

APRIL 2024

NEWSLETTER



FARMERS NEED FLOODING FUND TO OPEN FOLLOWING WETTEST WINTER IN DECADES

Country Land and Business Association (CLA) is calling for the flood fund to open as soon as possible following farmers fears for the 2024 harvest after one of the wettest and stormiest winters in decades.

As spring blooms and lambing continues across the UK, thousands of acres of prime food-producing land remain submerged or waterlogged, following months of relentless rainfall and the wettest 12-month period in 150 years.

February was the fourth wettest since records began in 1871 in England, with a rainfall total of 130 mm, representing 225% of the 1961 to 1990 long-term average. There have been 10 named storms in recent months.

Some winter crops did not get planted, while others have been washed away. With conditions so poor, many farmers are already fearing for harvest this year.

After storm Henk hit the country in early January, the government announced that farmers who had suffered uninsurable damage to their land from that storm would be able to apply for grants of up to £25,000 through the Farming Recovery Fund.

Continued page 3...

**!SAVE THE DATE!
!MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON!**

THE FARMERS BALL

30/11 2024

High Rocks, Tunbridge Wells

GRAPEVINE EVENTS

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COMING SOON!

NEW NEWS AND WEEKLY UPDATE FORMAT

Keep an eye on your inboxes, make sure your email address and staff delivery list is up to date and add us to your safe senders!

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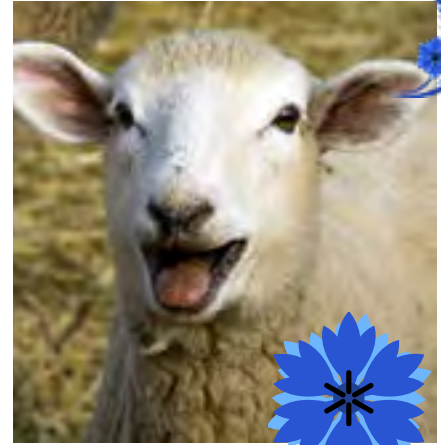


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BLEATINGS FROM RAMSAK HQ...



Dear Reader

Sunshine, Rain, Wind and Hail.....Spring has arrived then!

Having decided the time had come to dust off the garden mower it hasn't stopped raining since....pretty much a metaphor for farming at present?

As we move into Spring please do make sure you are ahead of the game with ordering not only fuel, but oils and adBlue. There are constant price changes, both upwards and back down again, but we will continue to do our best this end for everyone.

Lucy now has an impressive portfolio of oils and lubricant suppliers who are offering some very keen quotations, so do speak to her when you next need to order.

Fertiliser deliveries are not currently experiencing too long a lead time, but when and if it does dry up enough in some soggy areas across our region demand on trucks will increase, so if you are looking to get an order in do so now to get something onto the books.

Lastly, our Fuel cards continue to prove very popular, and we have seen some very competitive pricing and would urge you to speak to us about sourcing them for your business or personal use. They are free and there is no obligation to use them.

The RAMSAK Team

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But the fund is still not open, three months later, and the [CLA](#) is calling for urgent action.

Worst flooding

Somerset farmer Charlie Ainge said some of his arable fields had been under water for seven weeks over the winter, citing more intense rainfall patterns and a lack of maintenance work on the Somerset Levels by the Environment Agency as key factors.

Mr Ainge said: “This year has been terrible, and to still be under water in spring is unheard of. Our whole arable operation is on hold because there’s nowhere to drill, and we’ve reached the point where we’re seriously considering its long-term future.

“Our flock costs have also doubled as we’ve had to buy in fodder for our sheep, so financially it’s all hit us very hard. It leaves us with a massive tidy-up bill, and the support is laughable.”

Stephen Watkins said his Worcestershire farm had experienced some of its worst flooding since 1947, making it impossible to plant sugar beet or potatoes in mid-March as normal.

Especially difficult months

CLA president Victoria Vyvyan said: “The fund is welcome, but farmers need help right now and it must open as soon as possible.

“The impact of flooding on farm businesses up and down the country is profound, damaging infrastructure such as fencing and walls, contaminating soil, and jeopardising environmental projects. Crops and livestock have been badly affected, and any reduction in domestic food production may lead to an increase in imports and prices.

“Farmers are dynamic and forward-thinking and are used to working with extreme weather, but the last few months have been especially difficult. The winter rainfall is pushing businesses to their limit, and many fear for this entire cropping season.”

Calls for appropriate compensation

Landowners do not receive compensation when the Environment Agency effectively floods their fields to protect downstream houses and villages, despite the harm to their crops and livelihoods, and the CLA is calling for more support to repair the damage.

Ms Vyvyan added: “Years of poor management of watercourses and flood defences by the Environment Agency, often caused by lack of resources, means farmers are still unfairly shouldering the burden of flooding devastation.

“Farming businesses are willing to help protect homes and businesses from flooding by storing floodwater, but in turn there should be recognition of the added burdens on farmers with appropriate compensation.”

Source: www.farmersguide.co.uk, 5 April 2024

GROUP DEMANDS BASIC INCOME TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL SECURITY FOR FARMERS



A new group of farmers is demanding a Universal Basic Income (UBI) to provide financial security as the UK transitions away from the historic EU subsidy regime.

At least 100 farmers are involved in a new campaign group to lobby the government on the issue; BI4FARMERS, which is demanding a UBI for all farmers in Britain.

According to the group, a basic income for farmers would be a regular, unconditional cash payment made directly to farmers and agricultural workers.

In a new report released today (4 April) by BI4Farmers and think tank Autonomy, farmers say this would provide the financial security needed as Brexit represents a historic shift in state subsidies for the industry.

Many UK farms have depended on EU subsidies for decades and these are now in the process of being replaced by schemes delivered by the UK government.

However, independent and government projections show that these new schemes won’t cover the funding gaps left in this transition, leaving many small family farms on the brink of financial viability.

In Wales, Dover and other areas of the UK, farmers have been disrupting traffic by driving their tractors in protest against government plans to change how farming is funded.

Prior to leaving the EU, many UK farms were essentially kept afloat by EU subsidies. In 2019, the UK received approximately £4.7 billion in funding from the EU, under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), introduced in 1962.

Most (80%) of this money was provided through the Basic Payments Scheme (BPS): subsidies granted based upon the area of land kept suitable for grazing or under cultivation.

Without these subsidies, between 19% and 42% of farms would have been unable to break even. The discontinuation of this support represents a source of severe uncertainty for many British farmers.

Alongside the funding issues, there has been a significant and growing problem in the low yield of new workers since Brexit which has caused a decline in the farming work force.

In Wales, the Welsh government has already established an ongoing basic income pilot for care leavers.

Jo Poulton, BI4Farmers coordinator, said farmers were “overworked and underpaid”, but the Brexit process presented an ideal opportunity to change this.

Continued page 4...

She said: “A basic income for farmers would guarantee an adequate income, improving access to time off and reasonable working hours and making entering a career in farming affordable for new entrants.”

Will White, Sustainable Farming Campaign coordinator at Sustain, added: “UBI could be an important safety net for farmworkers and small new entrant growers, providing financial security.”

“When paired with better funding for Environmental Land Management Schemes, UBI has the potential to significantly bolster the agricultural sector’s overall resilience.”

“Looking into radical, yet promising solutions like this is essential. We support a deeper exploration of how basic income policies could work in the UK context and are watching this campaign with interest.”

Source: www.farminguk.com, 4 April 2024

- How assurance schemes can and should fit with regulation and government schemes to best serve members
- The group will have four commissioners who will be responsible for setting the terms of reference and a timeline to ensure the process provides clear outcomes to the industry.

Read the latest news on the review:

- [Response to Greener Farms Commitment announcement](#)
- [Industry-wide Assurance Review officially launched](#)
- [UK farming unions and AHDB issue joint statement](#)
- [AHDB and NFU to commission independent review of farm assurance](#)
- [AHDB ready to support discussions over future of farm assurance](#)
- [Independent review of combinable crops assurance commissioned by AHDB](#)

Source: www.ahdb.org.uk, April 2024



FARM ASSURANCE REVIEW LATEST UPDATE

A review of farm to fork assurance schemes across the industry is currently underway.

The independent review has been jointly commissioned by the National Farmers’ Union (NFU) and AHDB, along with NFU Cymru, The Ulster Farmers’ Union (UFU) and NFU Scotland (NFUS), who will all form part of the Assurance Review steering group, which has overall responsibility for its delivery.

The industry-wide Assurance Review is focused on repurposing assurance in a post-Brexit world.

It aims to seek feedback from all farmers, crofters and growers about all farm assurance schemes with a view to revolutionising farm to fork assurance, making it truly fit for the future.

The review will examine:

- How farm assurance can deliver value back to scheme members
- How standards are developed to meet the evolving needs of members, the markets they serve, sector diversity and in appreciation of the global marketplace
- How assurance members are engaged with (including the development of standards), inspected and how technology is used in assurance now and in future

RED TRACTOR SCRAPS GREENER FARMS MODULE



Red Tractor Assurance has confirmed that it is dropping its proposed Greener Farms Commitment module (GFC) following negative feedback from members and the wider industry.

The scheme was first announced last autumn, but the standards body was quickly criticised for a lack of consultation, with some accusing British Retail Consortium (BRC) members of trying to gain from on-farm environmental benefits without being prepared to pay for them.

Among the critics was then NFU Vice President Tom Bradshaw, who in October said the Red Tractor board had not taken the views of NFU members into account. “For the past 18 months we have been robustly challenging the governance behind the development of this environment module,” he said. “I was alarmed that it had been previously decided by the Red Tractor board that, in developing this module, all the technical committees and sector boards where NFU members sit would be bypassed. I have found this position completely unacceptable and said so repeatedly”.

Continued page 5...

On Friday 22 March, Christine Tacon, chair of Red Tractor, commented, “We take responsibility for those issues and are sorry. We hope that by dropping the module, we can close the door on this chapter and move forward. We will only be involved in future environmental standards when all constituencies across the UK food and farming chain, by sector, ask us to and with full consultation”.

In a joint response, the four UK farming unions and AHDB said, “We welcome today’s news that Red Tractor has listened to feedback from its members and has axed the proposed Greener Farms Commitment”. However, some farmers and growers warned that the loss of the GFC must not result in even more separate audits. Andrew Blenkinsop of the Euston Estate in Suffolk told The Independent, “Given that the industry doesn’t seem to want to prove its green credentials to its customers, I fully understand the reasoning behind the Red Tractor decision. I only hope that the result isn’t a mass of audits being completed for each of the retailers independently”.

