

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

### 18 January 2025

Daily grass growth rates:	Range 38 to 47 kg DM/ha/day. Lack of moisture & wind!!	
Average pasture cover:	2125 kg DM/ha. Most Maize & Turnip crops are good to very good.	
10 cm soil temperature:	19.2°C	
Rainfall (Hamilton)– Month to date	10 mm	January 10 yr Av 98 mm.
Stock prices report:	Steers	\$3.620/kg
	Bulls	\$3.760/kg
	Boner Cows	\$2.530/kg
	Store lambs	\$86.33/head
	Weaner bulls 100-120 kg	\$5.730/kg.

It is time to make some alternative plans for summer through autumn management. Reassess the feed on hand, look at different growth rate scenarios & rain expectations, stock numbers - culling & drying off options. Your decisions will determine pasture cover at drying off & the cow condition. Autumn calving cows are mostly dry and fishing should be OK.

Week commencing 20 January 2025

	This Week Nth Is	This Week Sth Is	Last Week Av	1 Year ago
18 kg YX Lamb (cents/kg)	\$7.65	\$7.50	\$7.57	\$5.67
21 kg Mutton (cents/kg)	\$3.60 +	\$3.50	\$3.40	\$2.30
P2 Steer (270 to 295 kg)	\$6.60 +	\$6.30 -	\$6.45	\$5.20
M Cow (160 to 195 kg)	\$5.00	\$4.75	\$4.87	\$3.67
Bull (270 to 295 kg)	\$6.70 +	\$6.35 +	\$6.37	\$5.27
Venison (60 kg AP Stag)	\$9.30 +	\$9.05 +	\$8.75	\$8.72
		Previous Week	1 year ago	2 yrs ago
Fine Crossbred Indicator price	\$3.30	\$3.30	\$ 3.47	\$ 3.85
Mid Micron Indicator price	\$5.13	\$5.13	\$ 5.13	\$7.32
Butter (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$11,750	\$11,750	\$ 8800	\$ 6875
Skim Milk Powder (SMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 5000	\$ 5000	\$ 4150	\$ 4300
Whole Milk Powder (WMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 6880	\$ 6880	\$ 5150	\$ 4900
Cheddar Cheese (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 8500	\$ 8500	\$ 6650	\$ 7600
Casein (lactose casein NZ \$ per tonne)	\$14,100	\$14,100	\$12,700	\$20250
Global Dairy Trade Index	1202	1219	1038	1031
US currency	\$0.560	\$0.560	\$0.610	\$0.650
Euro	\$0.544	\$0.543	\$0.560	\$0.597
Australian dollar	\$0.903	\$0.903	\$0.928	\$0.913

**Finance:** The NZ dollar is steady at the new lower level. It is good for exporters but will lift imports and with Brent Crude prices increasing in US dollar terms fuel and all associated transport costs will increase. Brent Crude has lifted to +\$81/barrel.

**Wool:** Wool prices remain in the doldrums. Let's hope 2025 will bring something exciting to the wool industry..

**Beef, Sheep & Venison schedules:** Meat schedules are steady. Venison prices are up slightly. Lamb schedules are a concern & perhaps we need a lamb promotion like they have in Australia for Australia Day – lifts sales +13%. Beef prices are OK.

**Dairy Prices.** Dairy prices are steady and the lower dollar will lift the returns. With the \$10 payout there will be a tendency to push production, make sure it doesn't impact on the long-term plans for the business.

The spore counts are generally low across the country but protection & prevention measures should be underway. There is rain forecast for the coming week and they are likely to increase more rapidly after the rain.

**Quote:** " Staying positive does not mean that things will turn out okay. Rather it is knowing that you will be okay no matter how things turn out."

