reminding everyone to check their heating oil levels and plan their winter deliveries – still a wise move but also a tricky thing to think about whilst the weather is so toasty!*

*We are delighted to once again support the East Kent Ploughing Match as Main Ring Sponsors, and you will find details of their forthcoming match in the next few pages. The Weald of Kent Ploughing Match is coming up too in Chainhurst on 16th so do come along as its always a fabulous day out!*

*You may have also noticed that the 2023 Farmers Ball has now launched and several tables have already been reserved. This is always a sell-out event in aid of The Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance so don't delay in registering your interest. Last year we had a waiting list for tickets, so as they are allocated on a first come first serve basis make sure you book early!*

*Please also be reminded that we are looking for forage supplies throughout the year, but it is especially helpful to know in advance what has been put into sheds for this winter – drop us a message and let us know! We can't market it for you if we don't know about it – likewise let us know what you will be looking for and when!*

*As with everything else – the RAMSAK Team are always happy to help with a myriad of supplies and services so do give us a call!*

*The RAMSAK Team*

*01622 815356 or email [enquiries@ramsak.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ramsak.co.uk)*

*Continued from front page:*

Consequently, payments that farmers were relying on will not come this year and will come to only a handful in the early part of 2024. By comparison, the BPS had 83,000 claimants.

The false start for SFI 2023 comes as another key scheme also designed to replace EU payments, called Countryside Stewardship, has also run in to problems.

NFU vice president, David Exwood said: "Paying farmers this year was one of the government's own key tests for delivery of the scheme.

"With the scale of the roll out of SFI 23 still unclear and with many farmers still not sure what they need to do to apply, the current situation needs to be resolved quickly."

He added: "Government needs to pause BPS reductions until it can fairly deliver their replacements, otherwise it is farming businesses and farming families which are left bearing the cost."

*Source: [www.farminguk.com](http://www.farminguk.com) 7 September 2023*

## UK government must urgently set fertiliser reduction target or risk missing net zero



**Governments worldwide have committed to be 'Net Zero' and to 'balance the books' between the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced and the amount removed from the atmosphere. Achieving the target of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions means slashing emissions from fertiliser manufacture and use but the UK government's Net Zero Strategy offers no plan for tackling the problem.**

Soil Association head of farming policy

Gareth Morgan said: "It is shocking that the government's Net Zero Strategy makes only a passing mention of the impact of fossil fuel-based fertilisers on the climate and environment and even more alarming that they have no plan in place to support farmers to reduce their reliance on them. The production of nitrogen fertiliser is highly dependent on expensive and polluting fossil fuels making farmers very vulnerable to huge price spikes and global events like the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

"Agriculture and the food system are responsible for a third of all greenhouse gas emissions and failing to address this will mean that the government has simply no prospect of meeting its net zero target."

Nitrogen is a key contributor to climate change. In its active form, such as in fertiliser, it releases nitrous oxide when exposed to soil causing microbial reactions. This gas is 300 times more potent at warming the atmosphere than carbon dioxide – and it remains active for more than 100 years – almost 10 times longer than methane. These agricultural emissions contribute 25% of the particulate pollution in London's air, 32% in Birmingham and 38% in Leicester in 2019.

Morgan said: "It is vital that the government demonstrates its commitment to net zero by setting a target for reducing fossil fuel-based fertiliser in UK farming and offers incentives and advice to support farmers to reduce their dependence on nitrogen fertiliser and adopt cheaper more nature friendly approaches to fix nitrogen on their farms.

"We want all UK governments to take action on nitrogen, but we are targeting the Westminster government first, as the biggest player, because they have ultimate UK accountability for net zero and the vast majority of fertilizer use is in England."

"UK farming can't simply go cold turkey on nitrogen. However, the government and farmers can utilise the decades of experience and research in the organic farming sector – which is not permitted to use these harmful fossil fuel-based products. Organic farmers build natural fertility using nature friendly practices incorporating natural fertiliser,

*Continued...*



crops including legumes and clover in rotations, and a whole farm system approach. This experience can help conventional farmers to reduce their reliance on costly inputs which will deliver significant benefits for the climate and biodiversity.”

The Soil Association’s Innovative Farmers programme has been pioneering extensive farmer-led research across organic, agroecological and conventional farming to increase the scientific knowledge which will help farmers to produce without expensive inputs.

The sustainable food and farming charity is working with a number of farming and environmental NGOs to establish an action group on nitrogen that will press the government to provide the leadership necessary to address this issue.

Source: [www.hortnews.com](http://www.hortnews.com) 4 September 2023



**Responding to the Soil Association’s call for cuts in the use of fossil-fuel based artificial fertilisers, Julian Sturdy MP, chair of the APPG on Science and Technology in Agriculture and a director of the think-tank Science for Sustainable Agriculture, argues that climate change should be tackled by encouraging new green technologies and scientific innovations, rather than by imposing measures which might harm economic growth and living standards and ultimately reduce domestic food production.**

In a letter to The Independent newspaper today, Mr Sturdy wrote:

“The Soil Association is wrong to seek punitive and arbitrary cuts in artificial fertiliser use (Charity calls for targets to cut use of fossil fuel-based artificial

fertilisers, 1 Sept), which would be damaging for food production and farmers’ livelihoods, and bad news for consumers by driving up food prices.

Once again, the organic lobby’s one-dimensional approach is simply to malign conventional farming practices rather than to offer positive solutions. The future for sustainable agriculture and food production does not lie in turning back the clock, as the Soil Association would have us believe, but in investing seriously in the science, technology and innovation needed to reduce agriculture’s climate footprint while maintaining the productivity gains needed to feed a global population set to top 9 billion by 2050.

In a recent report, Farming Innovations to Deliver Net Zero, the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Science and Technology in Agriculture explored some of these solutions – from precision farming technologies allowing more efficient and targeted input use through to green fertilisers and nitrification inhibitors. In the longer term, new technologies such as gene editing offer the potential to develop nitrogen fixing crops and engineered soil bacteria to dramatically reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with crop production. UK scientists are in the vanguard of much of this research.

With such exciting advances taking place, it is disappointing that the Soil Association has opted, yet again, for negative attacks on the conventional farmers producing most of our food, diverting attention from the enormous opportunities for agricultural innovation to contribute positively to the climate agenda.”

Source: [www.hortnews.com](http://www.hortnews.com) 4 September 2023

**A free flyer has been produced by the Agricultural Industries Confederation (AIC) to help inform agricultural customers on new rules for ammonium nitrate fertilisers this autumn**

Farmers, growers and buying co-operatives must prepare for changes in the law which will require them to provide photo ID when purchasing ammonium nitrate (AN) fertiliser from 1 October.

To download the free informative flyer and for further details on the legal changes, visit the AIC website [HERE](#)

# Young farmers needed to represent industry as part of NFU initiative

**A new group of young farmers and students are being sought after to represent the industry over the next 12 months, both within it and to the public.**

The NFU is looking for 18-26 year olds for its Student & Young Farmer Ambassador Programme, who will help to represent young farmers in British farming.

The 12-month programme has been running for nearly five years, providing young people the chance to learn more about the industry and develop skills.

Successful applicants will fly the flag for the industry at important agricultural and political events, showcasing the significance of food and farming to the public.

