

The Market Report

Stratford Forthcoming Events

Wednesday 27th March

Online Timed Auction Starts at 12 Noon

Tuesday 2nd April

Prime, Cull & Store Sheep - 10.30am

Plants, Produce & Misc - 10.00am

Online Timed Auction Finishes from 12 Noon

Tuesday 9th April

Prime, Cull & Store Sheep - 10.30am

Plants, Produce & Misc - 10.00am

Friday 12th April

Complete Farm Dispersal Sale - 10.30am

see main advert for further information

*For further information regarding any of the sales
please contact the Market Team*

Agricultural & Development Consultants, Chartered Surveyors, Auctioneers & Estate Agents

Oakleigh House, Thrapston,
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REPORT FOR TUESDAY 26TH MARCH

Prime Hogs

Trade eased slightly on the week with a majority showing of massive hogs forward, sold out of the averages. A good showing of meat with best end hogs continuing to reach premiums. All in sale average saw £169.71. SQQ 351.59p/kg. J & M Ironmonger topped the day pence per kilo with a smart run of Texels selling to 397p/kg for 43kgs. B Burrows & Sons topped the day overall with a tremendous showing of quality seeing a high of £215.40 for 60kgs Charollais, with their Texels at 65kgs selling to £208, 59kgs to £205.97 and 54.kgs to £192.78.

To		From		Average	
Standards (32.1-39kg)					
375p	£138.75	350p	£129.50	259.3p	£132.95
Mediums (39.1 - 45.5kg)					
397p	£170.71	342p	£140.13	351p	£152.16
Heavies (45.6 - 52kg)					
369p	£190.04	300p	£144.00	338.5p	£167.44
Over 52kg					
359p	£215.40	320p	£192.78	343.5p	£204.71

Store Sheep

A strong showing of stores forward with more big framed lean lambs than long term small lambs. All in average £108.03. A Berks topped with good stretchy framed Suffolks selling to £130 with J & M Ironmonger topping the Texels at £127 for smart shaped lambs; AJ Astwell & Son topped the ram lambs with Charollais crosses selling at £124; K Elgar sold good going on Romney lambs at £110 for a pen of twenty-nine; D & C Webb saw £44 for Shetland ram lambs.

To	From	Average
£130.00	£40.00	£108.03

Cull Ewes & Rams

A stark lift on the week not reflected in the averages with a sale average at £110.67. All grades saw a lift with weight and meat at premiums. B Burrows & Sons topped the day with Texel ewes topping at £157; D Neal saw a high of £148 for Texel Mule crosses of big frame and lean meat; R & J Baldwyn topped the Suffolks on the day with ewes to £143, also topping the Mules at £113. Any meat ewes were £100 plus with true feeders at £80 plus.

To	From	Average
£157.00	£80.00	£110.67

Plants, Produce, Hatching Eggs & Sundries

Every week at 10am at Stratford. An indoor Auction.

Doors open for collection at 7am

The Café's open from 8am

An amazing selection with something for everyone today, some really interesting items went under the hammer. Have a read of what was on offer.

Plants etc - A wonderful selection again this week but no one seems to want to go out in the garden yet. Some great bargains are available come down and have a look. Entries included Trays of Violas, Tulips, Mini Tulips, Aubrietas, Saxifraga, Grape Hyacinth, Daffodils, Cauliflower Plants, Onion Sets, Rhubarb, Raspberry Canes and Roses. Other items going under the hammer included: Kindling £5, bags of Logs £5, Bird Boxes and Nest Boxes, Bird Feeders, Bat Boxes, Bug Hotels, Hedgehog Houses, Wooden Trugs, a Fox Weathervane, Two Stone Ducks, Planters and Garden Sundries

Produce - A bag of Feed Wheat £5 (equivalent price to £200 a tonne), numerous packs of Purple Sprouting Broccoli £1.20, bags of Barley Straw 80p, Poultry Feed £9, Wood Shavings £5, Leeks £1.60, Cauliflowers £1.70, Cabbages £1.10, bags of Bread £7.

Hatching Eggs - Trays of Hen eggs sold to £6, ½ dozen Rubber eggs to £2, ½ dozen Bantam eggs £3, ½ dozen Large Fowl eggs £3.50, Goose eggs £1.80 each., 8 Duck eggs £2 and a Brinsea Brooder £22.

Sundries - Some very interesting items today one thing to mention today was a Phono fiddle £22 an accordion £35 numerous jugs and plates, power tools, hand tools, Strimmers, lawnmowers, push bikes to £60, ladders, Stone Planters and Statues and much much more.

Please remember if you have something to sell, Advertise it the day before to encourage buyers to attend. 07885 804450

Our chaplain Rev. Richard Wilde, Methodist Minister, member of the Agricultural Chaplains Association and the Farming Community Network will be in attendance at the market on Tuesdays for a chat, if you would like to talk.

richardwilde.FCN@gmail.com

REPORT FOR FRIDAY 22ND MARCH

Game Rearing Equipment Dispersal Sale

A great turn out of people at the sale, despite the wet weather and conditions on the field. An excellent sale was achieved surpassing the expectations of both the vendors and the Auctioneers.

