

WEEKLY ECONOMIC REPORT:

Farm Advisors NZ Ltd & AgSafe NZ Ltd

Property & Farm Management Consultants & Safety Consultants

Phone: 027-2872886; e-mail: findlay@farmconsulting.co.nz **We are located at Innovation Park in Hamilton.**

Website: www.farmconsulting.co.nz <http://agsafe.nz> Follow AgSafe on Facebook.

13 April 2024

Daily grass growth rates:	Range 35 to 55 kg DM/ha/day.	
Average pasture cover:	2200 kg DM/ha.	
10 cm soil temperature:	18.2 °C	
Rainfall (Hamilton)– Month to date	22 mm	April 10 yr Av 90 mm.
Stock prices report:	Steers	\$3.100/kg
	Bulls	\$3.270/kg
	Boner Cows	\$1.900/kg
	Store lambs	\$ 70.41
	Feeder calves	\$225.32

Check with the farm owner/employer what jobs are to be completed by the end of May. There is still time to arrange undersowing and vary the grazing management to suit. Get the next cut of culls out of the herd and off the farm. Make sure there are enough fencing supplies to do the required maintenance.

Week commencing 15 April 2024

	This Week Nth Is	This Week Sth	Last Week Av	1 Year ago
18 kg YX Lamb (cents/kg)	\$5.75	\$5.50	\$5.62	\$6.92
21 kg Mutton (cents/kg)	\$2.35	\$2.30 +	\$2.27	\$4.10
P2 Steer (270 to 295 kg)	\$5.50	\$5.10 +	\$5.25	\$5.45
M Cow (160 to 195 kg)	\$3.65 -	\$3.40 -	\$3.65	\$3.50
Bull (270 to 295 kg)	\$5.50	\$5.10 +	\$5.25	\$5.30
Venison (60 kg AP Stag)	\$8.65	\$8.75	\$8.70	\$8.82
		Previous Week	1 year ago	2 yrs ago
Fine Crossbred Indicator price	\$3.44	\$3.44	\$ 3.42	\$ 3.24
Mid Micron Indicator price	\$5.13	\$5.13	\$ 7.32	\$ 6.31
Butter (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$11,075	\$10,650	\$ 7600	\$10,100
Skim Milk Powder (SMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 4250	\$ 4000	\$ 4300	\$ 6750
Whole Milk Powder (WMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 5425	\$ 5050	\$ 5175	\$ 6475
Cheddar Cheese (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 7325	\$ 7025	\$ 6850	\$ 9250
Casein (lactose casein NZ \$ per tonne)	\$13,600	\$13,400	\$20,350	\$ 16,700
Global Dairy Trade Index	1084	1055	964	1564
US currency	\$0.600	\$0.601	\$0.631	\$0.669
Euro	\$0.556	\$0.555	\$0.570	\$0.617
Australian dollar	\$0.917	\$0.915	\$0.930	\$0.912

Finance: The NZ dollar remained steady over the week finishing marginally below the previous week . Brent crude prices are rising and are currently just over \$90/barrel - fuel prices will be on the rise!!

Wool: **Wool prices** remain in the doldrums. There must be something that large volumes can be used for!! . There is an international wool forum where NZ is extolling the virtues of coarse wool – but we need sales!!

Beef, Sheep & Venison schedules: All meat schedules are steady for the coming week with some intercompany changes noted. Lamb prices are disappointing and some are predicting further falls.

Dairy Prices: Dairy commodity are firm with international demand steady to improving. Check out the international dairy cow numbers in the “Rant” below.

The five South Island First Aid courses are now open for registration. Practical Training Solutions in conjunction with the Dairy Women’s Network. 6 May 2024 Gore, 7 May 2024 Balclutha, 8 May 2024 Weston, 9 May 2024 Rakaia, 10 May 2024 Rotherham. Courses are from 9:45am – 2:30pm

Quote: “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

Need Help. If at any time you just want to talk about being isolated on your farm and to have a chat, just call me – no charges!! 027-2872886. Rural Support Trust 0800-787-245. Lifeline 0800-543354. Crisis TXT – HELP (4357)

You can hear us live on the radio on Monday morning at 7.35 am with Brian Kelly on Country Sport Breakfast – Radio NZ Gold AM. 792 AM in the Waikato & 1332 AM in Auckland.

