

WEEKLY ECONOMIC REPORT: Farm Advisors NZ Ltd & AgSafe NZ Ltd

Property & Farm Management Consultants & Safety Consultants

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Website: www.farmconsulting.co.nz

1 August 2020

Daily grass growth rates:	Range 25 to 40 kg DM/ha/day.
Average pasture cover:	2250 kg DM/ha.
10 cm soil temperature:	10.2°C
Rainfall (Hamilton)– Month to date:	110 mm. July 10 year Av 129 mm.
Stock prices report:	Prime steers \$2.673/kg
	Prime bulls \$2.651
	Boner Cows \$1.911/kg
	Store lambs \$93.82
	Feeder Calves \$108.78
	Weaner bulls to 100 to 120 kg \$4.924/kg av \$510.00/head

The government seems to be getting the message that you cannot take an employee from the city and an 8 to 5 pm job & put them on a farm 30 minutes out of town to work from 6 am to 6 pm with reasonable breaks through the day. It just doesn't happen!!

Week commencing 3 August 2020

	This Week Nth Is	This Week Sth Is	Last Week Av	1 Year ago
18 kg YX Lamb (cents/kg)	\$6.95	\$6.70	\$6.82	\$7.80
21 kg Mutton (cents/kg)	\$4.50	\$4.55	\$4.53	\$5.35
P2 Steer (270 to 295 kg)	\$5.20	\$4.70	\$4.95	\$5.55
M Cow (160 to 195 kg)	\$3.75	\$3.55	\$3.65	\$4.10
Bull (270 to 295 kg)	\$5.20	\$4.68	\$4.95	\$5.17
Venison (60 kg AP Stag)	\$6.00	\$6.10	\$6.05	\$8.93
		Previous Week	1 year ago	2 yrs ago
Fine Crossbred Indicator price	\$2.66	\$2.73	\$ 5.23	\$ 4.00
Mid Micron Indicator price	\$7.37	\$7.37	\$11.26	\$16.40
Butter (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 5775	\$ 5725	\$ 6700	\$7450
Skim Milk Powder (SMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 4075	\$ 4225	\$ 3950	\$3100
Whole Milk Powder (WMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 4900	\$ 4900	\$ 4725	\$4430
Cheddar Cheese (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 5600	\$ 6025	\$ 5950	\$5460
Casein (lactose casein NZ \$ per tonne)	\$12000	\$12250	\$11500	\$7060
US currency	\$0.670	\$0.663	\$0.657	\$0.664
Euro	\$0.563	\$0.571	\$0.593	\$0.578
Australian dollar	\$0.930	\$0.935	\$0.964	\$0.902

Finance: The NZ dollar remains strong against the US dollar but eased slightly against the Euro and Australian currencies. Quantitative easing is creating more cash worldwide and there must be a day of reckoning some time soon!

Wool: The wool prices are a disaster and there is a dark tunnel ahead.

Beef, Sheep & Venison schedules: The beef and sheep meat schedules are steady but are continuing to trend upwards. The venison prices are still very weak..

Dairy Prices: Dairy prices are steady going into the new season, however there are still some underlying concerns regarding the worldwide recovery from Covid-19 and the effect on the international food markets.

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)

It is about 6 weeks until the pasture growth rates are able to sustain a dairy herd. Make sure your grazing rotations are set to manage the feed supply until mid-September. Urea applications take around 6 weeks to be at peak effectiveness, so Urea applied now will push feed supplies forward and increase the feed availability in mid to late September.

Quote: *Strength is the product of struggle. You must do what others don't to achieve what others want.*

Jim's Weekly Rant:

The election poll released on Thursday evening was interesting, with the most interesting being the support the Labour party has and the support for Jacinda, but the Labour party support is all based around one person, Jacinda. I cannot understand what the attraction to Labour and Jacinda are as there is little substance, a lot of rhetoric even more expensive reports without action. The economy is a mess and the country has a massive debt to deal with. The Labour Party has not provided any substantive plan to kickstart NZ after Covid-19, it has all been talk to date. They have no plans to open the borders until an effective vaccine is available, yet the WHO is now asking nations to look at opening borders and allow businesses to restart. There is a small think-tank in NZ including Rob Fyfe and Helen Clark, and even they are keen to find a way forward while we hear nothing from the government. The fear factor is still controlling too many people. The government has ideas to increase taxes to pay their way out of the mess they created, and build more cycleways that will not add much to the economic growth and recovery. They have failed on so many policies promoted before the last election. Yet people seem to want more of the nothing we are being given!!! The roading infrastructure proposed by National will go a long way towards growing the economy, but it needs to be explained so people can understand it. This election is too important to just roll over and allow fear to dictate the results. Winston Peters made his most insightful statement ever recently when he said a Greens/Labour government would be a disaster for NZ. He is 100% right, but remember he created the situation where Jacinda rules. There needs to be a serious and credible plan put forward to the public to show how the nation will recover and grow again and to make our little nation great again.

There are few interesting Covid-19 statistics that are worthy of thought. The deaths per million of population are interesting especially when the reports of the virus being less deadly than originally thought. As at 28 July 2020 UK = 690 deaths per 1 million of population. Italy = 581, Sweden 560; USA = 455, France = 455; South Africa = 126; Australia = 7; NZ = 4.5. And in Australia there have been approximately 150 deaths in 7 months of Covid and Covid related causes compared with an average of 440 deaths per day. Check it out as there are increasing numbers testing positive, less hospitalisations and death rates are declining and are mostly in line with seasonal expectations and well below the estimates provided to the governments by the Imperial College in the UK that created the panic.

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.

Quad safe helmets – contact Pacific Helmets NZ. www.pacifichelmets.co.nz/shop

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. The early weaning saves milk and allows more milk to be sold!

QLabs 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

Check out our Facebook site **Citizens Reject Atmospheric Policies – CRAP**. We will keep you up-dated with access to properly researched and peer reviewed scientific papers from eminent astrophysicists and climate scientists. We are not interested in political papers from the hysterical masses!!!