To apply, prospective ambassadors are asked to send in a video application to show their personality, communications skills and enthusiasm for farming.

NFU President Minette Batters said the programme offered 'a brilliant opportunity' to develop knowledge of food and farming while

helping to garner public support for British agriculture.

She said: "Ambassadors play an instrumental role in engaging young people, representing the voice and views of young farmers and highlighting the work that needs to be done to raise our domestic food security up the political agenda.

"We've been fortunate to have outstanding ambassadors who have gone on to achieve remarkable things, and I would encourage anyone thinking about applying to take up the excellent opportunity.

"I am immensely proud of the programme's unwavering commitment to inclusivity, as embracing diversity is vital for the success of any industry.

"We welcome anyone who is passionate about agriculture and wants to champion the future of farming."

Applications for the Student & Young Farmer Ambassador Programme, which opened on Friday (1 September), can be done [online HERE](#).

The programme runs alongside other NFU initiatives, including the Cereals Development Programme and Sugar Industry Programme.

Source: [www.farminguk.com](http://www.farminguk.com) 1 September 2023



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## GB harvest makes good progress, but variable quality: Grain market daily

### AHDB Market commentary

- UK feed wheat futures (Nov-23) fell £2.25/t yesterday to £185.85/t as prices for most global grain futures declined.
- Arguably the main reason for lower prices is the weight of Russian supplies on the market. IKAR increased its crop forecast for Russia's wheat crop from 89.5 Mt to 91.0 Mt and added 2.0 Mt to its export forecast. Also, the Presidents of Russia and Turkey are said to be due to meet to discuss re-starting talks about re-opening a Black Sea shipping channel for Ukrainian grain (Refinitiv).
- There's less than ideal weather for the major southern hemisphere wheat and barley exporters. The Buenos Aires Grain Exchange reports that low rainfall levels are impacting Argentina's 2023/24 wheat crop. Meanwhile, Australia recorded its warmest winter on record, with variable rainfall. The Australian government is due to release its next crop forecasts on Tuesday.
- Updated French quality data showed a smaller proportion (91%) achieving the required protein level for milling than in the initial release (93%). However, the proportion is still above the five-year average of 87%; final results are due on 13 September (FranceAgriMer).
- Paris rapeseed futures (Nov-23) gained €3.75/t yesterday to close at to €468.75/t.

### GB harvest makes good progress, but variable quality

Drier weather over the past two weeks allowed the GB harvest to make good progress, says the latest AHDB harvest progress report. However, the report also shows variable quality, including some lower Hagberg Falling Numbers (HFN) for winter wheat and germination levels for spring barley.

### Good harvest progress

By 29 August, the winter barley harvest was complete, as was the oilseed rape harvest with the exception of a few fields in the North East.

*Continued page 7...*



### Twelve new varieties have been added to the British Society of Plant Breeder's 2024 Forage Maize Descriptive Lists (DL), published 1 September.

Skipper and Foxtrot from Limagrain, Faith, Emeleen, Crosbey and ES Palladium from Grainseed, alongside SY Silverbull from Syngenta, are new entrants on the 2024 Favourable First Choice List. RGT Easixx and RGT Bluefoxx (RAGT), KWS Resolvo (KWS), Glencoe and LG31207 (Limagrain) have been added to the Favourable Second Choice List.

Skipper, Faith and SY Silverbull also feature on the Less Favourable First Choice List, with Foxtrot, RGT Easixx, RGT Bluefoxx and KWS Resolvo added to the Less Favourable Second Choice List. LG31207 (Limagrain) has been added to the Very Favourable DL.

Jeremy Widdowson, BSPB's Variety Trials Co-ordinator, explains how each List differs. "The Favourable DL uses trial data from sites with the longest potential growing season, with warmer spring soils for early establishment. Trials data from Less Favourable sites show the performance of varieties in shorter, cooler growing seasons."

"The Very Favourable DL is produced from specific trials sites where breeders choose to test later maturing varieties with highest yield potential and suitable for producers growing to maximise yield as a feedstock for anaerobic digesters where sites have a long growing season and very favourable conditions."

### Favourable sites DL

Of the new earlier maturing varieties, Faith is the highest yielding on the Favourable DL at 19.0 t DM/ha, with a metabolisable

*Continued...*

energy (ME) yield of 222 kMJ/ha and a starch yield of 6.47 t/ha. Skipper and Foxtrot are not far behind in yield at 18.8 and 18.7 t DM/ha respectively, with an ME yield of 221 kMJ/ha for Skipper and 222 kMJ/ha for Foxtrot. The starch yield for Skipper is 6.74 t/ha with Foxtrot at 6.54 t/ha.

Based on limited data, all three varieties show some susceptibility to eyespot, so may be less suitable in damper growing conditions. ES Palladium is the highest yielding of the later maturity varieties at 19.4 t DM/ha with a metabolisable energy (ME) yield of 223 kMJ/ha.

#### Less Favourable sites

Of the Less Favourable DL varieties, Skipper, Foxtrot and RGT Easixx sit just behind Faith with a yield of 18.5 t DM/ha at 35.2% DM, starch at 34.5% and good early vigour. The starch yield for Skipper at 6.62 t/ha is good and, based on limited data, SY Silverbull has an eyespot rating of 6.1 which is the highest of the new varieties for this List.

#### Very Favourable sites

One variety has been added to the Very Favourable DL; LG31207 has a dry matter yield at 18.7 t DM/ha with good ME yield, good early vigour and good standing power. The ME yield is an important factor for achieving high biogas yields.

The BSPB 2024 Forage Maize Descriptive Lists are available to download from the BSPB and NIAB websites.

Source: [www.niab.com](http://www.niab.com), 1 September 2023

*Continued from page 6...*

Winter wheat harvesting is now in the latter stages, at 89% complete by 29 August. This is a marked rise from the 37% complete a fortnight earlier and is now ahead of the five-year average for the end of August.

Harvesting of spring barley also made good progress since the last report, though it remains slightly behind the five-year average. The areas with most crops proportionally still to be cut are the North East and Scotland.

Oat harvest progress is now also ahead of the five-year average for the time of year, with the main areas remaining in Yorkshire & The Humber (43% complete) and the East Midlands (60% complete).

#### Quality indicators variable

We have more information on cereal

quality compared to the previous report; this shows the impact of the difficult weather during harvest, with some lower HFN and germination rates. It's important to note that there are often delays between crops being harvested and quality information becoming available so these figures may still change. However, if confirmed it could point to GB milling wheat and malting barley supplies being tighter this season.

In winter wheat, protein levels so far look encouraging, but there is variation in specific weights and HFN. Typical HFN are ranging between 220–250 nationally, down from 260–300 in the last report.

Barley specific weights are variable, while germination of both winter and spring malting varieties is reported to typically be around 96–98% to date. However, for spring barley, the situation for germination varies amongst the regions for which we have insights. There are better levels in the East and East Midlands, but reports of crops failing germination tests in the West Midlands and Yorkshire. Most spring crops so far have acceptable nitrogen contents and there have not been any reports of any mycotoxin issues.

Oat specific weights are generally said to be acceptable, albeit with some variability. Spring oats are tending to have lower specific weights compared to winter oats.