**Need Help. If at any time you just want to talk & need someone to talk to, just call - Male Support Services (Waikato) 0800-677-289, or Rural Support Trust 0800-787-245. Crisis TXT – HELP (4357). A shared problem can be a problem solved!!**

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:**

*We have all watched in disbelief as the fires continue to destroy Los Angeles and its several city suburbs. There have been around 20,000 structures destroyed, 1,000's hectares of land burnt and +20 people have lost their lives. It has been destruction on a scale we cannot imagine and even some of the worlds massive earthquakes and floods seem to pale into insignificance. The massive amount of rubble that has been created that will need to be disposed of is another problem for the authorities as it is not like the massive wild-fires in Australia where trees and vegetation are the main casualties. Then of course the blame games starts. We are already hearing it is climate change, but records show there have been massive wild-fires in the region for years as the hot dry winds are fanned down for the Sierra Nevada. Again the "Green Agenda" is also being blamed as California is the woke capital of the world. Like Australia much of the fuel for the fires is the litter under the treed areas and forests where the Greens/Extreme Environmentalist have ensured the trash and litter remains to protect the many species of life that live there. There have also been claims that some of the dams have been emptied to rebuild habitats for some small vulnerable fish reducing the available water supplies. The firefighters budget was reduced by \$US17million while rainbow fire-hydrants and pedestrian crossings were prioritized. There were 50 fire-truck units from Oregon that were turned away when they failed the LA CO2 emission criteria. – another dumb "Climate Change" rule. While there are other reports of some of the fires being deliberately lit. And I did watch a video from 1962 where the fire department warned about catastrophic fires, and there have been several. The reasons and the conversation will continue, but the really sad part about all disasters is the opportunist looters who take advantage of disasters for their own personal gain. The looters can only be considered as the lowest of the lowlife's in society and they should be dealt to as harshly as the law allows as the professional firefighters and emergency response personnel put themselves at risk protecting the vacated areas. And in a similar vein, I believe we were all appalled at the lowlife who stole the medical bag from the Rescue Helicopter when it was on the ground in Dunedin. The theft of such important medical and survival equipment placed the whole emergency rescue team at risk of being unable to undertake their tasks. The rescue choppers in NZ are an essential part of our community saving lives and being particularly important in the rural communities – they saved my daughters life in December 2022 following a fatal car crash near Kaitaia. If any rescue chopper arrived at a scene and then found their vital equipment and drugs had been stolen the charges should be looked at as attempted murder and if a rescue person is killed while protecting property from looters as similar charge should be considered. The senseless death of the Lyn Fleming in Nelson, a policeman doing her job protecting the community is another example of an extreme lowlife and the murderer must be dealt the harshest of penalties. Disasters and accidents happen and we rely on the emergency services to protect us and the thieves, the looters, the idiots and the arsonists that place people at risk during these times must be dealt with imposing the harshest of penalties available. Thieves are a problem, but when the lives of those protecting us are put at risk it is different.*

**Get yourself a copy of a great book - "Green Murder – a life sentence of net zero with no parole". Author - Dr Ian Plimer and perhaps the best known Australian geologist. Dr Ian Plimer has recently published a series of Three easy to read books for ankle-biters, teenagers and adults.**

**Also: Global Warming, a counter-blast to the man-made global warming hypothesis - Dr Kelvin Duncan (Tross press)**

**Take 1.25hrs to watch the Video on YouTube - "Climate the Movie" produced by Nigel Durkin!!**

**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.

**Drone Spraying a cost-effective way to spray weeds, sow grass seed etc. [www.dronespraying.co.nz](http://www.dronespraying.co.nz) Check it out and contact Jordan Salmon email [jordan@dronezap.co.nz](mailto:jordan@dronezap.co.nz)**

For first aid training contact Practical Training Solutions - <https://www.practicaltrainingsolutions.co.nz/>

If have problems & a Mediator is required, reach out to Rachel on 021 919 463 or [rachel@mendingfences.co.nz](mailto:rachel@mendingfences.co.nz), or visit the website <https://mendingfences.co.nz/>