



sound, practical, realistic & confidential advice

We recently held a training day for local farmers affected by NVZ, 27 farmers turned out which for a training event held on a day when potato and 2nd cut silage harvest wasn't far away was brilliant. It clearly showed just how important an issue this is to dairy farmers. They left without saying much although this did raise a few important issues: was this the issue that would end milk production for them? Just to continue they need to dig a big hole which the Landlord isn't going to pay anything towards at the end of the tenancy. The long term low milk price has denuded the farm of investment capital so the ability and willingness to invest is a complex decision. The Environment Agency seem to be of the opinion that if you ensure all the paper work is in place, planning permission, quotes, and calculations are sourced then they will be supportive. Do nothing and they will take a different attitude! PLANET software is available free to download to help you plan and record your nutrient management and produce NVZ records. For those who would like help in setting up and operating this software we will be running a workshop at the Penwith Farm Business Centre on Thursday 13th October. For more information or to book a place please contact the office.

Potato prices and demand have been a struggle this year although most of the crop is now up. its hard to see why, as farmers, you are getting £250 a tonne and its £1950 a tonne in the supermarket yet all the work has been done before they get it. This is the same with the milk being discounted, two litres for a pound in the shop. The shopper will buy milk at the petrol station, the supermarket, the corner shop and therefore knows how much it costs. So when milk is sold in the supermarket at a discount it's an indication to the shopper that all of the other produce purchased on the day is also cheap, so when they buy potatoes they pay £1.95kg - it's a bargain.

INFORMATION ON MIGRANT WORKERS

With ever increasing numbers of migrant workers coming to Cornwall to live and work Devon and Cornwall Police now have two migrant worker Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) dedicated to dealing with any issues that arise and to work within the migrant community. We aim to provide information to migrants, their employers and landlords working with multi agencies to improve working and living conditions, promoting integration and to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

Sometimes we work jointly with other agencies from the Fire Service, the Gangmasters Licensing Authority, HSE and Amber Initiatives. Hopefully preventing lots of visits by different agencies throughout the year, as we recognise everyone's time is precious.

The work of the PCSO's is not all about enforcement action, a lot of the work is about education, for example, by giving advice on how to drive on our roads, the documentation required or where to get help with form filling, which hopefully prevents incidents occurring. We may even be able to get access to free courses on learning English or First Aid.

If there is anything you feel we could help you with please feel free to contact us on the details below.
Covering West Cornwall, PCSO Bev Faull mobile 07525 408028
Or email beverly.faul@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Covering East Cornwall, PCSO Steve Edser mobile 07525 408029
Or email stephen.edser@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

To receive this newsletter by email then please send your email address to helena@farmcornwall.co.uk

If you require a large print copy of this edition or any other information contact the Office on 01736 352 012.

Shedding light on renewables

Solar Power, PV systems, Photovoltaic all refer to the burgeoning industry of renewables. The Government wish to push this technology is immense as it has to meet certain targets for renewable power within the mix of power creation from Nuclear to Wind turbines. In the mad rush to fulfil the targets there is money and lots of it. Not far behind this money are some good suppliers and some not so good. So when you are approached about putting up solar panels or wind turbines check them out, go on line, look at Companies House. Next thing, before you sign a lease on your land get a solicitor to check out the leasehold agreement, what would happen if there's a divorce, a death, a sale, children coming into the business, the will, planning and tax issues, access, siting of ancillary equipment. Lastly how old is the roof you are putting solar panels onto? Will it outlast the solar panels?

Call Edward for further information and advice.

Forage Bank

We are in the process of setting up a forage bank, where entries will be posted on our website simply by contacting us. So if you are looking for forage or have surplus then let us know. We take no commission, we will simply put buyers in contact with sellers.

Employment Bank

If you are looking for employment or are seeking a new employee then like the forage bank, let us know. We will post details on the website and make the connection. It's then up to the individuals involved. Please note this is not a dating site!

Do you need some help with book-keeping or accounts?

The Draven Consultancy is a local business based in Connor Downs near Hayle. We specialise in offering small business Accountancy and IT services. Here are just some of the services we offer:-

- Payroll, Tax Returns, Accounts & Bookkeeping, VAT Returns & Personnel.
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NITRATE VULNERABLE ZONES

Storing slurry in a lagoon creates an opportunity to look at slurry as a way of reducing your dependence upon bought in bagged fertiliser. Typically slurry stored in an open lagoon will be 45% slurry and 55% rainwater, as a consequence of that dilution Nitrogen levels will be up to 3kg of Nitrogen per cubic metre, if stored under cover levels will be double that with up to 6kg of Nitrogen per cubic metre.

Many farms will have a 2500 gallon tanker (11 cubic metres) so in every tanker load there is the equivalent to 33kg of nitrogen (dilute) or 66kg of nitrogen (undiluted)

If we purchased a ton of Ammonium Nitrate fertiliser (34.5%N) today it would cost us £340. That would make every 2500 gallon tanker have £3.87 worth of nitrogen on board or £7.74 for the stronger stuff. This in itself doesn't sound very much but an application of 5000galls to the acre of the dilute slurry would be equivalent to 1.5 cwt /acre of Ammonium Nitrate.

The cost of fertiliser has more than doubled in the last few years. Every livestock farm has a muck midden or now a slurry lagoon, from which for years slurry has been applied and simply dismissed in providing any value. In the light of NVZ and fertiliser prices farm yard manure needs to be valued.

PLANET software can help you plan your nutrient management. To help you get started we are offering a free workshop at the Farm Business Centre on Thursday 13th October. Contact us for more details.

Two blokes sitting on a wall outside a pub when a lorry load of turf goes by and one says to the other "When I'm rich I'm going to do that"
"What's that?" says his friend....
"send my grass away to get it cut!!"

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