#### Yields close to average for most crops

Most crops yields are generally in the region of the previous five-year average; the exception is winter oilseed rape. This had lower yields due to inclement weather during the growing season as well as significant pest damage in some regions, particularly from Cabbage Steam Flea Beetle.

For all crops, higher yields have generally been achieved on heavier land compared to crops on lighter soils that experienced water stress. The sowing date is an important variable for spring barley and oats, with variety also a factor for spring barley.

[Read the full report HERE](#)

Source: [www.ahdb.org.uk](http://www.ahdb.org.uk) 1 September 2023



**Apply by 18th September to join the next cohort of the UK Food Systems Centre for Doctoral Training (UKFS-CDT) programme.**

The programme provides a unique opportunity for transformative and interdisciplinary food systems research, and there are two studentships now available with NIAB at East Malling.

The [UKFS-CDT](#) brings together the NRI of the University of Greenwich (lead institution), UCL, Royal Veterinary College, IBERS at Aberystwyth University, Centre for Food Policy at City University, University of Sussex, and Brunel University London; and two leading agricultural research institutes, NIAB and Rothamsted Research, plus over 50 food systems Academy partners from business, government and civil society.

The PhD programme starts in September 2023. In the first year, each UKFS-CDT student undertakes training activities based at the Natural Resources Institute (NRI) of the University of Greenwich in Medway, Kent, with visits to partner institutions until the end of November 2023. Students then embark on two four-month rotation projects.

**Projects available**

These projects are clearly defined studies designed to provide our students with the research skills, training and subject knowledge required to prepare a full interdisciplinary PhD proposal at the end of year 1. Students will be asked to select one of the following projects based at NIAB for the natural science rotation:

- Business as usual is unsustainable: We must produce healthier foods, using appropriate phosphorus inputs

- Antimicrobial potential of UK's edible mushrooms for sustainable crop protection
- Climate change and salinity effects on soft fruit production: Approaches to mitigate the impact
- Pollination in urban cropping systems - benefits for biodiversity and human health
- Impacts of Precision Agriculture Tools in Orchard Crops
- It is time for "Nutrition Smart Horticulture", it helps build resilience to climate change and improve nutrition
- Improve strawberry growth consistency in vertical farming
- Microbiome engineering for sustainable food production in soil-less systems
- Challenges and solutions for a zero-waste winery in the UK
- Berries enriched with selenium enhance plant tolerance to environmental stresses and promote human well-being

The second rotation will be based at a different institution of the UKFS-CDT consortium and be selected from a catalogue of projects. The combination of the two rotations will form the foundation for creating the full PhD proposal.

Following the rotations, thesis proposals will be further developed and finalised by the student, supervisors, and partners from the Food System Academy in two-day "Project and Thesis Proposal Workshop".

The PhD project will commence in year two with the student based at NIAB. It is an innovative way of conducting a PhD centred on co-creation and exposure to a varied range of actors operating in UK food systems.

Each student will initially register as a student with the University of Greenwich. After the first 12 months, when the PhD research starts, student registration will be transferred to the University of the second supervisor.

In the second or third year of the PhD programme, students will undertake a three-month placement with industry, government or civil society.

**Apply**

Full details of the application procedure, projects and eligibility for funding is on the [UKFS-CDT website HERE](#).

Source: [www.niab.com](http://www.niab.com), 29 August 2023



## MAC Seasonal Workers Call for Evidence from growers

The Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) is [exploring views on and usage of the Seasonal Worker visa](#), and how well the route meets the needs of employers, employees and other stakeholders. We are interested in views on anything to do with the Seasonal Worker visa route, for example the economic impact of the scheme, how well the scheme works for employers, how well it protects the welfare of migrants, how the scheme is organised and anything that could be improved about the scheme. One of the ways we will look at this is through this Call for Evidence (CfE). There are three different questionnaires aimed at: Employers of migrant workers, Representative bodies and other organisations (for example research organisations, academics, and associated businesses such as supermarkets); and Individuals (for example current/previous employees).

You can respond on-line using this link: [MAC Seasonal Workers Call for Evidence: Personal Capacity \(homeofficesurveys.homeoffice.gov.uk\)](https://homeofficesurveys.homeoffice.gov.uk)

This questionnaire will remain open until Tuesday 19th September 2023. We really value your input and would find it helpful if you could respond as soon as possible so that we can start considering your views and information.

All identifying and personal information will remain confidential, however aggregated and anonymised information in the form of summary statistics will be published as part of our final report. We will ask your permission to quote from your response, but this will be on an opt-in basis.

Source: [www.hortnews.com](http://www.hortnews.com), 4 September 2023



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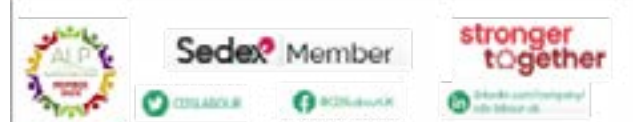
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# LIVESTOCK, POULTRY & DAIRY NEWS

UK sheep exports see demand boost while pork and beef shipments fall



## The value of UK sheep meat exports in the first half of 2023 have seen a boost due to EU demand and the recovery of post-pandemic markets in the Middle East.

From January to June sheep meat exports, including offal, were worth £277million – up 12.9% on the year – and volumes stood at 43,374 tonnes – up 16.1% on the year.

The latest figures from HMRC also show the value of shipments to the EU during the period was up 12.9% on the year at £263.8m while volumes rose by 15.5% on the year.

Exports to non-EU countries increased by 14.1% in value year-on-year, while volume was up by 25.5%.

This included exports worth £3.9m to Kuwait – up 20.9% on the year, £780,500 to the United Arab Emirates – an increase of 2.8% on the year and a 122% increase in value of shipments to Jordan worth over £135,000.

Jonathan Eckley, AHDB head of international trade development, said the value of UK sheep meat exports in the first half of the year had been very encouraging.

He said: “Post-pandemic demand in the Middle East in particular is welcome as the region represents one of AHDB’s key strategic markets for the sheep meat sector.”

The performance of sheep meat exports contributed to the overall value of red meat exports remaining stable in the first half of the year.

From January to June red meat exports were worth £860 million – up marginally on the same period in 2022.

However, pig meat exports volumes for the first half of 2023 were down 22.9%, with the value falling marginally by 0.5%.

*Continued page 11...*

## AHDB DAIRY WORKSHOP:

### Unlock your herd’s hidden breeding potential

**Tue, 24 October 2023**

**10:00 AM - 2:30 PM**

**Solomans Estate, Broomhill Rd, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN3 0TG**

Discover the untapped potential in your herd at our workshop where we’ll reveal hidden gems in your herd’s data and you’ll walk away with a tailored report that will take your breeding decisions to the next level.

The choices you make will have a lasting effect on farm profitability as they accumulate over generations. While good selections positively influence your herd for years to come, poor decisions can hinder improvements from good management.

Your milk recording data is already shaping UK genetics through AHDB who provide the independent evaluations used by breeding companies. But are you making the most of this data with your herd’s breeding decisions?

At the workshop, AHDB’s genetic expert will enable you to:

- Create clear breeding goals tailored to your farm’s requirements

- Access and analyse your herd’s genetic potential with a personalised report

- Identify your herd’s baseline and identify areas for improvement

- Evaluate your data and choose the right bulls for your herd

This workshop is designed for anyone with a milk recorded herd who wants to be more actively involved in their breeding strategy.

