

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.

14 December 2019

Daily grass growth rates: Range 52 to 68 kg DM/ha/day.
 Average pasture cover: 2450 kg DM/ha.
 10 cm soil temperature: 24.2°C
 Rainfall (Hamilton)– Month to date: 65mm. December 10 year Av 104 mm . **Very low Oct & Nov rainfall**
 Stock prices report:
 Prime steers \$3.181/kg
 Prime bulls \$2.903/kg
 Boner Cows \$2.173/kg
 Store lambs \$109.83
 Feeder Calves \$240.28
 Weaner bulls to 100 to 120 kg \$4.758/kg av \$530.25/head

School holidays are starting and there will be lots of non-farm-kids around the farm. It is important that you as the farmer know your obligations under the Health & Safety at Work Act 2015. Do you understand the importance of recreation areas as being different from the workplace?? Keep the kids safe, buke sure they learn about farming!!!

Week commencing 16 December 2019

	This Week Nth Is	This Week Sth Is	Last Week Av	1 Year ago
18 kg YX Lamb (cents/kg)	\$8.35	\$8.30	\$8.58	\$7.37
21 kg Mutton (cents/kg)	\$6.00	\$5.90	\$6.05	\$4.70
P2 Steer (270 to 295 kg)	\$5.77	\$5.60	\$5.81	\$5.10
M Cow (160 to 195 kg)	\$4.65	\$4.47	\$4.62	\$3.57
Bull (270 to 295 kg)	\$5.90	\$5.75	\$5.97	\$4.60
Venison (60 kg AP Stag)	\$8.50	\$8.60	\$8.81	\$10.85
		Previous Week		1 year ago 2 yrs ago
Fine Crossbred Indicator price	\$3.65	\$4.17	\$ 3.94	\$ 3.98
Mid Micron Indicator price	\$10.39	\$10.67	\$16.40	\$14.60
Butter (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 6050	\$ 6300	\$ 5550	\$6700
Skim Milk Powder (SMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 4700	\$ 4700	\$ 2900	\$2400
Whole Milk Powder (WMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 5100	\$ 5150	\$ 3950	\$3900
Cheddar Cheese (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 6050	\$6100	\$ 4750	\$4850
Casein (lactose casein NZ \$ per tonne)	\$12200	\$12300	\$ 9950	\$6775
US currency	\$0.662	\$0.656	\$0.684	\$0.706
Euro	\$0.592	\$0.590	\$0.601	\$0.596
Australian dollar	\$0.955	\$0.959	\$0.948	\$0.913

Finance: The NZ dollar firmed again this week against most major trading currencies, and up significantly against the US dollars. The currency is underpinned by strong commodity prices. A month ago the US dollar rate was under 64cents.

Wool: Coarse wool prices are still weak while there is reasonable demand for the finer wools. Wool prices are steady but weaker.

Sheep & Venison meats: Lamb schedules have eased for the coming week against a stronger NZ dollar. The mutton & venison prices have also eased for the coming week.

Beef Schedules: Beef prices are lower with a stronger dollar, demand for prime animals is strong. Check with your buyers for premium.

Dairy Prices: The international commodity prices are all firm with good demand for NZ commodities. The higher US dollar has shown some commodities to be lower in NZ dollar terms.

We had an interesting talk from Maui Milk's GM on Thursday about the developing sheep milk industry. They are seeking farmers to supply, they have the sheep, and some technical support. Danone is buying all their powder, so the marketing is strong & done!!!

Facial Eczema!!!! No spore counts yet, but it is best to start the treatment early. Usually around by Christmas!!!!

Quote: *Don't look for the flaws as you go through life, and even when you find them, 'tis wise and kind to be somewhat blind, and look for the virtues behind them.*

Jim's Weekly Rant:

There is a good video in the FB page Citizens Reject Atmospheric Policies addressed to Chloe Swarbrick asking her how she can make comments and be involved in the climate debate when she doesn't understand the science. The presentation is by Dr Thomas D Williams. The facts are clear and simple, and it is not just Chloe Swarbrick that needs to listen and understand science, it is around 95% of the people in parliament and 75% of the population. I am amazed at the number of people who have only ever listened to media and political rhetoric and have never actually considered the facts before them. I was in a conversation with a well educated person last weekend and the conversation moved to politics and then climate change. When I asked about his understanding of climate change, I received, what I would consider to be, a typical response from any member of our society. I asked him to comment about a couple of his understandings and it became obvious that he knew nothing, other than the stories promoted by the media, the fake news!!!!

- *Had never thought about the importance of CO2 to sustain life and grow food.*
- *Had no idea as to how much CO2 there was in the atmosphere.*
- *Had no idea about historical global temperatures.*
- *Had no idea about what else might affect the climate.*

In simple terms he had been brainwashed, but being an educated person, there is hope that he will undertake some research and find out the truth.

It is up to us all to educate people and promote the facts before the Zero Carbon Bill and others destroy the economy. Think about the ridiculous amounts of money going into climate research about CO2 while the hospitals and schools are underfunded.

Contact AgSafeNZ 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 Utilisation, 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

On Climate Change. *The notion that complex climate “catastrophes” are simply a matter of the response ... to a single forcing, CO2 (or solar forcing for that matter), represents a gigantic leap backwards in the science of climate. Many disasters associated with warming are simply normal occurrences whose existence is falsely claimed to be evidence of warming. And all these examples involve phenomena that are dependent on the confluence of many factors.* Dr Richard Lindzen, Nov 30, 2009.

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!!!