Andrew Opie, director of food and sustainability at the British Retail Consortium, commented, “It is disappointing that we have not been able to make progress with the agreed AFS strategy. However, this will not stop retailers working with their farmers to improve sustainability at a farm level and demonstrating this commitment to their consumers and stakeholders”.

Red Tractor’s Assured Food Standards Board also accepted the conclusions of the recent Tickell review of its governance and confirmed that it will implement all the review’s recommendations. Christine Tacon added, “We will listen more closely to our farmers; for example, Red Tractor has previously found that transparency, audit burden and value are farmers’ top concerns with Red Tractor. Significant efforts are already underway to tackle these, which you will hear more about in the next few months”

Source: www.ahdb.org.uk, April 2024



Thousands of small-scale farmers have launched a new petition demanding the UK government to double its agriculture budget.

The Landworkers’ Alliance (LWA), a union representing 2,400 small-scale ecological farmers, says the government is failing to do enough to support the industry.

It says a transition to a nature-friendly farming system is ‘now beyond dispute’, but further government support is needed to ‘ensure the security of farming livelihoods’.

Modelling by the NFU estimates that £4 billion a year is needed to support an agricultural policy that supports productivity, the environment and the economic stability of farms.

Similarly, research by RSPB, the National Trusts and the Wildlife Trusts revealed that £4.4 billion a year is needed to invest in nature-friendly farming to meet legally binding commitments.

A bigger budget, backed by political will, can ensure that nature, farmers and the UK food supply are all protected, the LWA says.

The extra budget would be spent on higher payments for the Environmental Land Management Schemes (ELMS), as well as advice, mentoring and support networks for farmers.

Capital grants for a transition to environmental farming and organic conversion payments are also needed, the union says.

The petition will run until September, with the LWA hoping that it will reach enough signatures to be debated in parliament before the general election.

Jyoti Fernandes, smallholder farmer from Dorset and head of policy at the alliance, warned that there would be ‘no food if we don’t sort out the ecological crisis’.

“There will be no food if farmers can’t earn a living growing food and restoring the land,” he added.

“We need a green transition, so farmers can work with dignity as they change the way they farm. So many farmers are already pioneering nature-friendly farming methods but they too are being left behind.

“It’s time for the UK government to take food and farming seriously and double the agriculture budget to support a green transition in farming that doesn’t leave farmers behind.”

James Rebanks, cattle farmer from Cumbria and author of ‘The Shepherd’s Life’ and ‘English Pastoral’, said there needed to be greater investment in the food and farming system.

“It is within our grasp to make rural Britain all we need it to be. The financial cost is embarrassingly small - we just need the political will to make it happen.

“Whatever your politics, a bigger budget and more support for farmers makes perfect sense - it is investing in our own landscapes and food systems for the sake of all of us.”

If the petition reaches 10,000 signatures it will receive a response from the government, and if it reaches 100,000 signatures the issue will be debated in parliament.

Source: www.farminguk.com, 4 April 2024



CERTAS ENERGY: Ready to Go Solar?

Solar PV with Evolo from Certas Energy and the Improving Farm Productivity Grant

With rising energy costs and a push for sustainability, the agricultural sector is increasingly turning towards renewable energy solutions such as solar to mitigate these challenges.

The Improving Farm Productivity grant (round 2) presents a fantastic opportunity to overcome the initial financial hurdles of solar installation. This initiative is designed to help support farmers, notably in adopting solar photovoltaic (PV) systems. With the window for Round 2 applications closing on March 21, the time to assess your eligibility is now.

The good news is that Certas Energy services are evolving. With our new renewable energy division Evolo – specialists in smart solar solutions – we can now offer solar PV installation to farming businesses like yours.

Understanding the Improving Farm Productivity Grant

Offered by the government to farms and horticulturists in England only, this grant aims to elevate productivity through financial support for substantial capital investments, covering:

- Solar PV systems.
- Automated equipment for enhanced crop and livestock management.
- Specific LED lighting tailored for horticulture.
- Cutting-edge ventilation technology.

Round 2 enables applicants to cover up to 25% of solar PV costs, offering funding from £15,000 to £100,000. The application has two critical stages, with a March 21, 2024 deadline. It's a selective process, requiring an initial eligibility assessment in stage one, followed by a detailed application in stage two.

Evolo from Certas Energy can help streamline this process for you. Our Renewable Energy Division is committed to propelling your solar transition forward through either a remote consultation or an on-site survey.

[Click here for for a call from RAMSAK to discuss booking you in for a consultation.](#)

Source: www.certasenergy.co.uk, 11 March 2024





Working together to meet Government targets for tree planting in England

Ian Tubby, Head of Policy and Advice at the Forestry Commission, and Adrian Jowitt, Principal Adviser Woodland Policy at Natural England reflect on the recent CEO visit at Cranborne Estate, where Marian Spain and Richard Stanford discussed our shared vision for woodland creation.

Society is facing a climate and nature emergency which is having a damaging effect on public health and wellbeing. To help address this, government has, in the [Environmental Improvement Plan \(EIP23\)](#), set challenging targets which support the commitment to grow a national [Nature Recovery Network](#) of wildlife-rich places that boost habitat and species recovery, enhance climate resilience and improve access to nature.

Rates of woodland creation need to accelerate to capture carbon and to help biodiversity. To meet legally binding environmental targets, we need to increase tree cover from 14.5% to 16.5% by 2050. Rates of woodland creation need to accelerate to capture carbon and to help biodiversity. To meet legally binding environmental targets, we need to increase tree cover from 14.5% to 16.5% by 2050.

Sharing our vision for woodlands

We cannot meet these challenging targets on our own and we need to work with land managers, government agencies and others to achieve this. In May 2023 Marian Spain, CEO of Natural England, and Richard Stanford, CEO of the Forestry Commission, signed a [joint statement on woodland creation](#). Initially internally focused, we now want to share this thinking more widely.

The statement sets out the types of woods and trees we want to see created to deliver EIP23 targets. Importantly, it makes the point that we need all sorts of trees and woody habitats to deliver government ambitions for nature recovery, carbon sequestration and timber production.

This includes woodlands designed specifically for nature recovery and commercial tree plantations, from scrub and trees outside of woods and on our city streets, to agroforestry schemes on farmland. Some owners will expect their woodlands to contribute to the bottom line of their business. For others, economics and income may not be

the principal reason for creating woodlands and planting trees.

Delivery underway and challenges

Forestry Commission and Natural England know that applicants want quick decisions on woodland creation proposals and a predictable and joined up service. Effective joint working is key to making this happen. There have been some good examples of this, including guidance on tree planting and wading birds, and guidance on tree planting and peatland.

In February, the [Woodland Creation Fast Track](#), jointly developed with Natural England, was launched. This service will provide applicants with regulatory decisions and grant offers within 12 weeks of receipt where woodland creation proposals are in areas of 'low sensitivity' e.g. away from designated sites, deep peat, and the best and most versatile farmland. There are 3 million ha of this land. We only need around 8.5% (260,000 ha) to achieve our legally binding tree cover target, making space for woodland without having negative impacts on food security.

So far, the average size of new woodland created under the Nature for Climate Fund is less than 5 ha. This may not provide the scale needed for economically viable woodland management; however, these woodlands can provide important benefits for nature and carbon storage. Many owners simply enjoy 'being there' and take pleasure from watching their new woodland develop, attracting a variety of insect, bird and animal species. Whatever the objective for creating a new woodland, the ongoing maintenance and monitoring is an essential part of woodland ownership.

Forestry Commission and Natural England are working together to encourage owners to improve the condition of their woodlands, recognising them as an asset which requires some form of management.

Our woods have a long history of management that has helped create the important woodland habitats we value for wildlife. Ensuring that management, including deer and grey squirrel, is thought about in the design of new woods will enable our new woodlands to be sustainable and resilient in the long term, providing for nature and people.

More and more estates and farms are planting trees and creating woodlands. Often woodlands planted for timber production can produce similar levels of income to agriculture in the long term, especially on marginal land. Landowners can also access income from carbon markets via the [Woodland Carbon Code](#).

[CLICK HERE FOR THE FULL ARTICLE AND BLOG ON WOODLAND MANAGEMENT AT CRANBORN ESTATE](#)

Source: www.forestrycommission.blog.gov.uk, 8 April 2024



Defra has confirmed the sighting and capture of a single Asian hornet at Ash in Kent on 11 March, the earliest that the invasive species has been recorded in the UK, prompting fears that it may have become established in England.

Since 2016 there have been a total of 102 sightings, although more than half of these (56) were recorded last year. Four of the incidents in 2023 involved single insects, while the rest saw nests destroyed. Most incidents occurred in Kent or the south of England, although sightings and nests were also confirmed in Newcastle upon Tyne, Hull, and Yarm in North Yorkshire.

Diane Drinkwater, chair of the British Beekeepers' Association, told The Guardian, "I suspect this is a winter queen that was born here. That has not been confirmed, but that would be logical.

"Their life cycle is not advanced enough for them to have developed workers by this point [in the year]. So, I suspect it has not migrated from abroad, but we may have missed a nest somewhere."

David Smith, of conservation charity Buglife, added, "It would seem increasingly likely that [the hornets] have overwintered given the number of records last year and nests found right through until November. We have had a relatively mild winter so travel by their own means from the continent would still be possible, and there are also open pathways via imported natural goods such as plants, soils, and timber.

"It is highly concerning that their 'season' appears to be getting longer and this is a real risk to wild pollinators that are already facing significant declines and are now faced with a ferocious predator as they are emerging from winter."

Asian hornets, which are slightly smaller than the native species, first arrived in France in 2004 and then spread rapidly across Europe and can cause damage to honey bee colonies and other beneficial insects.

Source: www.hortnews.com, 3 April 2024



DETECTING THE EARLY SIGNS OF UNHEALTHY TREES

Trees can encounter health problems or issues that make them unhealthy or potentially hazardous. Therefore, it is important to identify the early signs of tree health decline.

Detecting early signs of tree health issues is crucial for routine tree maintenance. The sooner a problem is identified, diagnosed, and addressed, the less likely it is to cause long-term damage. Here are some key signs so you can promptly take action to protect your property, workforce and the public:

- Check for Dead Tree Branches
- Check for Holes in the Trunk
- Check the Leaves
- Leaning
- Root Girdling

Regular inspections are essential for identifying tree issues before they become severe. An inspection by an arborist, an expert in tree care, can help identify problems early and facilitate easier treatment. If you suspect your tree needs assistance, consult a qualified arborist who can assess the situation and provide suitable solutions. These signs are just a few indicators of tree health problems, so there's no need to panic—seek professional advice to address any concerns.