Whether you make your own breeding decisions, work with your team or breeding advisor, this workshop will give you what you need to unlock the hidden breeding potential in your herd.

Places at this workshop are available to dairy farmers and herd managers only. Please do not book if you’re a third party. If you would like to find out more information about this campaign please [contact your local AHDB Knowledge Exchange Manager](#).



**[BOOK NOW](#)**

Source: [www.ahdb.org.uk](http://www.ahdb.org.uk) 9 August 2023



Continued from page 10...

For the beef sector, export volumes for the period plummeted by 21.7% and in value by 10.4%.

Mr Eckley said carcase balance remained an important factor for both the beef and pork sectors, with fifth quarter products playing a key role.

"For the beef sector, offal exports to third country markets were up 8% on the year in the first half of 2023, largely driven by demand from West Africa," he added.

"Subdued demand, particularly from some Asian markets, coupled with lower production have been the primary drivers behind the drop in pig meat exports for the first half of this year.

"However, demand for fifth quarter has remained robust, with only a marginal decline. China remains a key market and we saw an increase in the volume of fifth quarter exports there of 16% in the first half on the year."

Source: [www.farminguk.com](http://www.farminguk.com) 30 August 2023

## NFU launches series to battle misconceptions around UK livestock sectors

**The 'A closer look at...' online series will focus on the livestock, dairy and poultry sectors and the role they play in improving the environment and animal welfare.**

The series, available to NFU members, will act as a tool to positively promote livestock sectors to interested parties, such as MPs or supply chain contacts, the NFU said.

The union added that the initiative would be updated "in line with fresh information as soon as it becomes available".

With questions being raised surrounding UK livestock production, the NFU said it was crucial that farmers were equipped with facts and evidence to engage the public in "honest, realistic and scientifically evidenced accounts of British agriculture".

[CLICK FOR THE FULL ARTICLE AND LINKS](#)

Source: [www.farminguk.com](http://www.farminguk.com) (edited) 2 September 2023

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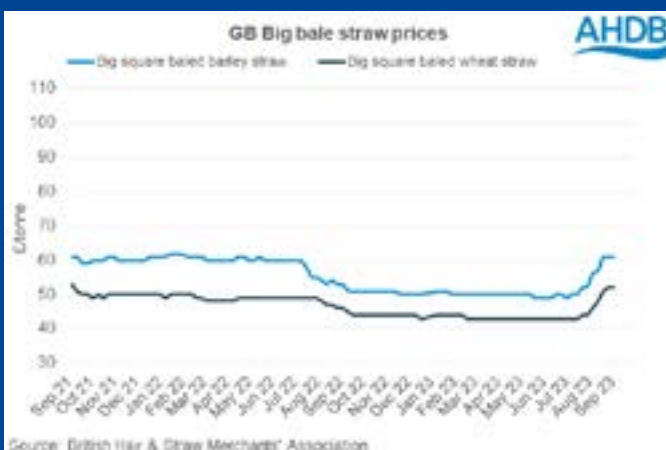
OH  
HEY!  
HAY!

## HAY AND STRAW PRICES

These figures, from the British Hay and Straw Merchants' Association for Great Britain show average merchant buying prices and are available on a monthly and weekly basis. [The downloadable Excel file also shows weekly prices for the key regions across GB.](#) Prices include big bale hay and big square baled barley and wheat straw.

Effort (ex-farm)	02/08/2023	27/06/2023	Weekly change	04/08/2022	Annual change
Big bale hay	85	85	0	70	15
Big square baled barley straw	61	61	0	53	8
Big square baled wheat straw	52	52	0	46	6

Source: British Hay & Straw Merchants' Association  
New season prices from week ended 20/08/2023



[CLICK HERE FOR UP TO DATE PRICES](#)

RAMSAK Forage enquiries via:  
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## AHDB: Latest grass growth commentary

31 August 2023\*

On average, grass growth is still strong, but as always, the average figure hides the detail.

The range is 19.5–112 kg DM/ha per day. This average is only slightly above the 2017–2021 growth curve, but it is brought down by some low grass growth rates from the east of the country, where some have received good rain spells and others less so.

The bigger part of this story is the average covers, where some are exceedingly high, but it depends on circumstance and calving to a certain extent.

When spring calving, you should be aiming for a higher average cover to start the last round compared to autumn calvers.

However, at the time of writing, 30 August, the average covers were over 2,400 Kg DM/ha; these are potentially too high.

Why do I say that, and why does it matter? It suggests that unless the wedge is incredibly flat, the higher cover paddocks that cows will be entering could be above 3,200 kg DM ha; if this is the case, hitting residuals will be difficult, especially in wetter conditions.

We need to build covers for the last round on good, clean bases with good residuals and low amounts of rejection.

Very high entry covers will shade the base of the sward and slow regrowth. Also, poor residuals reduce utilisation and hinder later quality and growth.

The idea behind building covers is to feed cows for as long as possible and as much high-quality grass per day per cow to maintain good levels of production and gain body condition (spring calvers) and slow body condition loss (autumn calvers) through the autumn to closing.

Utilisation drives profit, and cows out grazing reduces the cost of production, which drives profit (Teagasc utilisation explains 42% of profit, and AHDB cost of production explains 80% of the profit).

It may pay to bale some of the high-cover paddocks to bring the average cover back under control, which will improve utilisation and help keep cows out longer on quality.

It is worth noting very high entry covers are not only difficult to fully utilise, but over 3,200 kg DM/ha quality in terms of MJ of ME is decreasing, and as the sward becomes 'steamier', the cow can eat less, so a double whammy effect.

There is a fine balance, though, as the Forage for Knowledge growth curve 2017–2021 shows decreasing growth after 1 September, so be mindful of this: cut too much, and your average cover may be too low to build enough for your last round.

*Continued...*



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*Continued from page 12...*

Soils are warm, and most have enough moisture. Next week, we may see some warmer above-seasonal temperatures, which will boost growth, but this will not last as day length shortens.

So, look at your position; where are you now? What average cover do you require for the start of your last round? Standard recommendations are 2,600–2,800 kg DM/ha average cover on or around the first week of October for spring calvers and less for autumn, depending on when you bring cows in – two weeks before the planned start of mating/a couple of days pre-start of mating or the end of the first three weeks of mating.

It is best to use your data. The average growth curve on Forage for Knowledge (2017–2021) is good data for the initial plan but beware that the average hides the range.

Look at your historic data; what are your growth rates through the next 4–6 weeks, and what is your demand? This will give you the information to work out how much growth over demand you need to build the correct average for your situation. You have little control over growth, but you have total control over demand, so plan and hit it right.

Are your autumn calvers eating enough? Some post-calving body condition score loss is genetic, but after 3–4 weeks, it is down to genetics and their environment.

Spring calvers are slightly more stable in terms of body condition score loss, but milking 10 in 7 days will help.

Look at your first lactation and second lactation animals. If low in body condition, when

are they due to calve? If at the front of the block and low compared to the herd, it may be worth doing the sums and planning to dry off a month early, or once a day. A thin cow at dry off is a thin cow at calving, then she produces less and is later to start cycling – the effect slipping down the calving block, fewer days in milk, and in turn leading to a higher empty rate.

