

# Farm Cornwall

NEWSLETTER

017

June 2015

01736 367589 [www.farmcornwall.co.uk](http://www.farmcornwall.co.uk) [mail@farmcornwall.co.uk](mailto:mail@farmcornwall.co.uk)

Government grants are bit like buses - we have just about seen the back of the Basic Payment Scheme for 2015 and the Countryside Productivity Grant will end on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Then along comes the Countryside Stewardship Scheme followed in September by the start of "Leader or LAG" funding with more bespoke business support, administered locally. Last time "LAG" funded was restricted to three areas of Cornwall this time it will cover the whole of the county in four regions

The Countryside Stewardship scheme is to open for applications from June to 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2015. It will be split into 3 tiers. The upper level is similar to the previous HLS scheme, then a new mid-tier scheme has been added and then a lower capital grant fencing scheme.

On all levels the scheme is targeted at the protection of water, biodiversity and historic environment. The upper and mid-tier schemes are a mix of capital grants and support payments

If you are in an ELS scheme that finishes this year, then a Countryside Stewardship scheme may be of interest. Natural England will inform you if you fall into this category, with a list of events and information on the new scheme. In line with the BPS application, it will be a paper application. SW FWAG are holding an event at Fraddon Village Hall as taster to the new scheme on 11<sup>th</sup> of June 2015 10.30 am (Contact BECKY HUGHES to register on 0773325996 or [becky.hughes@fwagsw.org.uk](mailto:becky.hughes@fwagsw.org.uk)). However it must be remembered that last time under HLS/ELS/OELS/UELS schemes 70% of England's agricultural land area was under one or other of those schemes, this time only 35% of England's agricultural land area is likely to be eligible. Rather than the whole farm being under a scheme as in the ELS it may just be part or a combination of parts targeted as we have said in protecting or improving biodiversity, water quality or the historic environment.

## Spreader



Our new computer software for recording your NVZ applications is now ready for sale. It is easy to use and can help you keep a record of your applications. You will receive a USB stick and a user guide that will help you load and use the software. The price is only £45. If you would like to try before you buy then please give us a call and we can arrange a time for you to come into the office and have a look at the programme.

REMEMBER  
THE DEADLINE FOR THE  
**BASIC PAYMENT SCHEME IS NOW**  
**15 JUNE 2015.**

YOU MUST SUBMIT YOUR  
APPLICATIONS BY THIS DATE. IF YOU  
ARE HAVING PROBLEMS OR ARE  
UNSURE OF ANYTHING THEN PLEASE  
CALL THE OFFICE ON 01736 367589  
AND EDWARD WILL BE ABLE TO HELP  
YOU.

IF YOU HAVEN'T REGISTERED YET YOU  
MUST CALL THE RPA ON  
**03000 200301**

We are currently updating our mailing list and would like to know if you would rather receive our newsletter via email to save on printing and postage costs. Or alternatively if you would rather not receive it at all anymore perhaps you could let us know either by calling 01736 367589 or emailing [helena@farmcornwall.co.uk](mailto:helena@farmcornwall.co.uk). Thank you.



Contact Us: FarmCornwall CIC  
Unit 7, Penwith Business Centre  
Long Rock  
Penzance  
TR20 8HL

Tel: 01736 367589 or 07775 667825  
Web: [www.farmcornwall.co.uk](http://www.farmcornwall.co.uk)  
Email: [edward@farmcornwall.co.uk](mailto:edward@farmcornwall.co.uk)  
[helena@farmcornwall.co.uk](mailto:helena@farmcornwall.co.uk)  
[debbie@farmcornwall.co.uk](mailto:debbie@farmcornwall.co.uk)



THE PRINCE'S  
COUNTRYSIDE  
FUND



## Don't get caught out by driving rules

*A message from Devon & Cornwall Police –*

"We would like to remind everyone who drives a tractor on the A30 that, when practical, drivers should pull in to allow other road users to pass safely. We have heard about tractors and trailers travelling in convoys of up to three, not allowing traffic to pass. Single vehicles have been passing lay-bys when tailbacks have been significant. Please allow traffic to pass safely and hopefully prevent an accident occurring when people get impatient and take risks. Inconsiderate driving (not pulling in a slow moving vehicle to allow traffic to pass) is an offence under the Road Traffic Act 1988 s. 3ZA(4). The offence could earn you three to nine points on your licence and a fine of up to £5000."

## Deadline for BPS Applications

The Basic Payment Scheme application period will close on June the 15<sup>th</sup> when all applications should be filed with the RPA. We understand that as of this week (May 26<sup>th</sup>) there are still 259 farmers in Cornwall and 400 in Devon who have not registered for the scheme. If you need help with the online registration process please make an appointment to come and use the IT facilities at the Farm Business Centre where there will be someone on hand to guide you through the process.

We have been informed by FCN, that if you fill in a base unpopulated form with your field details that registration can take place up and until September.

However it would certainly be a lot easier to fill in a populated form and this can only be done by registering with the RPA as soon as possible to avoid any delays in payments, or fines incurred for late applications. If you are uncertain on how to fill the form then please contact FarmCornwall or use your local land agent.

Dairy farmers are now really feeling the effects of falling milk prices. In our last newsletter we gave some suggestions on how to manage debts if you do find yourself in difficulties.

If you need help with budgets for the bank or some help and reassurance with the business or are worried about your debts then please do not hesitate to contact;

FarmCornwall - 01736 367589

FCN - 0845 3679990

RABI - 01749 838652

We can work with you, your family and your business in these challenging times.

## EU've got to be Joking!

Pythagorean theorem: 24 words

The Lord's Prayer: 66 words

Archimedes' Principle: 67 words

The Ten Commandments: 179 words

The Gettysburg Address: 286 words

The Declaration of Independence: 1,300 words

The EU regulations on the sale of cabbage:  
26,911 words

*This may be an urban myth – but you get the point!*

## Royal Cornwall Show 4-6<sup>th</sup> June

Come and visit our stand in the Farmer's Pavilion where we will be demonstrating the new Spreader NVZ software

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