

WEEKLY ECONOMIC REPORT:

Farm Advisors NZ Ltd & AgSafe NZ Ltd

Property & Farm Management Consultants & Safety Consultants

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17 October 2020

Daily grass growth rates: Range 60 to 72 kg DM/ha/day.
 Average pasture cover: 2575 kg DM/ha.
 10 cm soil temperature: 12.5°C
 Rainfall (Hamilton)– Month to date: 38 mm. Oct 10 year Av 97 mm. Below average September rainfall. It is very dry in much of the central North Island.

Stock prices report:

Prime steers	\$2.740/kg
Prime bulls	\$2.378/kg
Boner Cows	\$1.912/kg
Store lambs	\$112.47
Feeder Calves	\$98.38

Weaner bulls to 120 to 150 kg \$3.183/kg av \$426.76/head

I attended the Tokoroa Schools calf club during the week. It was great seeing the traditions continuing after a couple of years where calves were not allowed because of M-Bovis. Children rearing the calves, developing the special bonds and learning about stock handling. It has always taught children to care for animals which is life long lesson!! Well done kids.

Week commencing 19 October 2020

	This Week Nth Is	This Week Sth Is	Last Week Av	1 Year ago
18 kg YX Lamb (cents/kg)	\$7.00	\$6.80	\$6.90	\$8.30
21 kg Mutton (cents/kg)	\$4.75	\$4.50	\$4.62	\$5.58
P2 Steer (270 to 295 kg)	\$5.40	\$4.85	\$5.12	\$5.80
M Cow (160 to 195 kg)	\$3.95	\$3.75	\$3.85	\$4.33
Bull (270 to 295 kg)	\$5.20	\$4.70	\$4.95	\$5.50
Venison (60 kg AP Stag)	\$6.20	\$6.60	\$6.40	\$9.64
		Previous Week	1 year ago	2 yrs ago
Fine Crossbred Indicator price	\$2.23	\$2.17	\$ 4.16	\$ 4.01
Mid Micron Indicator price	\$5.36	\$5.67	\$10.60	\$16.40
Butter (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 5260	\$ 5260	\$ 6450	\$6475
Skim Milk Powder (SMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 4625	\$ 4625	\$ 4250	\$3075
Whole Milk Powder (WMP NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 4575	\$ 4575	\$ 5000	\$4175
Cheddar Cheese (NZ \$ per tonne)	\$ 5675	\$ 5675	\$ 6000	\$5400
Casein (lactose casein NZ \$ per tonne)	\$11700	\$11700	\$10650	\$8450
US currency	\$0.660	\$0.661	\$0.639	\$0.653
Euro	\$0.564	\$0.561	\$0.575	\$0.574
Australian dollar	\$0.930	\$0.920	\$0.936	\$0.925

Finance: The NZ dollar is steady against all major trading currencies. It will be interesting to see what happens after the elections and as the USA gets closer to their presidential elections..

Wool: The wool prices are a disaster and even after a slight lift they are still unacceptable.

Beef, Sheep & Venison schedules: The meat schedules are steady. Venison is still weak but is trending upwards again.

Dairy Prices: Dairy commodity prices are steady. The early season production is good and is up on last year. Fonterra lifted its payout forecast during the week which shows some real confidence in the industry.

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)

Silage harvest is well underway along with the cultivation for maize crops. I, like you have been caught behind tractors and implements on the highway. Please do not get frustrated as they are aware of the cars behind them, but it can be difficult to pull over as the equipment can be unstable when off the road. Most tractors have a speed limit of 50 km/hr. Please give them some slack!!

Quote: If you believe it will work out, you'll see opportunities. If you believe it won't, you will see obstacles.

Jim's Weekly Rant:

This is more of a reflection today as we contemplate the possible results of the “Covid” election as declared by Jacinda. In October 1996 NZ had its first MMP election. National continued its reign winning the benches in 1993 and again in 1996. The 1990's were a time of great change in NZ and particularly in the dairy industry as mergers took place and the role of the Dairy Board was questioned. One serious question was: ***What would happen if a centre too (very) left government gained power, and or was influential in the negotiations to form a government in NZ and how they might view the ownership of the NZ Dairy Board?*** The government was the sole shareholder of the NZ Dairy Board with the Minister of Agriculture holding the share. The Dairy Board was never owned by the farmers as they were often led to believe. The question was not considered real by some, but did gain traction as people started to see how an MMP environment and political negotiations might take place. Now move forward to today and consider the socialist left that may gain power with the Greens influencing the outcome. We have heard in recent days that Eugene Sage would like to be the Minister of Agriculture and can you imagine the carnage the dairy industry would experience if she was the sole shareholder of the NZ Dairy Board if it had remained in existence. Yes that is correct, Eugene Sage as the owner and controller of the NZ dairy industry. Just a thought to contemplate today as the rural sector struggles with the draconian Fresh Water Management regulations and other attacks on farming!!! The dairy industry was saved when the farmers partitioned Parliament to transfer the shares of the Dairy Board to the Co-ops. National was in government and they facilitated the change and the NZ Dairy Board ceased to exist from 2001 onwards and the government lost the ownership of the industry and all we might say today is hallelujah! And thanks to someone who saw the government ownership of the industry as a potential problem.

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.

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 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 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!!!