

WEEKLY ECONOMIC REPORT:

Farm Advisors NZ Ltd & AgSafeNZ Ltd

Property & Farm Management Consultants & Safety Consultants

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10 February 2018

Daily grass growth rates: Range 42 to 55 kg DM/ha/day. The conditions are good for pasture growth.
 Average pasture cover: 2200 kg DM/ha.
 10 cm soil temperature: 22.0°C
 Rainfall (Hamilton)– Month to date: 82 mm. to date. February 10 year av 70 mm. (Ex Cyclone hit NZ on 2 Feb)
 Stock prices report:

Prime steers	\$2.862/kg
Prime bulls	\$2.814/kg
Boner Cows	\$1.903/kg
Store lambs	\$ 49.36
Feeder Calves	\$ 115.00
Weaner bulls to 120 kg	\$5.028/kg av \$548.08/head

Tuesday (Waitangi day) attracted a lot of comment on payment for work on statutory days off. A large percentage of the employees and employers are confused as to what the entitlements are. Make sure you know how it what needs to be paid!

Week commencing 12 February 2018

	This Week Nth Is	This Week Sth Is	Last Week Av	1 Year ago
18 kg YX Lamb (cents/kg)	\$6.55	\$6.25	\$6.40	\$4.82
21 kg Mutton (cents/kg)	\$4.30	\$4.40	\$4.35	\$2.95
P2 Steer (270 to 295 kg)	\$5.25	\$5.10	\$5.15	\$5.10
M Cow (160 to 195 kg)5	\$3.80	\$3.80	\$3.80	\$3.73
Bull (270 to 295 kg)	\$4.95	\$4.80	\$4.90	\$4.62
Venison (60 kg AP Stag)	\$10.20	\$10.60	\$10.10	\$7.95
		Previous Week	1 year ago	2 yrs ago
Strong Wool	\$ 4.10	\$4.00	\$ 3.78	\$ 5.53
Fine Wool	\$14.60	\$14.60	\$14.60	\$13.00
Butter (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 6550	\$ 6550	\$ 6100	\$4550
Skim Milk Powder (SMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 2460	\$ 2460	\$ 3300	\$2750
Whole Milk Powder (WMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 4050	\$ 4050	\$ 4500	\$3000
Cheddar Cheese (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 4650	\$ 4650	\$ 5200	\$4300
Casein (lactose casein NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 6300	\$ 6300	\$ 9300	\$9600
US currency	\$0.726	\$0.742	\$0.723	\$0.661
Euro	\$0.592	\$0.593	\$0.678	\$0.598
Australian dollar	\$0.930	\$0.924	\$0.946	\$0.934

Finance: The NZ dollar remains strong but did ease against the US dollar. The US stock market is undergoing some realignment that has caused the US dollar to firm alongside the possibility of the US lifting interest rates to steady the economy.

Wool: there was a large offering this week and the pass-in rate was only 8%. Prices were firm to better across the major categories but there needs to be a major lift in prices to support the industry.

Sheep & Venison meats: Lamb & mutton schedules are mostly the same as last week, but check for premiums before committing to a sale. Venison prices are up again for the coming week. The growing market in the USA is underpinning the prices.

Beef Schedules: The schedules are steady and the recent rains in the North Island have seen some improved grass growth rates allowing farmers to retain animals. There is an increase in prime stock at the yards.

Dairy Prices: The g/DT auction on Tuesday night saw prices increase by 5.9% across the basket of commodities. WMP was up 7.6% and is now comfortably over the \$US3,000/tonne. The expected shortage of supply with the difficult conditions in NZ have underpinned the increase. It is again an example of how critical the supply and demand is in determining commodity prices.

The end of February is the accepted date for employers and employees to advise of their intentions for the next season. It allows both parties 3 months to make alternative arrangements. Please show respect and have a conversation about the 2018/19 season.

Quote: The young always have the same problem - how to rebel and conform at the same time. They have now solved this by defying their parents and copying one another.

District Spore Counts

Region	District	Sites Monitored	9/2/2018 Counts for the week '000's/g	FE Risk
			Highest Counts	
Northland	Kaitaia	4	30	Slight
	Kaikohe/BOI's			
	Whangarei	3	5	Low
	Dargaville/Ruawai			
	Mungatoroto			
Auckland BOP	Rodney			
	Franklin	4	20	Slight
	Tauranga			
	Te Puke	20	110	High
	Whakatane			
Waikato	Opotiki			
	Rotorua	4	15	Low
	Whitianga	3	25	Slight
	Waihi			
	Hauraki Plains	7	35	Slight
	Piako	10	25	Slight
	Morrinsville	3	260	Extreme
	Matamata	8	25	Slight
	South Waikato	3	260	High
	Raglan	8	15	Low
	Hamilton	3	40	Moderate
	Waipa	8	120	High
	Otorohanga			
Taranaki	Waitomo	19	150	High
	Taupo	6	50	High
	New Plymouth	5	75	High
	Stratford	10	130	High
	South Taranaki	1	200	High
East Coast	Gisborne	4	30	Slight
	Hawkes Bay			
	Wairoa			
Lower N.I	Wanganui	11	75	High
	Rangitikei	6	60	High
	Manawatu	5	70	High
	Horowhenua	3	50	High
	Tararua			
	Wairapapa	10	100	High
South Island	Tasman			
	Greymouth			

Action threshold is 20.

It is important to complete a “P” test in all tenanted accommodation before the staff leave and before new staff arrive. There are changes before Parliament now that could void your insurances. You are a Landlord in the eyes of the law and will have inspection requirements imposed!!!

Contact AgsafeNZ Ltd Phone 027-2872886. We can prepare your Work Safe manual and hazard management plan at a very competitive price.

We can prepare a farm map for you at competitive costs, call on the above numbers for a quote. An accurate map will improve your decision making!! We are working with OSHMAPS in Taranaki to cost competitive. Check out OSHMAPS web page.

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!!