Contact RAMSAK on 01622 815356 or email enquiries@ramsak.co.uk for your nearest arborist fellow member.



CONTACT RAMSAK NOW FOR ALL YOUR FORESTRY REQUIREMENTS, FROM PLANTING TO TRAINING TO TREE REMOVAL SERVICES

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FERTILISER: Fertiliser markets steady with UK reliant on imports



New technology that harnesses lightning's nitrogen-fixing properties could revolutionise nitrate fertiliser production and supply, while cutting carbon emissions and improving soil health.

Fertiliser prices have shown little movement in recent months, with imported ammonium nitrate at about £350/t.

Traders say the market remains fairly quiet, especially across Europe, for both liquid and granular products, but demand has started to pick up slightly.

Global markets are also relatively stagnant, but some drivers remain.

Urea prices in Egypt have reportedly dropped back by about £8/t, while production in India has fallen, and Houthi attacks on cargo ships carrying fertiliser in the Red Sea has added some caution.

A weaker exchange rate is also playing a role with sterling lower and trading at £1:US\$1.26 midweek, making imports more expensive.

Analysts at ADM Agriculture said UK farmgate prices have edged slightly lower for straight urea, while inhibited urea remains relatively stable. They added: "Potash has reportedly traded higher in Brazil, but prices remain at a discount to European levels at present."

AHDB analysts said assessing what source of nitrogen is optimal, reviewing nitrogen use efficiency, and maybe seeking alternative sources could help to manage fertiliser cost.

Import reliance

The UK relies on imports for about 60% of its total use, with only about 40% of its requirement produced here.

This means domestic prices are heavily influenced by European gas markets, which had been falling, but have started to recover in recent weeks.

Earlier this month, fertiliser manufacturer Yara announced plans to invest £7m at its liquid fertiliser terminal at Chedburgh in East Anglia, with aims of the upgraded site being fully operational by spring 2025.

Martin Saunders, Yara's terminal manager, said: "Manufacturing the product ourselves here in the UK allows us to guarantee great product quality from factory to farm."

Kevin Soper, regional terminal manager for Yara Europe, added that this investment would help it to achieve safe and efficient operations and deliver high-quality products.

New urea application rules

From 1 April, urea fertilisers must include an inhibitor as part of the government's plan to reduce ammonia pollution by 16% by 2030.

Finley Hawkins, Frontier fertiliser business development manager, said: "The easiest solution is to use the numerous AN-based options, as the rules don't apply to these products.

"However, you should still consider product quality, consistency and availability. You should continue to look at the cost per kilogram of nitrogen, as well as the total programme costs for all available options alongside their individual merits for each business."

Source: www.fwi.co.uk, 28 March 2024

RAMSAK FERTILISER

We can source a complete range of high quality fertilisers and ensure that our products are sold and marketed in a responsible way.

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GROWERS URGED THAT YELLOW RUST 'LURKING' IN WHEAT NEEDS COST-EFFECTIVE EARLY CONTROL



A perfect storm of late-drilled fields, susceptible varieties and a mild winter mean that yellow rust is now lurking in many winter wheat crops, said a Syngenta cereal disease expert.

Joe Bagshaw explained that with its potential to inflict as much as 50% yield loss, it will be important to tackle yellow rust early, before it has a chance to spread up the plant.

Mr Bagshaw said: "Unlike *Septoria tritici*, which is favoured by earlier drilling, yellow rust tends to be more of a problem in later-drilled winter wheat.

"Clearly, later drilling has been commonplace this season because of the washout weather. But several key varieties that are suited to later drilling also have low yellow rust resistance ratings. On top of that, winter temperatures simply haven't been cold enough to kill off the lower leaves where yellow rust is lurking.

"All this means we now have a bank of infection in the base of many wheat crops. This will need controlling before it spreads up to the top three leaves, because these leaves contribute about three quarters of final yield."

Cost-effective solutions

With yields already likely to be depressed to some degree because of later drilling, Mr Bagshaw said it will be vital to do the best possible job of safeguarding the remaining yield potential, but to do so cost-effectively.

"Understandably, growers will be looking for cost-effective fungicides in the early part of the season. But it's important to ensure these fungicides also provide proven yellow rust activity wherever this is a threat.

"Consult the fungicide dose response curves on the AHDB website, which show results on the reductions in yellow rust and yields achieved with different fungicides.

"Solatenol (benzovindiflupyr), which is the SDHI fungicide in Elatus Era, has repeatedly given top-level results in yellow rust situations. It also provides excellent value for money for protecting crops at the important T1 fungicide timing, which starts the process of protecting the top three yield-building leaves.

"After the rains, it's also clearly important to stay on top of *Septoria tritici*. Where later-drilled wheat crops contain lower levels of *Septoria tritici*, they should be in a more preventative situation than earlier-drilled fields. This again makes Elatus Era a good option to consider at T1 in these later-drilled situations," he adds.

Better disease control

In addition, Mr Bagshaw said that tank-mixing a multi-site fungicide with an SDHI is always an important consideration for resistance management in *Septoria tritici* situations, to help protect the activity of SDHIs for the future.

"An SDHI which offers good value for money makes it an easier decision to include a multi-site in the tank mixture, and to apply that SDHI at a suitably robust dose for better disease control," he adds.

For RAMSAK members who can offer advice, products or services contact 01622 815356 or email enquiries@ramsak.co.uk.

Source: www.farmersguide.co.uk, 8 April 2024

ADAMA: Perfect storm warning for BYDV infections in spring barley

The mild and wet conditions which have dominated the first three months of 2024 could culminate in a perfect storm for BYDV (barley yellow dwarf virus) infections in spring barley.

That is the warning from Dr Bill Lankford, herbicide and insecticide technical specialist at ADAMA, who explains that an early aphid migration is predicted to coincide with when crops are at their most vulnerable.

"In England, the first aphid migration of the year rarely threatens spring barley, as crops are usually far enough ahead that they have advanced beyond their most susceptible 2-5 leaf growth stage," Dr Lankford explains.

"However, the mild conditions in January, February and March mean temperatures rarely fell below the minus 5°C needed to reduce aphid populations. And, whilst the majority of spring barley would normally be sown and out of the ground by the end of March, large areas are still to be drilled, leaving a significant potential for aphids to find and infect new seedlings as soon as they emerge."

To protect yields, and the potential for crops to attain a malting premium, growers are advised to factor a suitable aphicide treatment into their early season spray programmes.

Assuming the aphid population threshold is exceeded, the best line of defence is to apply an insecticide when the crop is at growth stage 13-14, with Dr Lankford recommending the use of a pesticide with a lower impact on the beneficial insects which feed on and, therefore, help to control pest populations.

For RAMSAK members who can offer advice, products or services contact 01622 815356 or email enquiries@ramsak.co.uk.

Source: www.farming.co.uk, 5 April 2024



UK agriculture is lucky to have a rich resource of long-term experiments. There are thought to be 25 experiments worldwide greater than 120 years old; 11 of them are in the UK. NIAB delivers several LTE on behalf of The Morley Agricultural Foundation (TMAF) investigating rotations, cultivations, fungicide response, soil amendments and mineral fertilisers (Figure 1).

The oldest of these, the Saxmundham Experimental Site was set up in 1899 and is regarded as the third oldest continuing agricultural experiment in the country.

In June 2023 Rothamsted Research hosted the Association of Applied Biologists (AAB) conference 'Long term experiments: meeting future challenges', on the 180th anniversary of the Broadbalk winter wheat experiment, the world's longest running field trial.

The conference emphasised the importance of LTE in tackling the problems and questions of 21st century agricultural systems. Nathan Morris and David Clarke attended the conference and presented long-term findings from some of the TMAF-supported long term experiments, managed by NIAB, which are used regularly to explore the challenges farms face today.

[CLICK HERE FOR THE FULL ARTICLE AND LONG-TERM FINDINGS](#)

Source: www.niab.com, 2 April 2024

Soils and farming systems specialist David Clarke walks us through the rich resource of long-term agricultural experiments, that provide vital insights into how modern farming practices are impacting soil health and crop productivity...

It is difficult to quantify the exact number of long-term experiments (LTE) globally; in 2003 there was estimated to be around 600 field experiments over 10 years old but the figure is likely to be higher today.

A useful resource documenting the details of these LTEs is GLTEN, a network of global long-term experiments across six continents which includes the majority of those found in the UK.

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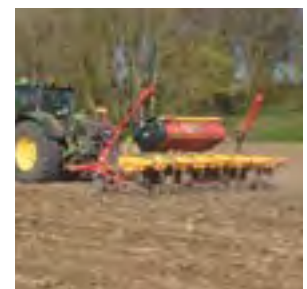
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Apple growers intending to adopt tractor-mounted camera technology to bring a new level of precision to their orchard management could save 60% of the cost thanks to a new Farming Equipment and Technology Fund grant.

Following representations from Agrovista Precision and Aurea Imaging, government funding has been secured that covers any make of tractor-mounted, high-resolution sensor system, plus an in-cab terminal that provides onboard, real-time processing of data that can be uploaded to a computer or the cloud. Pricing is based around Aurea Imaging's TMS TreeScout, which could see growers net £12,900 towards the cost of the equipment.

Agrovista Precision manager Graeme Barrett says: "This funding offers a great opportunity for orchard managers to take a big step forward in precision management. TreeScout, Aurea's tractor-mounted sensor that was launched in the UK last summer, is owned and operated by growers and replaces drones as the primary source of information gathering. It provides a quick, reliable, and economical method of collecting and analysing data, such as blossom density and tree vigour, to help growers pinpoint inputs to maximise production of first-class fruit. We are delighted that our effort to obtain a grant has paid off, particularly at a time when interest in precision orchard management is growing quickly".

Agrovista Fruit agronomist Tom Johnson says that the funding helps open the door to significant economic gains. "Managing each tree as an individual helps to create a more homogenous orchard. In collaboration with their agronomists, growers can more accurately match inputs to need using GPS-guided variable rates, producing a more uniform fruit set, and improving quality and yield consistency".