*\*Commentary source*

*Pasture for Profit consultant, Piers Badnell, will provide comments (usually, every two weeks) throughout the main grass growing season.*

*Disclaimer*

*This data set also includes grass growth and quality data from the AHDB-sponsored beef and sheep GrassCheck GB contributors in England.*

*Source: [www.ahdb.org.uk](http://www.ahdb.org.uk), 31 August 2023*

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# FUEL PRICE OVERVIEW

## Monthly

These figures give an overview of the fuel markets, focusing on crude oil and diesel prices on both a monthly and annual basis.

Month	OPEC price (US\$/barrel)	OPEC price (€/barrel)	UK red diesel (pppl)	UK diesel (pppl)
Aug 23	87.33	68.70	82.01	150.40
Jul 23	81.08	62.94	77.78	144.69
Month-on-month change	6.27	5.81	4.81	5.62
% change	7.7%	9.3%	6.2%	4.8%
Aug 22	101.90	75.01	111.78	164.02
Year-on-year change	-14.57	-10.22	-20.75	-34.40
% change	-14.3%	-10.7%	-20.8%	-18.9%

Source: Omba, OPEC, OPEC, OPEC

\*Red diesel duty = 11.14pppl from April 2011 to March 2022, 10.18 from April 2022



Visit the OPEC for more on crude prices  
 Figures Courtesy of: [www.ahdb.org.uk](http://www.ahdb.org.uk)

# FUEL NEWS

Liquid fuel industry and heat pump lobbyists in agreement over 'unfair' new oil boiler ban issues



## The Heat Pump Federation (HPF) has joined the growing number of voices calling for a rethink on the proposed 2026 deadline for off-grid homes.

Commenting that a ban on new oil boilers in rural homes from 2026 would be "unfair and unreasonable", HPF, the leading heat pump lobby group, has echoed the long-running campaign spearheaded by liquid fuel industry trade bodies UKIFDA and OFTEC.

With increasing pressure from MPs to reassess the policy, Bean Beanland, of the Heat Pump Federation, has also called for the ban to be pushed back, saying: "To be honest, 2026 is probably looking to be, in most people's eyes, an unfair and unreasonable timeframe in which to make the change."

Arguing that more time was needed to allow for changes to come in, including for running costs to come down and public acceptance to increase, Mr Beanland called for a delay until 2028.

"Two years to react to something that's relatively fundamental isn't really long enough," he said.

## Unresolved issues

There are around 1.1 million homes in the UK that are not connected to the gas grid with the vast majority in rural areas relying on oil, coal and LPG for home energy.

Tory MPs have raised concerns that the ban, which was proposed as part of the Government's Heat & Building Strategy but has not yet been brought into law, could leave households in their constituencies unable to afford to switch, or forced to use heat pumps despite concerns over installation and running costs.

Much-needed reforms to the electricity markets, which it is hoped will bring down heat pump running costs, are still a work in progress and shortages in grid capacity and installer workforce are already affecting heat pump installations in some areas.

Continued...

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On Wednesday, more MPs joined calls to scrap or delay the ban after George Eustice, the former environment secretary, labelled it a "rural Ulez".

Sir Edward Leigh, the MP for Gainsborough, said: "It's completely madness to have a sort of rapid phase-out of these oil boilers. It's very expensive, putting in a heat pump."

Sir Jacob Rees-Mogg, a former business and energy secretary, said: "It's a really silly policy. You're talking, in rural areas, of communities that aren't particularly well-off being expected to pay out significant amounts of money which they're not going to have.

"It's rural areas that get hit. A lot of my constituents are not on the gas grid and we've developed these net zero policies without thinking through the cost."

### Urging support

Following George Eustice MP's article in the Telegraph, Paul Rose, Chief Executive of OFTEC, and Ken Cronin, Chief Executive of UKIFDA, issued a joint statement on decarbonising off-grid homes:

"Many of our off grid customers live in rural communities, with older properties who face real and serious challenges about how to decarbonise their home heating. They have told us they need to be given a choice of how they can do this in an affordable way which results in minimal disruption.

"This is the reason why our industry over the last 2 years has invested time, effort and money – without government subsidy – on developing a solution, using renewable liquid fuel as a replacement fuel for kerosene. We have successfully demonstrated this solution in 150 sites across the UK, including churches, schools, historic building buildings, pubs and residential homes.

"The conversion from oil to these renewable fuels can be done quickly, at a reasonable upfront cost and without disruption and it results in immediate reductions in carbon emissions. Our industry, members and customers are urging the Government to support George Eustice's amendment to the Energy Bill, which will bring the cost of these fuels down for consumers, as they already have in transport, while costing the taxpayer nothing."



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### Delay 'inevitable'

The HPF is not the only voice from the renewables sector accepting that a delay to the ban is unavoidable.

"The Government consulted on a 2026 fossil heating phase-out timeline for off-grid homes back in 2021, but never issued a response to the consultation," said Juliet Phillips, from think tank E3G.

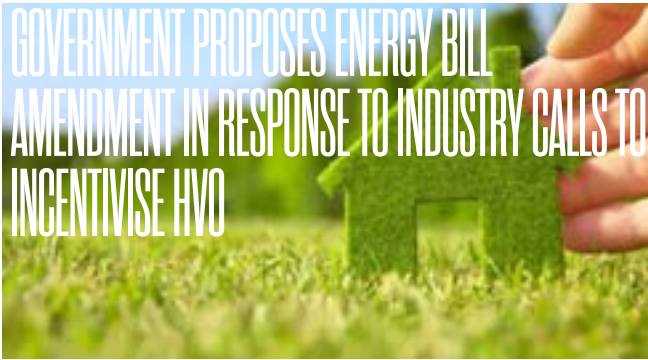
"Over the two-year period since then, the Conservatives have done nothing to provide rural homes and businesses the clarity or support necessary to meet this timeline.

"Therefore, delay to this regulation has long been inevitable."

Existing oil boilers can be converted to run on biofuels, such as hydrotreated vegetable oil, which backers say cut emissions by up to 90 per cent.

Mr Eustice is supporting an amendment to the Energy Bill, which would mean biofuels are subsidised to encourage homeowners to make the switch. However, concerns around the cost and environmental impact of biofuels, which are already in high demand for transport, have been highlighted in the Biomass Strategy 2023 published by government today.

Source: [www.fueloilnews.co.uk](http://www.fueloilnews.co.uk), 11 August 2023



The government has, this morning, released an amendment to the Energy Bill that mirrors proposals put forward by former environment secretary George Eustice in response to the industry's Future Ready Fuels campaign.

Recognising widespread concerns over the potential financial impacts on rural off-grid homeowners of the proposed 2026 oil boiler ban and a 'heat pump' first strategy, the amendment, if accepted, enables government to incentivise a switch to renewable liquid fuels.

The creation of a renewable liquid heating fuel obligation comparable to the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation (RTFO), which has been hugely successful since its introduction in 2008, would remove the financial barrier to the widespread adoption of HVO in domestic heating accelerating the decarbonisation of this sector.

The amendment requires parliamentary

backing and will be debated next Tuesday but being government-led, is likely to be accepted. With the mechanism requiring a change of primary legislation, this will then lead to a period of consultation.

