

WEEKLY ECONOMIC REPORT:

Farm Advisors NZ Ltd & AgSafe NZ Ltd

Property & Farm Management Consultants & Safety Consultants

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9 January 2021

Daily grass growth rates: Range 40 to 48 kg DM/ha/day.
 Average pasture cover: 2100 kg DM/ha.
 10 cm soil temperature: 22.5°C
 Rainfall (Hamilton)– Month to date: 30 mm. Jan 10 year Av 98 mm. Below average September/October rainfall. November has caught up some of the deficit.

Stock prices report:

Prime steers	\$2.616/kg
Prime bulls	\$2.540/kg
Boner Cows	\$1.959/kg
Store lambs	\$84.56
Feeder Calves	\$162.90
Weaner bulls to 101 to 120 kg	\$3.642/kg av \$400.00/head

Happy New Year and may this year bring prosperity and success, for that to happen we all need to work harder, increase our productivity and support a society that encourages critical thinking and a freedom to learn and understand. Throw off the “sheep mentality” and undertake your own “Fact-Checker”. You might just be surprised. I will hopefully direct you to new sites to assist.

Week commencing 11 January 2021

	This Week Nth Is	This Week Sth Is	Last Week Av	1 Year ago
18 kg YX Lamb (cents/kg)	\$6.40	\$6.30	\$6.47	\$8.07
21 kg Mutton (cents/kg)	\$4.95	\$4.70	\$4.62	\$5.72
P2 Steer (270 to 295 kg)	\$4.80	\$4.62	\$5.80	\$5.58
M Cow (160 to 195 kg)	\$3.40	\$3.45	\$3.57	\$4.47
Bull (270 to 295 kg)	\$4.75	\$4.55	\$4.77	\$5.62
Venison (60 kg AP Stag)	\$5.50	\$5.70	\$5.60	\$8.55
		Previous Week	1 year ago	2 yrs ago
Fine Crossbred Indicator price	\$2.14	\$2.23	\$ 3.52	\$ 4.05
Mid Micron Indicator price	\$7.85	\$7.29	\$10.39	\$16.40
Butter (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 6175	\$ 5875	\$ 5850	\$6000
Skim Milk Powder (SMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 4250	\$ 4125	\$ 4350	\$3275
Whole Milk Powder (WMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 5620	\$ 4500	\$ 4750	\$4000
Cheddar Cheese (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 4550	\$ 5450	\$ 5950	\$5025
Casein (lactose casein NZ \$ per tonne)	\$10575	\$10750	\$12500	\$8050
US currency	\$0.726	\$0.713	\$0.661	\$0.681
Euro	\$0.592	\$0.582	\$0.596	\$0.597
Australian dollar	\$0.935	\$0.938	\$0.963	\$0.944

Finance: The NZ is continuing to firm against the US dollar. Not a good look for a recovering economy. NZ is officially out of the recession however much of the spending was fuelled by the government stimulation package.

Wool: The wool prices are a disaster.

Beef, Sheep & Venison schedules: The new meat schedules for January 2021 are steady to slightly lower with the works only now coming back into production. Exporting remains difficult with shipping and container space a real problem. The demand for high quality meat cuts including venison are still only easy internationally. Manufacturing beef is in demand but the exchange rates are against the farmers!!

Dairy Prices: The g/DT lift was unexpected increasing 3.9%. Butter +7.2%, SMP +4.1% & is now over \$US3000/tn, WMP +3.1% & is \$US3306/tn. All dairy commodities are up in real US dollar terms.

Eczema spores are rising and precautions should be implemented. Grass growth rates are slowing and I am in favour of feeding supplements to maintain the pasture cover as long as possible. Dairy production is good, but can drop very quickly with the hot days. Make sure the stock have plenty of water and access to shade.

Quote: *When society rejects excellence, it accepts mediocrity. Education should be about liberation and understanding*

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)

Jim's Weekly Rant:

It doesn't take long to get stirred up about something as it seems that the bureaucrats wait until they think everyone is on holiday before releasing dumb decisions. This holiday award for stupidity must go to the Broadcasting Standards Authority (BSA) and the ruling they released that upheld a complaint from a university academic (and that's debatable) that "Gypsy Day" was discriminatory and unfair on a small minority Roma people. The decision is copied here for you to decide.

A TV1 News presenter used the term 'gypsy day' when reporting on the annual relocation of sharemilkers. The Authority upheld a complaint that this breached the discrimination and denigration standard. The Authority highlighted the importance of responding to societal change: terms that may have been acceptable in the past, may not necessarily be acceptable in the future. While not used to express malice or hatred, the phrase is derogatory and evokes prejudicial biases towards the Roma community. When used in this context, it is capable of embedding existing negative stereotypes.

This was my response to them: Have you gone stark-raving mad, or are you out of touch with the real world? The term "Gypsy Day" in the dairy industry has been used for as long as I can remember. I am a 71 year old farm consultant who grew up on a dairy farm near Matamata and have been involved in the industry all my life. The term is referred to in the Merriam-Webster dictionary as a person who wanders or roams. The share farming fraternity together with the contract milkers shift regularly, they have no permanent home. Most share farming contracts are for three years periods, while many of the contract milkers move annually from farm to farm. Both the share farmers and the contract milkers take all their possessions with them. The movement takes place over two days being the 31st May and 1st June in each year and is best described as gypsy's as they are itinerant people as per the definitions. To describe the term "Gypsy Day" as a racist slur is can only be described as ignorant of the NZ farming processes and people and wokeness gone mad. I also note that there is vehicle called an Austin Gipsy, slightly different spelling. Will you now be advising the NZ Transport Agency that these vehicles should be renamed?? Or does the farming community now refer to the important day on the farming calendar as "Gipsy Day" with an "I" and not a "Y". Will you also be ruling against the use of the word "Pirate" when the broadcast media refer to "Pirated" music or games? Get real and rescind your ruling or remain the laughing stock of the rural community, if not the whole of NZ!!

And then there was The High Court ruling by a Judge in Wellington that the 2 minimum standards in the Pig Code of Welfare that permitted the use of mating stalls and farrowing crates are unlawful and invalid, the pork industry will have to reconsider pig farming practices as a consequence and it is likely that all pork will be imported from countries that have limited animal welfare standards.

I could go on, but this is enough to start a new year where Politically Correct processes and illogical decisions will be the norm!!

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. The early weaning saves milk and allows more milk to be sold!

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

Check out our Facebook site **Citizens Reject Atmospheric Policies – CRAP**. We will keep you updated 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!!!