The potential economic benefits from using TreeScout are considerable. Work on precision thinning by Aurea Imaging in the Netherlands showed a typical yield uplift of 6 tonnes/ha, worth over £2600/ha.

Source: www.hortnews.com, 8 April 2024

'Apple Best Practice Guide' moves to niab.com

The horticultural industry's digital 'Apple Best Practice Guide' has a new home at niab.com.

Free and available to all, the online Guide, hosted by the crop research organisation NIAB, contains a vast volume of best practice information on commercial

apple production. Topics include 'Agronomy', with information on flowering, fruit set, thinning and fruit growth, 'Pest and Disease' identification and control with integrated pest management, and 'Post-harvest Information', including storage disorders and rots.

First published by MAFF in paper form in the late 1990s, the Guide was written and compiled by several leading experts in the apple industry, from research and advisory organisations including the then Horticultural Research International at East Malling, the Fruit Advisory Services Team, ADAS and Worldwide Fruit/Qualytech.

To ensure that the Guide could be updated with the latest best practice information, it was soon converted to a digital format and hosted by the Horticultural Development Council (HDC) and later by the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB). However, with the discontinuation of the horticultural and fruit levy, the Guide needed a new home to ensure that it remained active. An agreement has been reached between AHDB and NIAB to transfer it to its new home on niab.com and it is now live and free to view.

NIAB's Knowledge Exchange Manager Scott Raffle, commented, "It was important for apple growers and agronomists that the Guide be maintained. Transferring it to NIAB allows us to keep it updated, especially when results of apple research projects are delivered. The pest and disease information, together with integrated pest management content, changes most rapidly, and I make it a priority to keep this refreshed whenever changes are required".

The 'Apple Best Practice Guide' can be found on niab.com, via Membership/NIAB Fruit.

Source: www.hortnews.com, 4 March 2024

UK growers warn of potato shortage as European buyers struggle

Industry commentators have warned that this year's record low potato harvest could result in shortages later this summer.

Tom Pocklington, crop production director at AKP Group, told the Express, "There are literally hundreds of things that can go wrong. And the one thing you haven't thought of will happen." The company warned of 'a reduction in yield due to the challenging harvest conditions, compounded by increased energy and fertilizer costs.' This has also led to retail price increases of up to 20 per cent for certain potato varieties in supermarkets.

"We'll come very close (to running out by the summer) and some varieties will definitely run out," added colleague Dave Burks. "Put it this way: if you like your Maris Pipers, I suggest you put them in a muddy bag and stick it in a dark garage."

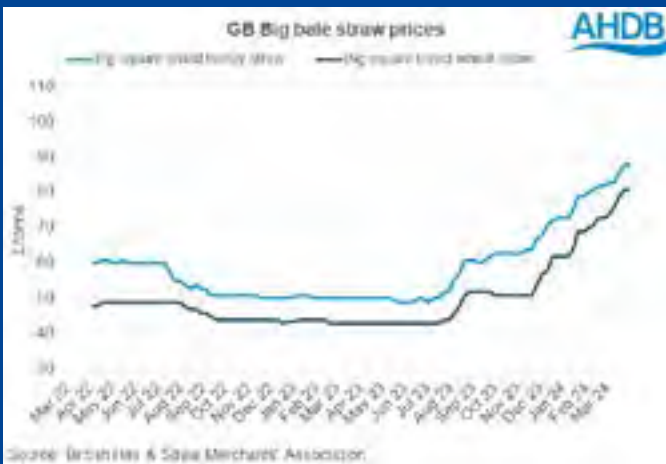
Since 1995 the number of potato growers in the UK has decreased from 30,000 to just 1,200, but the difficult market has also been reflected across Europe. According to the Irish Farmers Association (IFA) potato exporters, peelers, and fresh market buyers are competing with one another for supplies, with exorbitant prices being quoted. In turn, this is reducing trade from Mediterranean and Eastern countries, while strong consumer demand and delayed planting in the UK is helping to keep prices firm. FRP, were appointed as joint administrators on 28 February.

Source: www.hortnews.com, 1 April 2024



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.



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LIVESTOCK, POULTRY & DAIRY NEWS



TB VACCINATION TO REDUCE SPREAD IN DAIRY HERDS BY 89%

The latest research has found that TB vaccination not only cuts down the severity of disease in infected cattle, but also reduces its spread in dairy herds by 89%.

The study, led by the University of Cambridge and Penn State University, improves prospects for the elimination and control of bovine tuberculosis – a disease that results in large economic costs and health impacts globally.

This is the first study to show that BCG-vaccinated cattle infected with TB are substantially less infectious to other cattle. This remarkable indirect effect of the vaccine beyond its direct protective effect has not been measured before.

The spillover of infection from livestock has been estimated to account for about 10% of human tuberculosis cases.

While such zoonotic TB (zTB) infections are most commonly associated with gastro-intestinal infections related to drinking contaminated milk, zTB can also cause chronic lung infections in humans.

Lung disease caused by zTB can be indistinguishable from regular tuberculosis, but is more difficult to treat due to the natural antibiotic resistance in the cattle bacteria.

TB remains endemic in many countries around the world, including in Europe and the Americas, where its control costs farmers and taxpayers hundreds of millions of pounds each year.

Vaccinated animals to be less infectious

Researchers examined the ability of the vaccine, Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG), to directly protect cattle that receive it as well as indirectly protect both vaccinated and unvaccinated cattle by reducing TB transmission.

Vaccinated and unvaccinated animals were put into enclosures with naturally infected animals, in a novel crossover design performed over two years.

Andrew Conlan, associate professor of epidemiology at the University of Cambridge's department of veterinary medicine and corresponding author of the study, said: "Our study found that BCG vaccination reduces TB transmission in cattle by almost 90%.

Protecting cattle and humans

The team focused their studies in Ethiopia, a country with the largest cattle herd in Africa and a rapidly growing dairy sector that has a growing burden of bovine tuberculosis.

Abebe Fromsa, associate professor of agriculture and veterinary medicine at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia and the study's co-lead author, said: "Bovine tuberculosis is largely uncontrolled in low- and middle-income countries, including Ethiopia.

"Vaccination of cattle has the potential to provide significant benefits in these regions."

Vivek Kapur, professor of microbiology and infectious diseases, Huck distinguished chair in global health at Penn State and a corresponding author of the study, added: "For over a hundred years, programs to eliminate bovine tuberculosis have relied on intensive testing and slaughtering of infected animals.

"This approach is unimplementable in many parts of the world for economic and social reasons, resulting in considerable animal suffering and economic losses from lost productivity, alongside an increased risk of spillover of infection to humans.

"By vaccinating cattle, we hope to be able to protect both cattle and humans from the consequences of this devastating disease."

Pinned hopes on cattle vaccination

Professor James Wood, Alborada professor of equine and farm animal science in the University of Cambridge's Department of Veterinary Medicine, noted that despite TB being more prevalent in lower-income countries, the United Kingdom, Ireland and New Zealand also experience considerable economic pressures from the disease which continues to persist despite intensive and costly control programs.

He said: "For over twenty-years the UK government has pinned hopes on cattle vaccination for bovine tuberculosis as a solution to reduce the disease and the consequent costs of the controls.

"These results provide important support for the epidemiological benefit that cattle vaccination could have to reduce rates of transmission to and within herds."

Find out more about the study [HERE](#).

Source: www.farmersguide.co.uk, 5 April 2024

Farmer survey aims to help researchers learn about lungworm outbreaks

A survey has launched for cattle farmers and vets to help researchers find out more about lungworm and its treatment across the UK.

Through the survey, the Control of Worms Sustainably (COWS) group hopes to learn more about when outbreaks of lungworm are occurring.

It also seeks to understand what class of stock is most affected, what clinical signs are seen and how well they respond to treatment.

This will help researchers at COWS track lungworm cases throughout the 2024 grazing season.

In recent years, scientists have been aware of reports of suspected lack of efficacy of wormers to treat lungworm infections in cattle.

Following a VMD-supported industry workshop held by COWS at Moredun in March 2023, it was recognised that taking a standardised approach to assessing wormer efficacy will help understand these issues.

COWS has devised an [online survey](#) for vets to fill in and submit when they come across cases of lungworm.

The collated, anonymised data from the survey will be used to form the basis of future discussions around the issue.

Source: www.farminguk.com, 8 April 2024

DEFRA: Defra's December survey reveals a drop in UK sheep and cattle populations

Sheep

According to Defra's latest census from 1 December 2023, the total UK sheep flock has seen a significant drop of 5.1% (-1.14m head) year-on-year, to 21.2 million head.

A 616,000 head (-4.3%) contraction in the female breeding flock accounted for most of the total reduction, although the "all other sheep and lambs" category saw a more pronounced drop in terms of percentage (-6.6%).

Total breeding flock in the last 10 years:



Source: Defra

The latest data shows that December 2023 held the lowest number of breeding females seen on record (according to Defra data reaching back to 1996), now at 13.8 million head. These trends follow the trajectory seen in the [June census](#). [Reduced lamb production](#) is expected in 2024, following the contraction of the breeding flock.

Cattle

Meanwhile, the UK cattle population dipped to 9.2 million head in December 2023, 1.8% below the previous year.

The total breeding herd (which makes up 34% of the total population) had declined by 2.2% and stood at 3.2 million head at time of the survey. The reduction was driven by a decline in the beef breeding herd of 61,000 head (-4.4%). The dairy breeding herd recorded marginal contraction of 9,000 head (-0.5%).

UK cattle population:

UK cattle number (1 st December 2023)			
1000 head	2022	2023	% change
All female cattle	6,940	6,840	-1.8
Breeding herd	3,244	3,174	-2.2
Beef herd	1,300	1,235	-4.4
Dairy herd	1,848	1,838	-0.5
Other female (>2yrs)	528	531	1.0
Female (1-2 yrs)	1,497	1,486	-0.7
Female (<1yr)	1,601	1,609	2.5
All male cattle	2,470	2,464	-2.0
Male (>2yrs)	249	257	2.9
Male (1-2yrs)	943	923	-2.0
Male (<1yrs)	1,278	1,224	-4.2
Total cattle and calves	9,418	9,244	-1.8

Source: Defra

The number of females between 1 and 2 years dipped from the high number recorded in June but remained stable on the year. Meanwhile, the number of females under the age of 1 year continued to tighten, by 42,000 head against December 2022.

Although there was a rise in the population of male cattle over the age of 2 years, the number of males younger than 2 years old experienced a decline of 73,000 head. This meant the total male cattle number contracted by 2.6% on the year.