#### Technology agnosticism

The news of the proposed amendment follows yesterday's announcement that the government will also consult on proposed revisions to the Boiler Upgrade Scheme including increasing the grants available for the installation of heat pumps in certain homes.

Together, these announcements are indicative of a government that has listened to genuine concerns around the 'heat pump first' strategy and its potential unjust impacts on rural communities. The move to a more technology-agnostic approach has been welcomed by the industry.

Commenting on today's news, Ken Cronin, CEO UKIFDA, said: "I am pleased the government has listened and these announcements together will create a dual, technology-agnostic approach to rural home heating, which is what we requested.

"This is clearly excellent news and a significant step forward, and it comes after a tremendous effort from the industry but, with the requirement for a consultation, there is still a lot of hard work ahead of us."

Source: [www.fueloilnews.co.uk](http://www.fueloilnews.co.uk), 11 August 2023

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1129100202	POLE POSITION L20	Lubricated	24	7.8	220	116	8	2	1.5	70	230/1/50 *	£393	£174
1129100178	MONTECARLO L20	Lubricated	50	7.8	220	116	8	2	1.5	70	230/1/50 *	£462	£222
<b>PRO SERIES COMPRESSORS - DIRECT DRIVE, 3HP (2.2kW)</b>													
1129100173	POLE POSITION L30P	Lubricated	24	11	310	145	10	3	2.2	73	230/1/50 *	£522	£315
1129981090	V 36/50 ABAC UK	Lubricated	50	12.5	355	145	10	3	2.2	87	230/1/50 *	£640	£377
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1129741038	START OSS 20P UK	Oil-Free	6	7.8	222	145	10	2	1.5	68	230/1/50 *	£344	£210
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1129741057	MONTECARLO OSS 20P UK	Oil-Free	50	7.8	222	145	10	2	1.5	72	230/1/50 *	£473	£235



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# PLANT & MACHINERY NEWS



## Govt invests in hydrogen-fuelled tractor manufacturing

**A company making tractors that run on hydrogen made on-farm from renewables has received a share of £11 million in funding.**

Dolphin N2 is one of 12 manufacturing projects to receive government grant funding through the Advanced Propulsion Centre (APC), to accelerate product development in the UK.

With industry match-funding, projects will receive a total of £22.7 million to develop innovative automotive products within 12 months.

Other winners include White Motorcycle Concepts, which is developing a fully operational, rapid-charge first responder motorcycle for use by emergency services, and Wrightbus which is accelerating the development of zero-emission hydrogen fuel-cell electric coaches.

"From farm tractors fuelled by hydrogen to rapid-charge first responder motorcycles, these projects receiving funding today show we are not short of innovators in this country," Chancellor of the Exchequer Jeremy Hunt said.

"By supporting growth in the industries of the future, including through better regulation, we are delivering on our plan to get the economy growing and make the UK the best place in the world to start and grow a business."

Minister for Industry and Economic Security Nusrat Ghani added: "The UK automotive sector is at the cutting edge of

exploiting innovative technologies. These have the potential to create jobs, grow the economy and accelerate how we reach net-zero.

"This package of funding will help industry and government work together and take decisive action in targeting areas where the UK is leading the way.

"We are providing over £50 million of government funding to support 30 groundbreaking projects. This government has shown time and time again that we are committed to creating the right conditions to make the UK the best location in the world to manufacture."

Source: [www.agriland.co.uk](http://www.agriland.co.uk), 5 September '23

## Protect your machinery from rodents



**Rodent damage to machinery is often not covered by insurance and can be hugely costly to farms in both repairs and downtime**

Protecting storage and machines from rodents should be part of every farm's post-harvest rodent control strategy, as pest control specialist David Reece from LODI explains:

"Baiting both inside and outside storage with a rodent control paste such as Harmonix® can control rodents in just seven days. This bait is one of the few non-anticoagulants on the market and therefore rodents have no known resistance to its cholecalciferol active ingredient," says Mr Reece.

The speed at which Harmonix works makes it well suited to tackling rodents in and around machinery before costly damage is caused. The rodenticide has a 'stop feed effect' in just two to three days which causes rodents to stop feeding before control is reached by day seven.

*Continued...*



"Rodents will seek food, water and harbourage following harvest, often choosing sheds where machines are stored. An integrated pest management (IPM) strategy is essential to prevent rodents chewing through wires to access food or places to nest, and baiting where necessary should be carried out to prevent or tackle infestations," he says.

GPS and digital control systems are expensive to replace and finding the root of the problem and the corresponding parts is time consuming, which can lead to unnecessary and costly downtime.

Mr Reece warns that machinery stored with grain or grass still attached will attract rodents and should be cleaned thoroughly before being stored. However, rodents will also attack tractors that are stored for just a few days, so he suggests monitoring for signs of rodent activity is as important as using bait and will help target areas where

bait is required.

"Cholecalciferol baits like Harmonix can be used both inside and outside. This enables farmers to bait in all areas of the farm and reduce the effect of rodenticides to non-target species such as wild birds or livestock," he says.

Whilst a cholecalciferol bait is more expensive than multi-feed baits such as bromadiolone, it requires 50 percent less bait and, crucially for busy farms, far less time to achieve rodent control.

"There is also the issue of resistance to consider. There are significant areas of the UK affected by so called 'super rats' that have become resistant to the effect of bromadiolone and difenacoum. Therefore, using an alternative cholecalciferol bait will save time and money, whilst also helping to control the spread of resistant rats," he concludes.

*Source: [www.agrimachinerynews.com](http://www.agrimachinerynews.com), 22 August '23*



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# MACHINERY LIST

## FOR SALE & WANTED

### NOTE: Change of Structure to Machinery List Advertising Costs with immediate effect:

All new adverts for Used Machinery/equipment listed for sale and wanted are subject to an admin fee of £20 for 2 months in the newsletter, which includes an initial 2 weekly circular emails and a Facebook post. For items over £500, commission is applied at 1.5% (up to a maximum of £150) on the sale of your listing via RAMSAK.

**Please ensure you advise us if you have sold/purchased an item through us (or elsewhere) to help avoid outdated adverts and charges being made.**



**£5,200 +VAT**

#### AMAZONE CULTIVATOR

Amazone Cenius 3001 cultivator including many spare points

Location: BN18 6/23



**£5,000 +VAT**

#### IFOR WILLIAMS TRAILER

12 x 6 flatbed trailer with detachable cage sides and ramps. Tyres new or in good condition. Always stored under cover More photos available.

Location: TN12 7/23



**£275 +VAT**

#### CHERRY PRODUCTS DOUBLE BALE SPIKES

- Frame - 1530 x 940mm
- Spikes - 2 x 550mm, 2 x 835mm
- JCB Q-Fit

Location: TN26 6/23



**£600**

#### TOPPER

9ft wide, PTO

Cuts well and Is a little tatty but works well nonetheless.