Jim’s Weekly Rant:

*There has been a lot of talk about developing a free trade agreement with India where there are about 1.441 billion people living compared with China that has 1.425 billion people. India is more populous!! The numbers in both countries are eye-watering. A free trade arrangement would be amazing but the basis of a free trade agreement is negotiated around what we can offer them and what they can offer us. The agreement must cover all aspects of our tradable goods and that includes dairy production which will be a massive sticking point. If a deal is done without dairy concessions the agreement will be weak and the opportunity to bring dairy in later will be difficult, if not impossible. Negotiations cannot be rushed as we try to keep up with Australia, but remember that Australia does not rely on dairy production for its major export dollars and India wants coal which Australia has an abundance of!! It will be difficult getting dairy production across the line in any negotiations when we look at the statistics. New Zealand has 4.86 million cows compared with India that has 61 million dairy cows, a massive 12.5 times more than New Zealand. India processes 187 million tonne of milk annually and do have the ability to export some dairy production themselves. India is a serious producer of dairy products. Just for interest the EU has 19.95 million dairy cows with a population of 450 million people while China has only 6.6 million dairy cows. Brazil has 17 million and the USA has 9.42 million. The real question when negotiating a free trade with India will be “**what can the New Zealand dairy industry do for the Indian dairy industry?**” If we do too much knowing they have 61 million cows it could cause us problems as they are closer to some of our major markets throughout Asia. If we offer nothing and dairy gets excluded it will be nothing more than a claytons agreement. Offering some other resources may assist, but our Green Brigade will not allow the mining and export of our high-quality coal because it is against their religion and this where Australia has an advantage as they export huge amounts of coal to India for their coal fired power stations with them expecting to complete 28 new coal fired power stations in the next 18 months. The dairy component of a free trade agreement is critical if the government is to enter into any agreement with India, but it is likely to be the problem that will slow the negotiations and my plea to the government and negotiators would be “don’t rush and don’t sell the dairy industry out just to say we have a free trade agreement with India.”*

Get yourself a copy of a great book - “Green Murder – a life sentence of net zero with no parole”. Author - Dr Ian Plimer and perhaps the best known Australian geologist. Dr Ian Plimer has recently published a series of Three easy to read books for ankle-biters, teenagers and adults. Also: Global Warming, a counter-blast to the man-made global warming hypothesis - Dr Kelvin Duncan (Tross press)

Take 1.25hrs to watch the Video “Climate the Movie” produced by Nigel Durkin!!

Contact AgSafe NZ Ltd - Phone 027-2872886. We can prepare your Work Safe manual and hazard management plan at a very competitive price. We can arrange drug tests and farm maps for your property.

Calf rearing is important for your future production – Check out the Bell-Booth “*Queen of Calves*” rearing plan. There is research data from Massey University measuring the benefits. They are clearly documented and the long-term benefits are more production per cow and longevity of the animals!! Research has shown calves can be weaned approximately 22 days earlier when Queen of Calves is used.

Q-Labs for your comprehensive farm soil & nutrient test. Qlabs are based in Waipawa.

Soils: Full Soil Analysis, Soil Respiration Test, Home Garden Soil Testing

Feeds: Full Feed Analysis, Ruminant Nitrogen Utilization Efficiency (RNUE), ME (Metabolizable Energy), Feed Single Element, DM (Dry Matter), Nitrate (Feeds)

Waters & Effluents: In Depth Water Test, Water - Bacterial, Water - Extras, Dairy Effluent (TKN), Dairy Effluent (Totals). Check out their services at [www.qlabs.co.nz](http://www qlabs.co.nz) Phone 0800-857733

Drone Spraying a cost-effective way to spray weeds, sow grass seed etc. www.dronespraying.co.nz Check it out and contact Jordan Salmon email jordan@dronezap.co.nz

For first aid training contact Practical Training Solutions - <https://www.practicaltrainingsolutions.co.nz/>

If have problems & a Mediator is required, reach out to Rachel on 021 919 463 or rachel@mendingfences.co.nz, or visit the website <https://mendingfences.co.nz/>

Spore Counts		Date: 11/4/2024	Week 14	
	No's Sites Monitored	Average count	Highest count	Risk assessed on highest count
Kaitia				
Kaikohe / BOI				
Whangarei	3	55000	60000	Moderate
Dargaville / Ruawai				
Mangawhai/Kaipara	1	95000	95000	High
North Kaipara				
Rodney				
North Shore				
Tauranga				
Te Puke				
Whakatane	12	35417	130000	Extreme
Opotiki				
Rotorua				
Franklin				
Manurewa				
Whitianga				
Waihi				
Hauraki Plains				
Piako				
Waikato				
North Waikato				
Hamilton				
Morrinsville				
Matamata				
Raglan				
Waipa				
Otorohanga				
Waitomo	12	14167	45000	Moderate
Taupo				
South Waikato				
New Plymouth				
Stratford				
South Taranaki/Wanganui				
Ruapheu				
Gisborne	2	104500	132000	Extreme
Hawkes Bay				
Wairoa				
Rangitikei/Ruapehu				
Manawatu	4	4125	5500	Low
Horowhenua				
Tararua	1	1666	1666	Low
Wairarapa				
Canterbury				
Marlborough				
West Coast	6	15833	25000	Low

The action threshold is 20. <30,000 = Low, 30k to 60,000 = Moderate, 60k to 100,000 = High Plus 100,000 = Extreme