The reduction in youngstock numbers aligns with trends in calf birth registrations. In 2023, the number of calves born in GB fell more steeply than in previous years, driven by fewer calves born to the suckler herd. Meanwhile, registrations of dairy-beef animals continued to rise, reflecting uptake in beef semen among dairy producers. For a more in-depth look into GB dairy-beef cattle numbers, [see HERE](#).

Source: www.ahdb.org.uk, 4 April 2024

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DEFRA: Defra announces changes to the GB poultry register

All birdkeepers, regardless of the size of their flock, will be required to officially register their birds under new measures announced by Defra.

The announcement follows a long-standing ask from the NFU dating back to 2017, for the government to urgently review the GB poultry register.

Defra consulted on the changes in March last year and has this week announced that the government, along with the devolved administrations, has agreed to make the following changes in England, Wales and Scotland:

- The threshold for mandatory registration will be reduced from 50 birds to 1, which means all poultry and captive bird keepers will be legally required to register their birds.
- Poultry keepers will be required to review their poultry register entry annually to ensure their details are up to date.

Key dates

The requirement for all poultry keepers to register will come into force in autumn 2024, with the requirement for an annual review to be introduced 12 months later. Psittacines and passerines (budgies, parrots, canaries and similar species) that are kept

indoors or in a dedicated 'bird house' without any outside access will be exempt from the above changes.

In England and Wales, keepers are encouraged to register their birds ahead of the legal deadline on 1 October 2024.

Bird keepers will need to provide information, including their contact details, the location where birds are kept and details of the birds (species, number and what they are kept for).

Protecting the national flock

The government said the changes would help manage potential disease outbreaks, such as avian influenza and Newcastle disease, and limit any spread.

The information on the register will also be used to identify all bird keepers in disease control zones, allowing for more effective surveillance, so that zones can be lifted at the earliest possible opportunity and trade can resume more quickly following an outbreak of avian disease in Great Britain.

NFU Poultry Board chair James Mottershead said the NFU was pleased to see Defra and the devolved governments taking steps to improve the accuracy and the relevance of the information it holds on poultry keepers of all scales and sizes.

For more information on registering your birds, visit: [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) | [Poultry and other captive birds: registration rules and forms.](#)

Source: www.nfuonline.com, (edited), 5 April 2024

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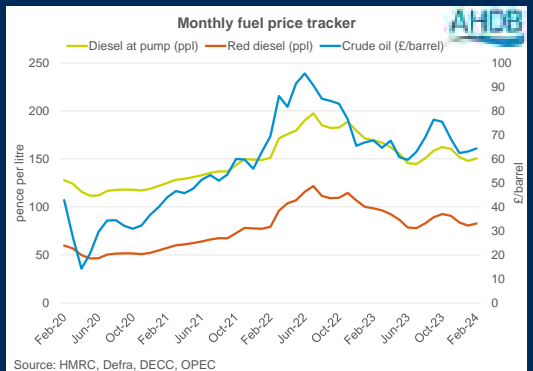
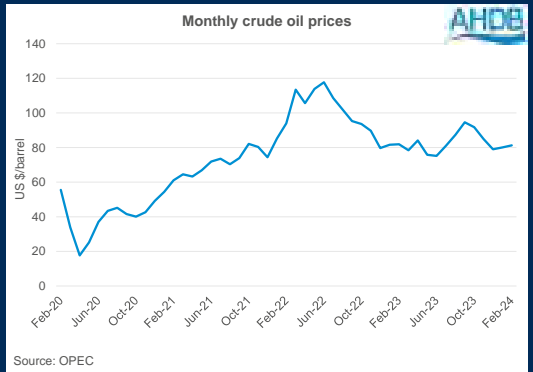
Monthly

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

Month	US\$ (barrel)	UK red diesel (ppl)	UK petrol (ppl)	UK diesel (ppl)
Feb-24	81.23	54.31	52.87	55.49
Jan-24	80.64	53.83	52.43	55.03
Monthly % change	1.1%	1.0%	2.1%	2.4%
Feb-23	81.88	53.67	56.43	59.03
Monthly % change	-1.8%	-1.3%	-5.8%	-6.1%

Source: Defra, DECC, OPEC, EIA

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



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

FUEL NEWS

CERTAS ENERGY: Do Home Heating Oil Additives Work & What Are the Benefits?

Do Home Heating Oil Additives Work?

If you drive a petrol or diesel car, you may have heard of fuel additives. Poured directly into your fuel tank, they help to keep your engine clean and prevent build-up, thereby improving fuel economy. We see the same principle with heating oil additives.

What Are Heating Oil Additives?

Let's start with the basics. Home heating oil is made of kerosene, a petroleum-based oil that burns to heat up water. This hot water then travels to pipes in the radiators of your home, keeping you warm throughout winter.

Not all fuel types are created equal, though. There are two main types available for domestic heating:

- Standard kerosene – also known as '28-second oil', this is a cost-effective, light option that is used for many home heating systems throughout the UK.
- Premium kerosene – this offers all the benefits of standard kerosene, but also features fuel oil additives or 'enhancers' to prevent clogs and burn more efficiently.

Glowmax Premium Kerosene

Our premium kerosene product is known as Glowmax. Though Glowmax costs more to purchase, it more than pays for itself thanks to its environmental factors. Unlike car engine additives, Glowmax already contains this special ingredient, so there's no need to add it to your heating oil tank.

Learn all about the difference between standard kerosene and premium kerosene.

How do Heating Oil Additives Work?

When a boiler runs on standard fuel, it runs the risk of a build-up of sludge in the fuel lines. This can affect other areas like the burner nozzle, which may be impacted by impurities like metal rust, dirt, carbon residue and biocides.

If you live in an area with hard water, it may have higher levels of mineral content. This can also cause a build-up of calcium and magnesium, leading to deposits that may affect fuel delivery lines or show up in the bottom of your oil tank.

This results in less efficient fuel burning and can lead to oil boiler breakdowns. Heating oil additives do not allow these contaminants to build up. They work by separating and removing water which would otherwise oxidise and cause rust. What's more, heating oil additives reduce the carbonising process – making fuel less viscous and easier to burn.

Continued...

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CONSULTATION SEEKS VIEWS ON ROLLING OUT HYDROGEN-POWERED TRACTORS



The government has (4 March) introduced legislation to Hydrogen-powered tractors could be a regular sight in Britain's fields if new plans are given the approval by the government.

New regulations, set out in a consultation, would allow hydrogen-powered tractors, diggers and forklifts to be used on roads and fields across the country.

The government said a switch to the cleaner technology would allow construction and farming to decarbonise faster.

Alongside electric, hydrogen is one of many sustainable fuel sources that could accelerate decarbonisation.

Technology and Decarbonisation Minister, Anthony Browne, said: "Allowing hydrogen-powered tractors, diggers and forklifts to use our roads is a common-sense move to help reduce emissions.

"These proposals are an important part of our plan to decarbonise transport in the UK, with skilled jobs in British companies helping roll out this cutting-edge hydrogen technology, making it more affordable and commonplace."

The launch of the consultation comes after the government issued JCB with a vehicle special order last year, giving the machinery firm permission to test its hydrogen-powered diggers on UK roads.

The new proposals will expand this permission permanently across the sector, meaning manufacturers can more easily scale up production of sustainable equipment where battery electric power is not practical.

The consultation closes for responses on 24 April.

Source: www.farminguk.com 5 April 2024

How Do I Know if I Need Heating Oil Additives?

Also known as heating oil stabilisers, these clever chemical components work in a preventative sense. That means that everybody can benefit from heating oil additives, regardless of whether or not there is gelling or freezing in the tank.

If you are beginning to notice higher heating oil consumption or soaring oil boiler maintenance costs, then it could be time to upgrade. The good news is that you can switch to premium kerosene without changing your entire heating system.

Are Heating Oil Additives Worth Buying?

Heating oil additives are certainly worth buying if you're looking to reduce your energy costs and your impact on the environment. They can help homeowners prolong the lifespan of their oil boilers, keeping fuel injectors and tanks free from bacterial growth and build-up. They also prevent corrosion in the oil tank, keeping maintenance and replacement costs down.

Modern, fuel-efficient boilers are becoming a staple in UK homes and they will work at their best with the right oil. Our Glowmax premium kerosene contains a combination of additives as standard, meaning you won't have to spend extra time adding to your tank.

Choose a premium fuel if you're looking for:

- Lower emissions thanks to reduced build-up of carbon
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- The fuel of choice for trusted household brands like Aga cookers
- Reduced maintenance costs on your oil tank and your boiler.

We each have a duty to do our bit for the planet. Heating oil additives allow us to take this even further with long-term energy savings. At Certas Energy, we'll always give you the most competitive prices and advise you on when to buy to get the best value for money. Speak to us today to discuss your heating oil upgrade.

Source: www.certasenergy.co.uk, 29 February 2024



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Rock Oil was established in 1928 by Fred Malone, the father of the current chairperson, Barbara Hewitt. Since its inception nearly 100 years ago, this family-run British company has grown from humble beginnings into a leader in lubricant technology, with distributors worldwide. Its foundation on family values and a customer-focused mindset drives Rock Oil's relentless pursuit of quality, sustainability, and community support. Greg Hewitt, the managing director, embodies this ethos through his incredible charity work, including running a seven-day marathon across the Sahara.

While Rock Oil is recognised for its involvement in motorsport, its primary market presence is in agricultural and industrial applications. The AGRI-GUARD® range, developed with the finest base oils and additive chemistry, addresses the rigorous demands of modern agricultural equipment, ensuring peak performance and prolonged component life. This commitment extends to environmental responsibility, with efforts to minimise emissions, enhance fuel economy, and extend service intervals, ensuring that machinery operates at peak efficiency throughout its lifecycle. With the range covering engine oils, transmission fluids, and various support products, the OEM-specific and

approved products guarantee that machinery operates at peak efficiency throughout its life, including the warranty period.

A key innovation underpinning Rock Oil's sustainability drive is the adoption of ultrasonic blending technology. This cutting-edge technique, which employs high-frequency sound waves to mix liquids, has revolutionised product blending by eliminating the need for diesel-powered heating. This has resulted in a dramatic 90% decrease in fossil fuel usage and a 70% reduction in carbon emissions per metric ton of blended product without compromising quality. The transition underscores Rock Oil's commitment to reducing its environmental footprint and leading the industry towards more sustainable manufacturing practices.