Location: BN27 7/23



**£61,500 +VAT REDUCED!**

#### 2019 JCB 536-70 Agri-Super TELEHANDLER

- Very low hours - just 1418 Operating Hours
- Main dealer serviced
- Only used on light work, no dairy work
- 40 KPH Transmission
- 3600 KG (3.6 Ton) Lift
- 7 Meter Reach
- Selectable 4WD
- Q-Fit Carriage with Hydraulic Pin

- Locking
- Aux to Front
- C/W Forks
- Smooth Ride System (SRS)
- LSD Front Axle Diff Lock
- Proportional Joystick Controls
- 3 Steering Modes (2WS 4WS and Crab)
- New Type Hydraulic Pick Up Hitch
- 1 x Double Acting Rear Hydraulic Aux
- Front Recovery Hitch
- Front and Rear Work Lights
- Boom Work Lights
- Sun Blinds
- Tilting and Telescopic Steering Wheel
- Load Control
- Air Suspension Seat
- Air Conditioning
- Flashing Beacon
- 2 programmed Keys, master key & deadlock
- Operators Manual
- Data Tag
- Thorough Examination certificate to 30.12.2023

Located TN26 9/23





**£ 1250 +VAT**

**DIESEL TANK**

1235 litre capacity. Always kept under cover – so no UV damage and is fully bunged.

Location: TN12                      4/23

**TRACTOR**

Deutz Fahr 5125 4WD  
Tractor with Stoll 30.6  
Loader 5200 Hrs.  
Photos and Video  
available.



**£32,995 +VAT REDUCED!**

Location: TN19

9/23

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR SALE - PHOTOS AND LOCATION AVAILABLE ON REQUEST**

- Indian Sandstone Patio Slabs (Grey) 600x900 **NEW LISTING**                      £22.99 per m2
- 3 sets aluminium cavallis (horse jumps) unused **NEW LISTING**                      POA
- 7 rolls Visqueen 500mm Silage wrap.                      £65 per roll + VAT.
- FENCING - Cleft chestnut stakes 6',7' and 8' stakes, plus 7' strainers available. Cost dependant on quantity.
- 3m cleft chestnut rails (reclaimed) £40 for bundle of 10
- SHEEP FEEDERS: Lamb Creep feeder - 8ft long - £225 , Sheep Hayrack - 8ft long - £225, Sheep Hayrack - 8ft long, needs replacement pivot bolt - £200, Sheep Hayrack - 10ft long, needs some pop rivets - £200
- 9T FEED HOPPER Very good condition                      £2,500
- BUCKET - Strimech x bucket with cone and pin fixing. Suitable for repair                      POA
- Cotswold tank wash auto cleaning system.                      £500
- POULTRY PANELS 80 to 100 panels for poultry wired up and ready for construction. Located TN27.
- 8 Black Mild Steel Flat Bars - 40mm x 5mm x 2555mm. Weight approx 4kg each. Un-used. Left over from a project. Need to go ASAP. Cost £120 but any sensible offers considered.                      OFFERS
- 5000 LITRE DARI-KOOL BULK TANK, automatic wash, regularly maintained                      £2,000
- MOUNTED SPRAYER Blanchard 800 litre tractor mounted sprayer. Excellent condition. Located TN19.                      £995 +VAT
- PHOTOCOPIER Canon Image Runner Advance. Only used at home office, very low usage.                      £250
- HEAVY DUTY EXTRA LONG 1.5M PALLET FORKS C/W JCB TELEHANDLER FITTINGS                      £500 +VAT
- SNOW PLOUGH, to fit Landrover Defender. 8' Bunce . Ex MOD. Un-used.                      £1,600 +VAT
- Road barriers                      £10 each +VAT
- Reclaimed Kent Peg Tiles, Orange tinge                      £1 each
- 3m cleft chestnut rails (reclaimed)                      £40 for bundle of 10
- Block Paving 300 x 150 Light Grey (new)                      £39.70 per m2 + VAT
- Reclaimed cleaned and palletised bricks. Several thousand available  
Various colours from                      £1.50 each + VAT

**WANTED**

We have members looking for the following items. Please contact us if you have anything available, with information, price and photograph to: [lynsey@ramsak.co.uk](mailto:lynsey@ramsak.co.uk)



- Generator 30-40 kVA electric start silent generator required by RAMSAK member.
- Power harrow and/or rotovator required by a RAMSAK member; either would need to be 1.2-1.4m wide.
- Laddingford [Newman] engineering single leg subsoiler with PTO drive. Do you have one lying around? Call us!
- 6 Telegraph poles
- Portacabins/Caravans

## SECOND HAND PRESSURE WASHERS

**All of these machines have been fully tested by engineers. Refurbished machines offer excellent value for money and comes complete with a three-month warranty. Please click on the blue title for links to more information and photographs. Contact [lynsey@ramsak.co.uk](mailto:lynsey@ramsak.co.uk) for more information.**

### [Cleanwell WM 12/100](#)

£767+VAT

SECOND HAND Cleanwell cold water pressure washer. It comes with its own wall mounting kit. To prolong the life of the chassis it is constructed of steel which is Zintec coated with a polyester finish with a stainless steel cover. Fully Serviced, Frost protection, 100 Bar working pressure, 12 Litres per min water flow

### [Karcher HDS 12/18 4S](#)

£1400+VAT

SECOND HAND Karcher HDS 12/18 – 4 S is one of the new middle- and super-class convenience. Environmental protection Greater efficiency with the new ECO mode, service switch for controlling water hardness, turbo fan, precision detergent metering, optimized burner technology and a high-efficiency pump.

### [Karcher PC 100/M1](#)

£718.80 inc. VAT

SECOND HAND, Karcher PC 100/M1, a new innovative solution for removing oil, grease, soot, etc. from all kinds of parts. A water based non-toxic, PH neutral cleaning detergent without solvents is used to achieve excellent cleaning results. Organic particles like oil, lubricant and other greases from the parts biologically degenerate.

### [Karcher HDS 895 M ECO 415 V](#)

POA

SECOND HAND new generation Eco Line of medium and heavy-duty machines combines innovative engineering with maximum user convenience, economy and a long service life, even under very demanding operating conditions.

### [Nilfisk MC 8P 180/2100](#)

£1400 +VAT

SECOND HAND High-flow Nilfisk MC 8P pressure washer for tough routine work. The high power premium class line – combining high pressure and high water flow levels for routine cleaning in agriculture, transport or food industries. The MC 8P is a machine with high water flow – quick to install, easy to move around and comfortable to use.

### [Karcher HDS 601 C ECO 110 V](#)

POA

This has been fully serviced and comes with a 3 month warranty.

### [Karcher 645-4M](#)

POA

The HDS 645-4 M is an entry-level class 4-pole machine that combines with user convenience, economy and a long service life even under demanding cleaning conditions. It is packed with features such as the rear control panel that enables all the indicators to be read easily, Easy press trigger gun, high performance burner with low emissions and the soft dampening system (SDS) that reduces vibrations thus extending the life of the machine.

