

Please note that although the office is closed again during Lockdown 3, Edward will be contactable on his mobile or via email (see above) —please leave a message and he'll get back to you when he can.



THE PRINCE'S  
COUNTRYSIDE  
FUND

# Farm Cornwall

SOUND, PRACTICAL, REALISTIC & CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE

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Registered in England  
Charity No. 1162845  
CIC No: 7716692

FEBRUARY  
2021



Follow us on Facebook: add Edward Richardson (Farm Cornwall)



Milk

b/w cows  
level  
delivery

28-31 ppl



Barley Grain

£150/t



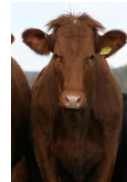
Barley Straw

£160/t



Lamb

Average  
224p/kg



Finished Cattle:

Steers 198.52/kg  
Heifers 207.67/kg



Straights

Soya Bean Meal—£458/t

Sugar Beet Pulp—£242/t

Rapeseed Meal—£315/t

Brewers Grains—£44/t

**GDPR Forms—Important Notice** As we have previously explained, in order to keep your details on file (for sending out the newsletter, etc) we need your permission to do so in order to comply with Data Protection Law. We have enclosed with this newsletter a copy of the form we

need completed (only for those of you who have not yet done so)—this can be scanned and returned via email to [mail@farmcornwall.co.uk](mailto:mail@farmcornwall.co.uk) or posted. Even if you are not able to complete the form, an email confirming that you are happy for us to store your details is sufficient! Many thanks in advance.

## Feed Prices

Feed Prices are rising on the back of some mediocre harvests around the world. Figures for the UK put the overall wheat tonnage harvested back to 1981 levels - an estimate of 9.66 million tonnes, 40% down on 2019 total. Price for wheat in December was £197.60 and barley at £150. China is also pulling in large amounts of feed as it rebuilds its pig industry, having lost pretty much all of its 16 million sows to swine flu. This event is also increasing beef and lamb imports to China as it replaces pork with beef and lamb, (historically something it would not normally do), which is in part why beef and lamb prices are holding up too, as it will reduce imports to UK from other countries.

Soya and rape meal prices are also high at £460 and £300 per ton respectively. I know many of you on dairy supply contracts are looking for alternatives to Brazilian Soya—rainforest-friendly soya from the USA is currently trading at £483. The UK supply of Oilseed Rape has been effectively halved since the introduction of the neonicotinoid ban 3 years ago and farmers are desperately looking for alternatives such as beans and peas. Having been involved in growing both crops in the past, both require a deal of patience, a shotgun license to keep the pigeons under

## Helena Worthington

Sadly, after twenty years with Farm Cornwall, Helena has decided that it is time to move on. She has been here from the beginning and



worked tirelessly to raise funds to keep our charity going. Her cheerful disposition and positive nature will be much missed.

Thank you, Helena, for all you have done for us!

control (peas), and not worrying too much about how black your beans look at the end of September when it's still raining.

The need therefore will be to look to alternatives. In the future we have to make more use of grass and clovers and raising the protein level in the silages that are made, along with waste products like brewers grains and wheat distillers. Look to either buying local or growing barley to roll yourself, current price of purchased rolled barley £200/t on farm gate price £150 plus £10/ton to get it rolled.

**Edward's Joke: It's been snowing all day and my husband won't stop looking through the window. If it gets any worse I'm going to have to let him in.**

## Key Dates

**1 February** If you are in an NVZ, then from this date you can apply organic manure with a high, readily available nitrogen content (for example, slurry, poultry manures or liquid digested sewage sludge) to grassland and tillage land on all soil types if conditions are suitable and you adhere to the quantity restrictions for applying the manures. (SMR 1)

**15 February**—can restart cultivations on Options AB2, AB7, AB9, AB16.

**28 February** If you are in an NVZ, this date marks the end of the quantity restrictions for application of organic manures with a high readily available nitrogen content. (SMR 1)

## Prince's Countryside Fund Resilience Programme Alumni

Those that have completed, part-completed or signed up for Year 5 but can't start because of Covid, can join either local, regional or national meetings. These will initially be via Zoom but moving to live meetings across a range of subject areas - any suggestions would be welcome. In December and January some of you attended a Kite Consulting zoom meeting on "Making change happen",

which was run across all SW Resilience Programme areas from Isles of Scilly to Exmoor and Dartmoor.

There will be an update on restarting for those in Year 4 whose course stopped last March, and for those in Year 5 those who signed up but haven't been able to start yet. You will understand that we cannot schedule any face-to-face training courses until Covid is under control and sufficient people are vaccinated to be confident that it is safe to do so. Watch this space!

## Red Tractor Review

<https://assurance.redtractor.org.uk/red-tractor-review-2021>

Red Tractor review is being conducted at present from 5<sup>th</sup> January to 5<sup>th</sup> March. I know from the farms I visit, and the response I get from farmers, that Red Tractor is a contentious issue. Failure to meet those standards is particularly devastating in dairy production which can mean the loss of a contract and then no where to go, no alternative. New rules are being proposed around labour use, and I suspect farmers will ask what that has got to do with producing food? From a pure health and safety perspective, farming has a terrible record of the number of

## Cornish Ladies in Wellies Group

We are delighted to announce that Isobelle Delbridge has kindly taken over the running of this group and has set up a **Facebook** Page. Do visit it and keep up to date with all things farming!



## Support Farm Cornwall via Just Giving!

Farm Cornwall is now registered as a charity that individuals can support via Just Giving. If any individual or group is planning to take part in a fundraising activity, then perhaps you would consider choosing FarmCornwall as your chosen charity. As you know, we receive no government funding and are completely funded by donations. The link to Just Giving is <https://www.justgiving.com/farmcornwall>

deaths per annum (20 deaths plus per year). The HSE has been unable to make inroads into reducing these figures. In fishing and building, workers are not allowed on site or on the fishing boat for insurance purposes without training certificates. So farming is falling into line with other industries, higher standards is something we are going to have to get used to; instead of insurance, Red Tractor is the way in?



**Farm Fit Project**

Please visit our website to learn about this exciting new wellbeing project to support farmers and their families.







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If you have any information which you think might be useful to other farmers, please feel free to email us on [email@farmcornwall.co.uk](mailto:email@farmcornwall.co.uk)