

WEEKLY ECONOMIC REPORT:

Farm Advisors NZ Ltd & AgSafeNZ Ltd

Property & Farm Management Consultants & Safety Consultants

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

8 December 2018

Daily grass growth rates: Range 60 to 72 kg DM/ha/day.
 Average pasture cover: 2450 kg DM/ha.
 10 cm soil temperature: 20.5°C
 Rainfall (Hamilton)– Month to date: 52mm. December 10 yr av 104 mm.
 Stock prices report:

Prime steers	\$3.093/kg
Prime bulls	\$2.482/kg
Boner Cows	\$2.003/kg
Store lambs	\$87.85
Feeder Calves	\$192.14
Weaner bulls to 10 to 120 kg	\$4.36/kg av \$481.61/head

Christmas and New Year staff rosters should be sorted by now and everyone know when they are working. If possible make sure the staff with young children have Christmas off and the under 30's have New Years day off!!

Week commencing 10 December 2018

	This Week Nth Is	This Week Sth Is	Last Week Av	1 Year ago
18 kg YX Lamb (cents/kg)	\$7.50	\$7.45	\$7.65	\$6.75
21 kg Mutton (cents/kg)	\$4.80	\$4.60	\$4.85	\$4.40
P2 Steer (270 to 295 kg)	\$5.20	\$5.00	\$5.15	\$5.22
M Cow (160 to 195 kg)5	\$3.60	\$3.55	\$3.70	\$3.90
Bull (270 to 295 kg)	\$4.70	\$4.50	\$4.62	\$5.07
Venison (60 kg AP Stag)	\$10.70	\$10.80	\$10.85	\$10.00
		Previous Week	1 year ago	2 yrs ago
Strong Wool	\$ 3.90	\$3.96	\$ 4.25	\$ 4.20
Fine Wool	\$16.40	\$16.40	\$14.60	\$14.60
Butter (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 5775	\$ 5775	\$ 7050	\$6025
Skim Milk Powder (SMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 2925	\$ 2925	\$ 2550	\$3300
Whole Milk Powder (WMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 3900	\$ 3900	\$ 4150	\$4475
Cheddar Cheese (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 4900	\$4900	\$ 5450	\$5200
Casein (lactose casein NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 8050	\$8050	\$7050	\$9200
US currency	\$0.693	\$0.694	\$0.687	\$0.707
Euro	\$0.608	\$0.584	\$0.577	\$0.678
Australian dollar	\$0.955	\$0.941	\$0.912	\$0.957

Finance: The NZ dollar has firmed over the last 10 days as the trade war between the USA & China has called a truce. The commodity trading countries saw their currencies increase as a result.

Wool: The wool sale eased with prices down 1% to 2% at the sale last week. The pass-in rate was 7% . Let's hope the wool can replace the glass fibre in fibreglass in surfboards and move to other applications.

Sheep & Venison meats: Sheep meat prices are easing with the stronger dollar. The venison schedules are very good but are down on a month ago.

Beef Schedules: Beef schedules are steady to easier for all grades. The stronger dollar is putting pressure on export prices. Good grass condition are allowing farmers the opportunity to finish cattle, but pasture quality must be maintained as summer kicks in.

Dairy Prices: Dairy commodities continue to struggle to a level that will maintain the forecast payouts. The g/DT lifted 2.2% and was a positive result with lower volumes on offer. WMP lifted 2.5% but is still below the \$US3000/tonne. Fonterra has revised its forecast downwards to a band between \$6.00 & \$6.30/kg.

The farmers are entering the end of the year with a pessimistic view of the agricultural sectors: the dollar is rising, meat schedules are easing, dairy & wool prices are easing, the compliance costs are high and the time to complete the compliance is out of proportion with the expected outcomes!! AND we have a government that has no idea about the real world!!!

Quote: Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.

Drug testing of staff is important. It is part of ensuring a safe workplace. The mobile testing unit will come to your workplace and you might join together with a few other local farmers and get them all tested at a single central site.

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!! 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!