Rock Oil's narrative is enriched by its adherence to internationally recognised standards, underscoring its commitment to quality and environmental governance. The company's certifications in ISO 9001:2015 for Quality Management, ISO 14001:2015 for Environmental Management, and ISO 45001:2018 for Health and Safety Management reflect its comprehensive approach to operational excellence. These standards are not merely accolades but reflect Rock Oil's continuous improvement philosophy, ensuring product and service quality that meets and exceeds industry specifications.

We invite you to explore the AGRI-GUARD® range and discover how Rock Oil can enhance the performance of your horticultural and agricultural machinery. Contact Rock Oil today to learn more about the AGRI-GUARD® range and how it can enhance the performance of your agricultural machinery without compromising eco-friendly solutions.

Contact RAMSAK now on 01622 815356 or lucy@ramsak.co.uk

YARD & TRACK MAINTENANCE

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RAMSAK

TFR-RAMSAK SPECIAL OFFERS



TFR UNIVERSAL

A quality concentrated traffic film remover, formulated to effectively remove heavy traffic film soiling from vehicle paintwork and to degrease under chassis components and engine bays. Normal application between 1 or 2%.

1000 LTRs was £106 NOW £100
200 LTRs was £215 NOW £200
3 x 25 LTRs was £175 NOW £165

TFR WITH WAX

A quality concentrated traffic film remover, formulated to effectively remove heavy traffic film soiling and insects from vehicle paintwork. The product includes an antistatic additive which improves and enhances the finish on rinsing while reducing dust attraction. Normal application between 1 or 2%.

1000 LTRs was £106 NOW £100
200 LTRs was £215 NOW £200
3 x 25 LTRs was £175 NOW £165

TFR HEAVY DUTY

This product gives a superb fast clean rinse due to its high level of cationic. The concentration of this product also allows the detergent to be pre-diluted before final dosing through the machine. Normal application between 0.2 or 1%.


1000 LTRs was £140 NOW £130
200 LTRs was £285 NOW £270
3 x 25 LTRs was £235 NOW £225



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 <p>Penfold's commercial, agricultural and residential building specialists with over 40 years experience</p>	 <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #f4a460; color: white; padding: 5px;">METAL ROOFING</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Snaplock systems - Aluminium - Standing seam - Zinc - Copper
 <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #f4a460; color: white; padding: 5px;">CLADDING</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Composite cladding - Metal cladding - Fibre cement cladding - Timber cladding 	
 <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #f4a460; color: white; padding: 5px;">ASBESTOS REMOVAL</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removal - Disposal - Surveys 	

SOUTHERN SHEETING SPECIAL OFFER: 25% discount on Trespa Pura Siberian Larch, whilst stocks last!

Trespa Pura is a versatile solution for most siding projects, providing maximum design freedom and a long lasting, beautiful finish.

Flush sidings can be installed either vertically or horizontally, are easily handled and simple to cut. It is the perfect answer for both innovative and traditional ventilated facade projects.

Limited stock remaining, Once the current stock is sold out, it will NOT be replenished.

Visit www.southernsheeting.co.uk/trespa-siberian-larch-sale




SPECIAL OFFER FOR RAMSAK MEMBERS - 10% discount to all new members who join the FarmXS plastic recycling scheme!

FarmXS is now part of Grassroots Recycling, so we are now able to offer even more coverage.

95% of all material collected is recycled rather than going into landfill. Our motto is Farm the land, not fill it!

For more information contact enquiries@ramsak.co.uk

PLANT & MACHINERY NEWS

CRAWFORDS: Unlocking Precision Farming: AmaTron 4 ISOBUS Terminal's



Empowering Farmers with Advanced Precision and Efficiency

In precision farming, the AmaTron 4 ISOBUS terminal from AMAZONE stands out as a game-changer. Pioneering innovative software functions, this terminal redefines how farmers monitor and operate their machinery, introducing new possibilities in precision farming.

The AmaTron 4 Advantage

Launched in 2018, the AmaTron 4 has gained acclaim for its practice-oriented and user-friendly menu prompting. Its unique features make it more than just an ISOBUS terminal—it's a gateway to special terminal and machine functions that provide added value in precision farming.

New Functions Unveiled

The AmaTron 4 now introduces five additional software functions, extending its capabilities with AMAZONE crop protection sprayers, seed drills, and fertiliser spreaders.



1. Processing Spot Application Maps – AmaSelect Spot

With AmaSelect individual nozzle control, the AmaTron 4 allows part-area, site-specific weed treatment based on highly accurate spot application maps. Weeds are precisely treated, leading to potential savings of up to 80% in plant protection agents. The AmaTron Twin App

enhances driver comfort, displaying both the machine operation menu and the map view.

2. In Advance with Pinpoint Accuracy – DirectInject

DirectInject enables a needs-based supply of plant protection agents during application, responding individually to crop needs. The latest AmaTron 4 software allows for accurate metering of additional agents in advance, enhancing small-scale treatment with extreme precision.

3. Part-Area, Site-Specific Application for Any Medium – MultiMap

MultiMap, part of the AmaTron 4 terminal license GPS-Maps&Doc, regulates applied materials independently. Simultaneously processing up to four application maps, AmaTron 4 allows farmers to tailor seed and fertiliser rates based on soil conditions, ensuring an even seed placement.

4. Automation of Recurring Work Steps – GPS ScenarioControl

GPS ScenarioControl automates recurring tasks during fertiliser application, reducing errors and ensuring compliance. It records and replays routes and border spreading modes, providing error-free and legally compliant fertiliser applications. The route function is not limited to fertiliser application, extending to other connected implements.

5. Sharing Job Data via Smartphone

AmaTron 4 simplifies data exchange by allowing job data to be sent and accessed via a smartphone. This feature, enabled through the myAmaRouter App, offers flexibility between the map creator and the driver, making precision farming more streamlined.

These five innovative functions elevate precision farming to new heights, offering comfortable and precise cultivation of part areas, reduced workload, and more flexibility in digital data management. Farmers can optimise resource use and achieve efficient spot application, ensuring a sustainable and precise approach to modern agriculture.

Ready to experience the future of precision farming? [Contact your local Crawfords depot](#) today to explore the AmaTron 4 ISOBUS terminal and its groundbreaking software functions. Elevate your farming practices with advanced technology.

Source: www.rwcrawford.co.uk, 28 March 2024

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LEMMER VENTO MID-OUTLET BAR SEEDER
 £5,700.00

TOUGH MULCHERS
TMC CANCELA
 £13,646.75 ea

GREASE GUNS
ALUMITE GREASE GUNS
 £12,488.40 ea

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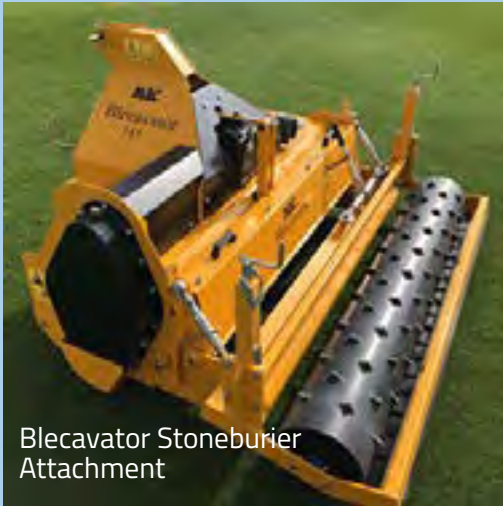
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FTH HIRE GROUP: PLANT ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE

TO HIRE!



Bleccavator Stoneburier Attachment

FTH Hire Group offers a wide range of attachments to hire via RAMSAK to make jobs quicker and efficient when you hire our machines. From breaking, cutting and ripping during demolition, to hole boring, waste handling and riddling out stone and larger objects from soil during construction or landscaping projects.

We have attachments for a number of different machines including excavators, telehandlers, eco plant, landscaping machines and so much more.

Some of our most popular items are our Breakers for excavators (available in a number of sizes), our Multi-Loader Mower, Log Grab and Pallet Fork Attachments, and Pallet Fork Attachments for our Sherpa Electric Dumper.

- Auger Units [VIEW RANGE](#)
- Breakers [VIEW RANGE](#)
- Clamp Buckets [VIEW RANGE](#)
- Riddle Buckets [VIEW RANGE](#)
- Rock/Log Grapple [VIEW RANGE](#)
- Selector Grab [VIEW RANGE](#)
- Ripper Tooth [VIEW RANGE](#)
- Post Puncher [VIEW RANGE](#)
- Mower Attachment [VIEW RANGE](#)
- Stoneburier Attachment [VIEW RANGE](#)

Contact RAMSAK to find out more and hire today on enquiries@ramsak.co.uk or 01622 815356

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Introducing...

Mini Tracked Dumpers



Versatile Equipment are excited to announce that we have partnered with Messersi to bring you their product line of Mini Tracked Dumpers. Get in touch for more info!

STOCK ARRIVING IN APRIL 2024

Versatile Equipment, members of RAMSAK, have partnered with Messersi to bring you their Mini Tracked Dumpers.

With its hydraulic-powered lifting system, this mini dumper can easily move large quantities of materials or deposit them in skips. Tracked dumpers carry loads up to 500 kilograms on rough surfaces and steep slopes up to 30 degrees. In addition, this machine can carry loads in extremely rough environments easily, thanks to its 9HP 270cc engine. This makes it suitable for construction or building sites.

Contact RAMSAK now for a price on 01622 81556 or email enquiries@ramsak.co.uk

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- Mini Excavators 0.6-3 Tonnes
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- JCB 3CX Sitemaster
- Dumpers 1-9 Tonnes
- Telescopic Handlers 4m-21m
- Rollers 80ADH, 100ADH, 120ADH
- Ramsak Remote Control Trench Compactors
- Hydraulic Breakers, Augers & Attachments
- Bunded Fuel Bowsers, Static & Wheeled
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ADVERTISING COSTS

All 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, saving us all time and charges being made.



£POA

STATIC CARAVANS AND CABINS

A number available. Please contact us for more info.

Location: ME17 3/24



£10,995 ono FINAL REDUCTION!

MINI COUNTRYMAN COOPER SD ALL4 (4WD) Auto

Park Lane Special Edition, Dec 2015, 2 owners, 70,500m, MOT Feb 25. FSH. Very high spec. inc. a/c, nav, full leather and rare double panoramic sunroof. Metallic grey/dark red. Black leather.

