



<<<<FarmCornwall Email Invoice Scam>>>>

We have been contacted by several of you enquiring about an email from FarmCornwall requesting payment for an invoice. Please be aware that **we do not send out email invoices**, if you receive an email from Farmcornwall demanding money it is **NOT** from us, delete it immediately and do **NOT** open the email.

If you do open the message we have been given the following advice by our server provider:

- Run your own computer virus spyware
- Change your email password
- If possible change all other stored passwords on your computer

We have increased the protection within our own systems to try to stop it from happening again. Thank you for your help in this matter and we apologise for any inconvenience caused by these processes.

Being Paid for Public Goods - BIAC conference (British Institute of Agricultural Consultants)

Public goods includes payments for schemes such as the environmental management of land and the message that I took away from the conference was that this should not simply be a payment for work done but should include an element of profit for the farmer. Also that it shouldn't just stop at the payment to construct a fence or plant a wood, it should include payment for increasing the organic matter of soils, the storage of carbon and interestingly enhancing the nutritional value of food. In the past 40 years our fruit and vegetables have lost 16% of their nutritional value. We have the technological ability to measure those baselines and therefore the ability to demonstrate incremental change and logic would dictate a payment structure aligned to that. The other factor that was introduced was that payment for these goods would not be by Government subsidies alone and that private sector companies will also be involved. Nestle is already paying Cumbrian dairy farmers to re-build walls and install new fencing.

DEFRA's other announcement was that the new Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS), to be rolled out just as the Countryside Stewardship comes to an end in 2025, would be shared with other public and private land owners, such as Airports and Councils. Although it was also suggested some larger growers might not engage in the ELMS process and the land area might remain much as it does today. It is intended that the ELMS scheme will replace both the current BPS and Countryside Stewardship Schemes.

The role of Farm Cornwall has been and always will be to support those involved in agriculture. It has always worked with the Banks and the farming help charities to find a business and or a social solution for a farmer and the family. If you think you need help then please call our number below. It is confidential and available to all.

Countryside Stewardship Scheme

The Countryside Stewardship Scheme is now open for the application forms, this part of the process will end on the **15th of May**. The application will need to be completed by **31st July 2019**, for the scheme to start on your farm on the 1st of January 2020. As a word of warning some applications which should have started on the 1st of January 2019 are still awaiting confirmation. If you are interested in applying telephone 03000 200 301 this is the single point of contact for the RPA, you will need your SBI number and your usual security questions.

To claim your payments for existing agreements please make sure your agent has the correct permissions on the Rural Payments Service website when they do your BPS as claims for both schemes are done simultaneously.

Basic Payment Scheme

Greening rules apply as 2018 land transfers and entitlement transfers can take place up to **15 May 2019**. The window for applications is now open

Sprayers

Grandfather rights for sprayer use no longer apply, if you were born before 31/12/1964 you will need a sprayer certificate, all users now need a professional certificate – Contact Kernow Training 01726 860204 or more information.

Making Tax Digital

By now many businesses with a turnover of £85,000+ have received notifications from HMRC about registering for the new system. It is important for everyone to understand that once you register there is NO GOING BACK to the old system. It is therefore important that you communicate with your software company before registering to make sure the system you are using is "MVD ready". For some this means making sure you have updated to the latest version of your programme and for others it means actually moving to a compliant system. All this must be done before you register. The new rules apply to VAT returns covering periods from **1st April 2019**. So returns up to 31st March can be submitted on the old system. If you are still confused about what you need to do we can give some general advice about the different programmes that are available but we cannot give you a recommendation about which programme is the best for your business. Please call the office or speak to your accountant for further guidance.

Key Dates and info:

- No hedge cutting after 01 March 2019
- Hedgerows can be coppiced or laid in the period 01 March – 30 April
- No burning of Heather, Gorse, Bracken or rough grass from 01 April other than upland areas when the ban applies from the 16 April
- If you are in an NVZ, record all animals on farm and calculate nitrogen loading by 30 April

Animal	Rate	No of Animals	Total
Dairy Cow Producing 6000-9000 litres	101		
Dairy Cow up to 6000 litres	77		
Beef cow over 500kg	83		
Dairy heifer 13months- calving	61		
Dairy heifer 3 months to 12 months	29 *		
Calf to 3 months	1.4*		
Beef Steer or heifer 13 months to 25 months	50		
Bull for breeding	48		
Sheep ewe over 60kg	11.9		
Sheep ewe under 60kg	7.4		
Lamb 6-9 months	0.5 *		
Lamb 9 months to slaughter or lambing	0.7*		
Total			
	Divide by	Area of farm in Ha	
Nitrogen Loading should be below 170kg/ha otherwise a derogation will need to be applied for from 170-250kg/ha			Kg/ha

*Only applies to the months they are in this period

The FarmCornwall Women's Network

There are a number of existing groups aimed at women in farming such as *Women in Dairy*, *Ladies in Beef* and *Mole Valley Farmers' Women in Farming group*. There are also some organisations of which membership is predominantly female such as the Institute of Agricultural Secretaries and Administrators (IAgSA). It can be a struggle for groups to maintain a programme of meetings in Cornwall due to low membership numbers, geographical distance and lack of resources.

The aim of the FarmCornwall Women's Network is to act as an umbrella organisation to provide a link between these organisations to organise and promote events, signpost and provide opportunities for joint meetings. These activities will be targeted not just at women who live and work on farms but also those in agricultural related industries (e.g. vets, nutritionists, farm secretaries) to build contacts and friendships and to learn from each other.

It is intended that meetings will be held monthly, moving around the County and on a variety of topics – technical, business, wellbeing and social. If you would like to receive more information about the meetings or if you run a group and would like us to include your events please contact debbie@farmcornwall.co.uk or call 01736 367589.

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