### [Karcher BR 75/140 ride on scrubber dryer](#)

POA

The Karcher BR 75/140 Ride On Scrubber Dryer offers superb performance and high versatility. The Karcher BR 75/140 R Ride On Scrubber Dryer features a 750mm roller scrubbing head and has a maximum cleaning width of 1140mm and despite of the Karcher BR 75/140 R Ride On Scrubber Dryer's capacity of 140 Litres they are narrow and extremely manoeuvrable, easily fitting through doorways or high bay warehouse aisles View the video: [Karcher br 75/140 scrubber dryer](#) 4/23





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**Derby & Ascot: 4 shelters (7.2m x 3.6m) and 3 shelters (3.6m x 3.6m). Ready now for October/November installation. Last one's available in both ranges. There are a few slots left in October for installation.**

### Ascot Range

Mobile Field Shelter – 3.6m x 3.6m  
Total including delivery and installation:  
£2,508 ex. VAT  
Next available installation date: October  
2023 Quotation Valid 28 Days

Mobile Field Shelter – 7.2m x 3.6m

Total including delivery and installation:  
£3,535 ex. VAT  
Next available installation date: October  
2023 Quotation Valid 28 Days

### Derby Range

Mobile Field Shelter – 3.6m x 3.6m  
Total including delivery and installation:  
£2,043 ex. VAT  
Next available installation date: October  
2023 Quotation Valid 28 Days

Mobile Field Shelter – 7.2m x 3.6m  
Total including delivery and installation:  
£3,018 ex. VAT  
Next available installation date: October  
2023 Quotation Valid 28 Days

For the full specifications, please contact  
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# CLASSIFIED ADVERTS

## JOBS, LIVESTOCK, PROPERTY

### SITUATIONS VACANT AND WANTED

#### SITUATIONS VACANT - EDENBRIDGE

##### Stockperson and Tractor Driver

360 acres estate with a beef breeding herd of 45 head of Sussex cows 15 bulling heifers and 13 heifer calves, pheasant shoot during the winter and a campsite during the summer with a course fishery open all year round and 1 ½ miles stretch of the river Eden open during the open season. In the yard we have a number of tenants with workshops, offices and storage units.

#### Duties and Responsibilities:

- Working with cows to ensure their health and wellbeing, including feeding, bedding, moving, and handling the cows in a calming manner.
- Ensuring animal welfare standards are met.
- Must be happy to be on-call for evening calving's when required.
- Keep cattle medical records up to date.
- Maintaining the condition, cleanliness, and appearance of the farm.

- Maintaining farm machinery keeping them in working order.
- Operating farm machinery for mucking out, haymaking, hedge cutting, rolling, and harrowing.
- Maintaining safe and secure livestock fences.

#### Skills and Experience:

- Experience with livestock or an agricultural background.
- Due to the rural location your own transport is necessary.
- Ability to prioritise and complete tasks with strong attention to detail.
- Self-motivation and the ability to work alone
- good communication skills as part of a team.
- must have a level of independence, self-reliance, and ability to show initiative
- experience with tractor driving and using machinery competently, installing implements on and off tractors

#### The Company Offers:

- wages to be discussed
- Working 45 hours a week
- 30 days annual leave.
- Access to the company discounts on refreshments in the onsite shop.
- To have the use of a Stockperson's quarters during calving time.
- Enrolment onto company pension scheme (for over 22's).

*Continued...*



## CLASSIFIED ADVERTS CONTINUED...

It is desirable that the post holder has the relevant qualifications in tractor driving, safe use of medicines and is familiar with working with Farmplan software.

The successful candidate will be a multifunctional person who is flexible enough to carry out several different jobs around the farm. Someone who has excellent tractor driving skills, a passion for stock and an eye for attention to detail.

If you are interested in this role and would like to know more about it, please contact us and send us your CV to [Farmhouse\\_gabriels@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Farmhouse_gabriels@yahoo.co.uk)

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Responsible for operating, maintaining, servicing plant & equipment.

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**SITUATIONS VACANT - NPC TREE SURGERY**  
RAMSAK member NPC Tree Surgery based near Sevenoaks need an experienced agricultural worker with the following experience/competence:

- Tractor Driving with trailers
- Tractor hedge cutting
- Hay Making
- Excavator Operating
- Telehandler Operating
- Livestock experience (Sheep and Wild Boar - not critical)
- Chainsaw Operating

Starting Salary £30K PA

Normal working hours: Mon - Fri 07:30-16:30

Over time rate: 1.5 x Normal Rate

Contact [lynsey@ramsak.co.uk](mailto:lynsey@ramsak.co.uk) for info. 7/23

### SITUATIONS VACANT - VARIED AGRICULTURAL WORK

A self-employed, self-motivated all rounder required for a minimum of 3 days per week, for the foreseeable future, on a very diversified mixed farming operation in N Kent. Arable, mechanical and livestock skills required in that order. If interested please contact Andrew Lingham on 07785 915580 or email [andrew@courtfarm.org](mailto:andrew@courtfarm.org)

### MILK RELIEF HELP WANTED - RYE

Very occasional relief help for cattle herd including several weeks this winter. Small Sussex herd (21 cows plus followers at present) with mob grazing (daily moves with electric fencing) and minimal time indoors during winter.

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[Livestock Unit Technician](#)  
[Crop Technician \(Arable\)](#)  
[Crop Technician \(Market Garden\)](#)  
[Crop Technician \(Viticulture\)](#)  
[Land Based Service Engineering](#)

The full offer of apprenticeships currently available can be found [HERE](#).

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Finding the right apprentice for your business can feel like a daunting task if you are not used to the recruitment process.

At Plumpton we want to take the headache out of recruiting apprentices by providing a service designed to support you in finding the right talent for your business. Ultimately, the decision on who you employ is down to you, no one knows your business better than you do, however, our experienced recruitment team are available to support and guide you

from the start to the end of the recruitment process.

Our [Employer Recruitment](#) and [Candidate Talent Bank Service](#) aims to match recruiting employers with actively looking job (apprenticeship) seekers, this free service has provide really popular and had great success since it's launch last year. Click on the links for more information.



All of our current apprenticeships can be found on this page: <https://www.plumpton.ac.uk/courses/apprenticeships/apprenticeship-programmes-at-plumpton/>

If you are wanting to start an apprenticeship but do not have an employer, you can register to our Talent Bank and we can alert you to vacancies when they become available, and may approach companies on your behalf: <https://www.plumpton.ac.uk/courses/apprenticeships/apprenticeship-talent-bank/>

Current apprenticeship vacancies can be viewed on the following page: <https://www.plumpton.ac.uk/courses/apprenticeships/apprenticeship-vacancies/>

If you are an employer and would like to enrol a staff member onto an apprenticeship, more information is available here: <https://www.plumpton.ac.uk/business-services/apprenticeships-for-employers/>


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Credit card bookings are also available via Eventbrite and subject to a credit card fee

Dress Code: Black Tie or Best Tweed  
Welcome drinks from 7pm, carriages at 1am  
Shuttle minibus service to Tunbridge Wells hotels, town centre and station

To register your interest please email [Lynsey@grapevine.events](mailto:Lynsey@grapevine.events)

Ticket payment is required no less than 6 weeks prior to the event, after which your tickets will be released for re-sale. Tickets are non-refundable less than 4 weeks prior to the event, as we are committed to the venue. If the event is cancelled by the organiser or venue, payment will be refunded less a £15 per ticket admin fee.

Sponsored by:  **NFU Mutual**  
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Farming and Landscaping Specialists

Contact [lynsey@grapevine.events](mailto:lynsey@grapevine.events) for more information! (limited availability)  
**FOLLOW THE EVENT ON FACEBOOK FOR NEWS AS IT COMES IN!**

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