Location: ME17 3/24

OAK, TIMBER & VARIOUS BUILDING MATERIALS AVAILABLE

Surplus to requirements in following a build. See list on page 24

Location: TN27 3/24



£300 +VAT

BALE SPIKES

Bale spikes with euro brackets

Location: CT4 3/24



£500 +VAT

DISCS

Set of Parmeter fold up discs

Location: CT4 3/24



£4,500 +VAT

BUNNINGS TRAILER

Bunnings trailer (low ride) with dolly - 32' long

Location: CT4 3/24



£5,500 +VAT

MAIZE BLADE NEW!

Hularis MES-470H-115F
Maize blade 2017 – good condition

Location: CT4 4/24

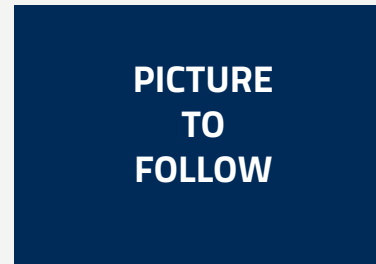


£3,500 +VAT

QUICKIE LOADER

Quickie 980 loader with JD brackets to fit 6 & 6R series tractors

Location: CT4 3/24



£750 +VAT

MOWER

Tarrup mower (no skirt but in good working condition)

Location: CT4 3/24



OFFERS

MOBILE HOMES

Two vans getting to end of useful life, but may be useful to someone. Small contribution offers invited to RAMSAK for admin costs in exchange for removal.

Location: TN11 2/24



£1,000

PORTACABIN

Buyer to collect. Sound, just one small leak in roof and a rotten patch on base of door. More photos available.

Location: RH19 2/24



£3,500 ono

TOILET BLOCK

Tatty but sound. Buyer to collect. Three cubicle toilets, a shower and a block of 2 urinals. Plus sinks etc.

Location RH19 2/24



£2,500

FEED HOPPER

9T FEED HOPPER. Very good condition

Location: BN8 2/24



£4,500 +VAT

QUAD

2021 Honda Quad ATV TX420 FM1 petrol 4wd auto gears Datatag registered.

Location: TN3 3/24



OFFERS

METAL BARS

8 Black Mild Steel Flat Bars - 40mm x 5mm x 2555mm. Weight approx 4kg each. Un-used. Left over from a project. Cost £120 but any sensible offers considered.

Location: ME17 3/24



£2,000

DARI-KOOL BULK TANK,
5000 litre, automatic wash,
regularly maintained.

Location: BN8

1/24

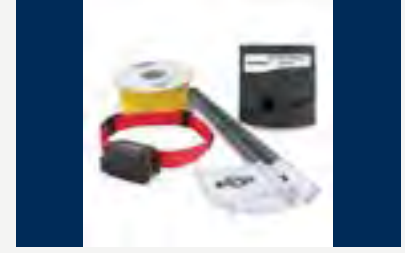


£500

**COTSWOLD TANK
WASH AUTO
CLEANING SYSTEM**

Location: TN4

3/24



£OFFERS

PetSafe Stubborn Dog **IN
GROUND INVISIBLE FENCE**
& Collar Radio Receiver and
Extra Wire & Flags (300m total)
NEW/UNUSED

Location: ME17

3/24

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR SALE - PHOTOS AND LOCATION AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

- 9T FEED HOPPER. Very good condition Located BN8 (1/24) £2,500
- Indian Sandstone Patio Slabs (Grey) 600x900 (3/24) £19.99 per m2
- 3 sets aluminium cavalletis (horse jumps) unused (3/24) £295 no VAT
- Cotswold tank wash auto cleaning system. (3/24) £500
- POULTRY PANELS 80 to 100 panels for poultry wired up and ready for construction. Located TN27
- SNOW PLOUGH to fit Landrover Defender. 8' Bunce . Ex MOD. Un-used. £1.600 +VAT
- PHOTOCOPIER Canon Image Runner Advance. Very low usage. £250
- Heavy duty extra long 1.5M PALLET FORKS c/w jcb telehandler fittings(3/24) £500 +VAT
- Road barriers (3/24) £10 each +VAT
- Reclaimed Kent Peg Tiles, Orange tinge (3/24) £1 each no VAT
- Block Paving 300 x 150 Light Grey (new) (3/24) £37.80 per m2 + VAT
- 1100 litre used WHEELIE BINS excellent condition (3/24) £150 each no VAT
- 240 litre used WHEELIE BINS (3/24) £20 each
- Wheelie Bins (included) each containing 84 kilos of **Winter Wheat** (3/24) £50 each

A RAMSAK member has the following available surplus to requirements in TN27 following a build:

OAK & TIMBER & VARIOUS BUILDING MATERIALS AVAILABLE

- Lots of new Oak beams.
- Lots of old Oak beams.
- Various sizes of soft wood timber.
- Large pack of wood wool insulation.
- Some Celotex.
- Underfloor heating pipe.
- Misc drainage connections (man holes, adaptors).
- Large amount of helicoil fixings.



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

- Laddingford [Newman] engineering single leg subsoiler with PTO drive. Do you have one lying around? Call us!
- Portacabins/Caravans

FOR SALE - SECOND HAND PRESSURE WASHERS

[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.

[Nilfisk Scrubtec 344 B](#)

£1,896 inc. VAT

Explore the exceptional cleaning capabilities of the second-hand Nilfisk Scrubtec 344 B. Engineered with advanced technology and built for durability, this scrubber offers reliable performance in commercial and industrial settings. With its ergonomic design and efficient operation, it's the ideal choice for those seeking quality cleaning equipment at a cost-effective price. Discover the value and reliability of the Nilfisk Scrubtec 344 B for your cleaning needs. Comes with the chemical solution kit.

[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 Drier'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

[Nilfisk MC 6P-170/1600 cold pressure washer](#) £1,200 inc. VAT

The MC 6P range of cold water pressure washers brings together an unbeatable working life and durability, high cleaning performance and optimal ergonomics for the most demanding heavy duty cleaning tasks for industry, agriculture, shipping, transport sector and food industry.

The MC 6P is equipped with the NA6 wobble disc pump with 4 ceramic pistons and robust construction optimised for intense use greater than 5 hours per day. The NA6 pump is inspired by our longest lasting and renowned pump and offers unbeatable lifetime.

[V Tuf Torrent 3](#)

£660 inc VAT

Prepare to transform your cleaning routine with the remarkable V-TUF Torrent 3. This versatile cleaning powerhouse has undergone meticulous engineering to completely redefine the concept of portable cleaning. Featuring an 'easy-pull' frame, a cutting-edge 15HP engine, an oversized pump, and comprehensive thermal protection, the Torrent 3 is tailored to effortlessly tackle demanding tasks with exceptional ease and efficiency.

[PC 15/250 petrol pressure washer](#)

£900 inc VAT

Second hand PC 15/250 petrol pressure washer.

A true embodiment of versatility. This powerhouse is designed to excel. heavy-duty, industrial, and commercial cleaning applications, making it your go-to solution for various cleaning needs.

The heart of this exceptional machine lies in its reliable Honda GX engine. Which in turn will ensure unwavering performance and durability. It is equipped with a 2:1 gearbox and a 1450 RPM Inter pump, the pressure washer is built to endure and deliver top-notch results.

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 for info.



WINDSOR FIELD SHELTERS AVAILABLE



Windsor Mobile Field Shelter

- Frame: Ex 75mm x 50mm stress graded framework at maximum 610mm centres
- Cladding: Ex 125mm x 19mm redwood shiplap kiln dried
- Kickboard: 11mm OSB kickboard to 1050mm high (approx. half height)
- Roof: Ex 150mmx50mm stress graded roof purlins at maximum 610mm centres in joist hangers. Black Onduline roof with zinc ridge capping
- 900mm unlined front overhang
- Guttering – Front guttering and one downpipe
- Galvanised skids
- FREE TOW KIT

We use stainless steel nails, all timber is tanalised, pressure treated.

2no 3.6 x 3.6m Windsor spec - £3100 incl VAT each

1no 3.6 x 7.2m Windsor spec - £4538 incl VAT each
Economy Shiplap Mobile Field Shelter

Frame: Ex 75mm x 50mm stress graded framework at maximum 610mm centres

- Cladding: Ex 125mm x 19mm redwood shiplap kiln dried
- Kickboard: 11mm OSB kickboard to 1050mm high (approx. half height)
- Roof: Ex 150mmx50mm stress graded roof purlins at maximum 610mm centres in joist hangers. Black Onduline roof with zinc ridge capping
- 900mm unlined front overhang
- Guttering – Front guttering and one downpipe
- Galvanised skids (No cross braces)
- FREE TOW KIT

We use stainless steel nails, all timber is tanalised, pressure treated.

2no 3.6 x 3.6m Economy spec - £2775 incl VAT each

1no 3.6 x 7.2m Economy spec - £4240 incl VAT each

Quotations Valid 28 Days from 4/4/24

Next available installation date: April 2024

CLASSIFIED ADVERTS

PROPERTY FOR SALE, TO LET & WANTED



BUILDINGS & YARDS AVAILABLE - ASHFORD AREA

Buildings and yard space available for agricultural and commercial use at several locations within 5 miles of Ashford. Units ranging from 400ft² to 8000ft². Gated sites with CCTV. Good access with parking and turning areas. Opportunity for long-term leases for the right tenants. Viewings strictly by appointment via RAMSAK. 3/24



COMMERCIAL UNIT FOR RENT NR WOODCHURCH, ASHFORD for B8 Storage & Distribution extending to a total of circa 540m² (5812ft²)

£45,000 per annum

New build property for first occupation
 30m long x 18m wide x 5.2m to eaves
 80mm composite insulated roof cladding;
 60mm composite insulated side cladding
 Secure yard with electric gates, security

fencing, CCTV & full-time resident on site
 Concrete access from road to roller shutter door. Hardstanding at side of access
 Electric, water & CAT 5 cable connected
 Secure roller shutter door (6m x 5m)
 Secure steel personnel door. High strength concrete floor. Block built toilet & single-office
 Electricity metered & charged in addition to rent. Phone/internet to be set up & paid by tenant. Photos taken March 2024
 Leasehold basis - minimum 1 year term, longer preferred, fully repairing, tenant to insure contents & refund Landlord pro-rata buildings insurance, all outgoings tenant's responsibility, 1 month rent deposit
 Not currently assessed for rates, if rated to be tenant's responsibility.
 Contact lynsey@ramsak.co.uk for info. (3/24)



BARN FOR SALE OR LET **NEW!**

4,500sq ft barn with easy access and planning permission for bee-keeping and honey production in Stone, Kent (TN30). The land has had no chemical applications for 5 years. Additional 3 acres, potentially 6, available. For more information contact lynsey@ramsak.co.uk

CLASSIFIED ADVERTS CONTINUED...

