

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 <http://agsafe.nz> Follow AgSafe on Facebook.

9 October 2021

Daily grass growth rates:	Range 60 to 75 kg DM/ha/day.
Average pasture cover:	2375 kg DM/ha.
10 cm soil temperature:	14.9°C
Rainfall (Hamilton)– Month to date:	20 mm. October 10 year Av 97 mm.
Stock prices report:	Steers \$3.105/kg
	Bulls \$2.986/kg
	Boner Cows \$2.147/kg
	Store lambs \$167.02
	Feeder Calves \$75.57
	Weaner bulls 151 to 250 kg \$547.35/head or \$2.969/kg

Pasture growth is nearing its peak in most areas and crop paddocks are being removed from the grazing round, silage areas are being considered and fertiliser is being applied and mating is starting on most farms. It is a busy time and the main task that is often overlooked is to ensure the stock are being fully fed.

Week commencing 10 October 2021

	This Week Nth Is	This Week Sth Is	Last Week Av	1 Year ago
18 kg YX Lamb (cents/kg)	\$9.18	\$9.10 ^	\$9.10	\$6.90
21 kg Mutton (cents/kg)	\$6.60 ^	\$6.65	\$6.60	\$4.62
P2 Steer (270 to 295 kg)	\$6.12	\$5.92 ^	\$5.97	\$5.12
M Cow (160 to 195 kg)	\$4.40	\$4.60	\$4.50	\$3.85
Bull (270 to 295 kg)	\$5.95 ^	\$5.87	\$5.88	\$4.95
Venison (60 kg AP Stag)	\$6.90 ^	\$7.05 ^	\$6.80	\$6.40
		Previous Week	1 year ago	2 yrs ago
Fine Crossbred Indicator price	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$ 2.17	\$ 4.16
Mid Micron Indicator price	\$6.37	\$6.37	\$5.67	\$10.60
Butter (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 7075	\$7075	\$ 5260	\$6450
Skim Milk Powder (SMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 4800	\$ 4800	\$ 4625	\$4250
Whole Milk Powder (WMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 4900	\$ 4900	\$ 4575	\$5000
Cheddar Cheese (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 6225	\$6225	\$ 5625	\$6000
Casein (lactose casein NZ \$ per tonne)	\$15350	\$15350	\$ 11700	\$10650
Global Dairy Trade Index	1229	1229	967	1010
US currency	\$0.693	\$0.689	\$0.661	\$0.639
Euro	\$0.600	\$0.596	\$0.561	\$0.575
Australian dollar	\$0.949	\$0.955	\$0.920	\$0.936

Finance: The NZ dollar firmed slightly over the week. The Reserve Bank lifted the OCR for the first time in 7 years & this will eventually flow through to mortgage interest rates. Brent Crude oil has exceeded \$US80/ barrel and other fuels are increasing.

Wool: Wool prices remain in the doldrums.

Beef, Sheep & Venison schedules: Schedules are mostly steady with a general upward trend in all categories. Most of the increases are intercompany variations to attract the early spring supply of finished stock. Venison is starting to recover.

Dairy Prices: The g/DT was flat with a 0.0% change. SMP was up 0.5% while WMP dropped 0.4% to \$US3749/tonne. It was a good result that underpins the farm gate forecasts for the season.

Tatua has paid its supplying farmers \$9.25/kg ms for the 20/21 season and retained an additional \$1.18/kg ms. Synlait has paid \$7.55/kg ms, but is experiencing difficulties with its A2 milk sales. The g/DT showed only a minor move up at the auction during the week supporting the Fonterra early 21/22 farm gate forecasts.

Quote: "Ours was the first revolution in the history of mankind that truly reversed the course of government, and with three little words: "We the People." President Regan's final speech as President 1989.

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:

I thought my rant last week would be the last words I would have to say about Covid-19, but alas, it was only hours later that we learnt of the cases in Hamilton and Raglan and since then all hell has let loose with soft boundaries now extended to Mokau on the West Coast and all of the Waikato, Waipa, Otorohanga and Waitomo Counties locked-up. And then on Friday Northland was included. The Waikato outbreak apparently arrived via gang associations and drug dealing, while the Northland outbreak occurred when a hooker went to work up north on false "essential worker" papers. So, my question is, how do you get people involved in illegal activities to expose themselves at Covid testing stations? I might be a little naïve but not that naïve to think that they are willingly going to turn up at a testing station and state that they have drug connections with the infected person so please test me. Or I met with the hooker as she did her rounds!! But the main frustration is that the government has not provided any "road-map" out of the mess and is still making up plans on a day-to-day basis while much of the rest of the world returns to a new normal. Some of the stuff we are getting from the government is amazing and even entertaining:

- 1. If you are picnicking with another group at their place, you cannot use their toilet facilities, but it seems as though if you are picnicking with others, in a park, you can all use the common toilet facilities.*
- 2. You can picnic/socialise with another bubble of friends, but you can meet with as many bubbles as you like through a day.*
- 3. The Waikato boundary runs down the confiscation line and then down the centre of some roads. The instruction on the website states - **You can travel along a road that forms part of the Alert Level boundary line. This is not considered a crossing of the boundary. This ensures people on either side of the boundary, although in different Alert Level areas, are able to access the road. You do not need to drive on the wrong side of the road to avoid crossing the boundary.** I am pleased they have that clarified that otherwise the deaths from Covid might increase as cars crash into each other trying to escape the virus on the lower level side of the road.*
- 4. Why didn't the original boundary between the Waikato & Auckland be the Tuakau bridge across the Waikato river where controls could have been managed instead of leaving the web of roads in the Onewhero/Port Waikato area exposed?*
- 5. I did not agree with Brian Tamaki arranging a public protest when Auckland was so close to obtaining some freedoms, even though I will always support personal freedoms and the right to protest. I am a little torn about Tamaki being charged as he had met with the police before the protest which should have been the time when he was told it was not to go ahead – the rules are made-up as the country lurches from one crisis to another.*
- 6. I am intrigued with Jacinda's knowledge about "the virus" that it has special powers to hunt out the unvaccinated!!*
- 7. And now we are told there will be a traffic light system to identify risks – treated like children again from the nannie state!!!*

But the real message, is stay safe and keep on asking questions of the government and the health officials. We need a way forward that is sustainable and gives us all a stable future.

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

AgDrive offers courses to upskill yourselves and your staff. It is important to ensure staff are upskilled and offered skill training courses - When there is an accident or incident that is investigated one important question that is always asked relates to the ongoing training offered and undertaken. AgDrive is an independent training establishment. For course details and training information contact Sue 027-2354408 or Vinette 027-2844219.