PROPERTY & LAND cont'd...

BUILDING & YARD REQUIRED - KENT
A RAMSAK member currently based in South East Maidstone is looking to move location to somewhere closer to the M20 corridor between Wrotham and Hollingbourne. Building circa 5-6000 sqft required, with yard space and parking for approximately 20 vehicles. They are happy to carry out building works and modifications (i.e forming of offices) Preferably to purchase or would consider renting.(2/24)
Contact lynsey@ramsak.co.uk for info.

OAST AND YARD TO RENT - RYE, TN31 (IMMEDIATE AVAILABILITY)
Converted Oast formerly used as a paint shop and storage and yard for a hoarding company, which is now quitting... due to having outgrown the site.
The Oast is on 3 floors - ground floor 1,444 sq ft, first floor 900 sq ft plus loo and kitchen, second floor 727 sq ft which has 2 Offices and storage area. Total area 3,071 sq ft.
Outside is a good size L shaped yard with added storage both open and secure.
The property has security gates as does the whole farm.
There is added storage available if necessary
3 phase electricity
Fibre optic to be installed.
The unit is on a working farm with a residential element and another commercial site.
This property is available to lease immediately.
Please contact lynsey@ramsak.co.uk for more information.

OTHER

WELL ROTTED HORSE MANURE WANTED
Collected using 8 wheel grab lorries. Contact RAMSAK on enquiries@ramsak.co.uk

WANTED—LARGE VOLUMES OF STANDING OAK/TIMBER Various members seeking to purchase all grades and species of standing timber. Ref: 1254/P & Ref: 1506/P



BULLS FOR SALE - ASHFORD, KENT (TN27)
Aderdeen Angus, Simmental and Limousin bulls for sale. All bulls have worked, progeny can be seen. Price on application. 3/24



CRUSHED FIELD BEANS AVAILABLE
Hammer milled field beans in one tonne bags
An ideal source of protein for those who mix their own rations. £295 per tonne ex farm (TN19). 3/24

WINTER WHEAT IN WHEELIE BINS
Wheelie bins (included) each containing 84 kilos of Winter Wheat (TN19) 3/24 £50 each

PAS110 & PAS100 Compost Available - South East
A trusted supplier, compliant with PAS110 and PAS100 standards, offering high-quality compost and digestate for your agricultural and horticultural needs. Available in convenient 900-litre bulk bags or bulk loose loads, we cater to your specific requirements. Our soil amendments are suitable for various applications. Contact RAMSAK on enquiries@ramsak.co.uk 3/24

CHARCOAL FOR SALE
Contact RAMSAK for more information on 01622 815356.

SHEEP GRAZING WANTED **NEW!**
We have a member looking for sheep grazing in the North Kent area. Fenced preferably, but it doesn't need to have water. Please contact RAMSAK if you have anything suitable 3/24

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



- ACCOUNTANTS
- SOLICITORS
- PLANNING
- INSURANCE SERVICES
- FINANCIAL ADVICE
- LAND AGENTS
- ENERGY CONSULTANTS
- IT SOFTWARE
- TRAINING SERVICES & MORE!

Helping our members manage, support and grow their business is at the heart of your co-operative and we are able to cover a diverse array of professions from legal services to accountancy, land agents to energy consultancy, insurance advisors to training bodies.

We are constantly working on increasing the range of advisors and consultants available to you as a Member of RAMSAK with just one call to the office on 01622 815356!

KRESTON REEVES: TAKE THESE STEPS IF YOU THINK YOU'VE PAID TOO MUCH TAX

Reclaiming overpaid tax with overpayment relief

As the saying goes 'mistakes happen' and tax is no exception. A mistake in your tax return may mean you previously overpaid tax.

If the error is noticed quickly, legislation is in place to allow an individual to amend a tax return within 12 months of the usual filing date for the tax return; so, to amend the 2022/23 tax return, the deadline is 31 January 2025.

The deadline for companies is 12 months of their usual filing date.

If this deadline has passed, overpayment relief was introduced from 1 April 2010 and is a mechanism for making a claim outside of the tax return where income tax, class 4 NIC or capital gains tax has been overpaid or assessed.

Overpayment relief is also available for companies to reclaim overpaid corporation tax.

What is the time limit for making an overpayment relief?

The normal time limit for a claim is 4 years from the end of the relevant tax year. For example, if you want to make a claim for overpaid tax for the year ended 5 April 2020, the deadline is 5 April 2024. For companies, the time limit is 4 years after the end of the relevant accounting period.

How is an overpayment relief claim made?

Overpayment relief must be claimed in a specific manner:

Claims must be made in writing and:

- State that the person is making a claim for overpayment relief.
- Identify the tax year for which the overpayment or excessive assessment has been made.
- State the grounds on which the person considers that the overpayment or excessive assessment has occurred.
- State whether the person has previously made an appeal in connection with the payment or the assessment.
- If the claim is for repayment of tax, they must have documentary proof of the tax deducted or suffered in some other way, as they may be required to provide it at a later date.
- Include a declaration signed by the claimant stating that the particulars given in the claim are correct and complete to the best of their knowledge and belief.
- State the amount that the person believes they have overpaid.

HMRC will reject the claim if it is not in the correct format.

Overpayment relief can be denied, and here's why

The claim can also be rejected for other reasons. These include where the amount in the claim arises from a mistake concerning any other claim or election, where there is another method to correct the overpayment, or where the original amount was calculated in accordance with the generally prevailing practice at the time. This means if the interpretation of the law changed at a later date, you cannot rely on this to make a claim.

HMRC can also enquire into the claim before giving the relief.

What if I have an overpayment relief claim that falls outside the time limit?

HMRC may consider a late claim depending on individual circumstances.

The most likely late claim to succeed is under Extra-statutory concessions (ESC) B41, which will come into play if the claim is late due to an error by HMRC or another government department.

What is Special Relief?

Special relief is a form of overpayment relief that only applies where HMRC has made a determination of tax due.

It is particularly challenging to claim as there are strict conditions that must be met, the main one being that it would be 'unconscionable' for HMRC to seek to recover an amount of tax or refuse repayment of tax already paid.

Unlike normal overpayment relief claims, there is no time limit to apply for special relief. The claim must include information or document reasonably required to show the conditions are met.

What should I do if I think I have made a mistake and overpaid tax?

Making a claim for overpayment relief is fraught with complexities, so we recommend that you [contact us](#). Our specialists can discuss your specific circumstances and develop a plan of action with you. This also provides a useful dialogue to answer any questions you may have about the wider financial situation.

Source: www.krestonreeves.com, 28 March 2023

NEW RAMSAK MEMBER: POLE POSITION TRAINING

A SAFER WORLD AT WORK

New RAMSAK member Pole Position Training are a modern training provider for construction plant, agricultural vehicles, health & safety and first aid.

Their team of specialist trainers can travel country wide to deliver high quality, effective training. They are able to offer on site training and are able to facilitate training at a training centre when needed.

If you are looking for training that is not listed right please still get in touch! They have outside instructors for many other courses like CSCS, pesticide, street works.

PLANT

We offer a wide variety of machinery training. NPORS accredited, tailored in-house courses and NVQ

AGRICULTURAL

Offering training on agricultural machines and implement training.

FIRST AID

NUCO accredited, we can offer courses from emergency first aid at work to forestry first aid from specialist instructors with industry knowledge.

HEALTH & SAFETY

We know it's not your favourite subject but health & safety is hugely important within any industry and we offer a wide range to help you tick those boxes.

Contact RAMSAK now for more information on 01622 815356 or email enquiries@ramsak.co.uk



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- Cable Avoidance Tools
- Cartridge Tools
- Confined Spaces (Low Risk)
- Crusher
- Dozer
- Excavation Marshall - Banks person
- Excavator 360°
- Excavator as a Crane
- Excavator Micro (Up to 1 Tonne)
- Fire Warden
- Forward Tipping Dumper
- Forward Tipping Mini Dumper
- Hand Held Hedge Trimmer
- Harness and Fall Arrest course
- Industrial Counterbalance Lift Truck
- Lift Truck Supervisor Awareness
- Loading Shovel
- Lorry Loader
- M.E.W.P. Boom
- M.E.W.P. Scissor Lift
- M.E.W.P. Supervisor Awareness
- Material Re-Handler 360°
- Plant Machinery Marshal
- Plant Mover
- Plant Supervisor Awareness
- Quick Hitch Awareness
- Rear Dump Truck
- Road Roller
- Safe Working At Height
- Safety Awareness
- Screener
- Skidsteer Loader
- Slinger/Signaller
- Strimmer/Brushcutter
- Telescopic Handler
- Telescopic Handler - Suspended Loads
- Vehicle Marshal
- Wood Chipper/Shredder

NUCO - First Aid

- Activity First Aid
- Annual Refresher for First Aiders
- Basic Life Support
- BLS & Safe Use of an AED
- Catastrophic Bleeding Control
- Defibrillation
- Defibrillation Annual Refresher
- Emergency First Aid at Work
- FAW Re-qualification
- Fire Marshal Training
- Fire Safety
- Fire Safety Awareness
- First Aid at Work
- Forestry First Aid
- Immediate Management of Anaphylaxis
- Mental Health First Aid
- Oxygen Therapy Administration
- Paediatric Emergency First Aid
- Paediatric First Aid



The Big Cat Sanctuary, a RAMSAK member based at Smarden, is a registered animal charity (Registered Charity No. 1104420) whose aim is to contribute to global conservation. It is home to around 40 cats spanning 11 different species, many of which are classed as more than vulnerable to the risk of extinction on the IUCN red list.

We endeavour to provide peace and tranquility, combined with habitats tailored to house different species of cats providing the best possible lives in captivity. Breeding is by recommendation and part of the accredited co-ordinated breeding programmes helping to maintain the genetic diversity of the captive populations of these endangered and iconic cats.

This year's Open Day tickets are selling FAST!
[Book your July tickets HERE](#) before they sell out!



SAVE THE DATE
 THE FARMERS BALL
 SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2024
 Register your interest at office@grapevine.events



CONTACT THE RAMSAK TEAM:

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