Top Prices Achieved

- ◆ Ifor Williams Trailer £3550
- ◆ Western Incubators £500 - £780
- ◆ Marcon Hatcher £720
- ◆ Bristol Hatcher £380
- ◆ Bingham Plucking Machine £300
- ◆ Rearing Sheds with Runs £200 - £220

Overall a very pleasing and different category of sale for Bletsoes. If you have any type of sale, we would be pleased to assist you in offering the items for sale through an auction. Please contact the team, if you have any question regarding sales.

HAY, STRAW & FODDER

150 x Claas Quadrant Bales - a Mixture of Meadow & Seed Hay
Stored undercover, Assist & Loading Facilities.
Located Thurning, Northants. Contact Bob 07860 869172

150 x 4' Round Bales of 2023 Hay – good quality, currently being fed to sheep & horses
Available in quantities to suit.
Stored undercover, Assist with Loading.
Located Orton, Northants. Contact Richard 07795 170864

500 x 120cm x 90cm Bales of Good Quality Hay – baled with Extra Density.
Stored undercover, Assist & Loading Facilities.
Located: Great Doddington, Northants. Contact Tom 07710 930979

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 15th June
Farm Dispersal Sale - Banbury, Oxfordshire
Further details in due course

My mother used to quote her father, (Bill Walton a farmer in Tysoe parish 1890's to 1950's) throughout the year often with phrases relating to the weather. One such observation was in his own words during a thunderstorm "it wont have the legs to climb Sunrising Hill, it'll just keep going round until its all rained out". Other phrases and observations, were well established generations before he was born such as "Blackthorn winter" – which I think was about late hard frosts or snow – correct me if I'm wrong! Another was "February Fill Dyke" which was noting the likelihood of heavy rains after a hard frosty winter during the second month of the year. It served as a warning to get jobs like hedge cutting done whenever the ground was dry enough or hard enough through autumn and winter because you'd most likely not be able to get on the fields after January. Well, it seems that this year 'February Fill dyke' began last autumn and carried on through March! My heart goes out to those reading the page who have been unable to sow winter cereals or watch what little was drilled struggling in the constant wet. It has impacted livestock farmers, contractors and many others whose vocation relates to food production and care for the environment. Many see a link to Climate Change.

I have attended several events recently including the excellent Warwickshire Rural Hub conference at H R I Wellesbourne on 12th March which provided information and conferring for farmers and related industries adapting to not only climate but also Government policy, public attitude and consumer changes alongside rapid advances in technology. So much is changing around us and we have to adapt to stay in business. The size and complexity of machinery, new varieties of cereal or potatoes better suited to our current climate and adaptations in livestock management etc. Some things though do not change. The satisfaction of watching well bred, responsibly reared lambs enjoying good pasture rewarding the long hours in the lambing shed. The pleasure in watching wild birds and mammals feeding on field margins, nesting in hedges, insects buzzing from wildflowers to fruit blossom and feasting on the nectar in blackthorn blooms. St Paul suggested that faith, hope and love are The constants.

Many centuries ago the Christian churches saw the links between the dying and rising of Jesus Christ and the new life all around us in spring. The historical event of the crucifixion was timed with the Jewish feast of Passover which is set through a lunar calendar predating the Julian 12 month calendar by many centuries. The Christian liturgical calendar which fixes Easter is linked in a similar way which gives us the 27 day variation as to when Easter falls. Personally, I would happily have the date for Easter fixed to say the 13th Sunday each year making life simpler for schools etc but international church authorities like the Vatican don't like to change things in a hurry. Many Protestant churches like mine (The Methodist Church) and the Church of England have dared to change things like ordaining women, permitting divorce and remarriage and many other adaptations but we are powerless to fix Easter!

Whether Good Friday and Easter this year will for you be before, during or just after lambing I hope for two things – that February Fill Dyke will have finished and that all of you reading this will have time to pause to reflect on truths that are constant helping us to adapt to changes beyond our control. For me the belief that God is with me through and in change helps me to cope day by day and the Easter events give me hope for the final change from this life to the next. Be assured that in our home this Sunday we follow the Passover custom of a roast lamb lunch. Have a happy Easter!

Richard Wilde, Market Chaplain

Bletsoes

— EST. 1881 —

ONLINE TIMED AUCTION

Livestock Equipment, Agricultural Farm Machinery & Effects

Starts: Wednesday 27th March at 12 noon

Finishes: Tuesday 2nd April from 12 noon



Briefly to Include:

2002 NEW HOLLAND TM165 4WD Tractor, JCB 410 Loading Shovel,
MATBRO Telestar Loadall, 2 x TOYOTA Hilux Pick-Ups, 2 x Dumper Trucks,
JPM Tandem Axle Low Loading Trailer, 2 x Back Actors, 4 x Car Trailers,
CLAAS Round Baler, 6 x Grass Mowers & Toppers

Over 400 Lots of Miscellanea to include: Cattle & Sheep Equipment, Gates,
100 Lots of Various Wheels & Tyres, 50 x Digger Buckets, Workshop Tools & Effects
A Sale of over 800 Lots

**on behalf of E Gadsby
Loughborough, Leicestershire**

Agricultural & Development
Consultants, Chartered Surveyors,
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Available to view online now

Viewing by Appointment 27th-30th March

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— EST. 1881 —

Saturday 6th April 12.30pm

at Thrapston Livestock Market

A Single Vendor Sale of Poultry

A selection of over 300 Birds - To Include

Bantams – Wynadottes, Pekins, Millefleur Sablepoots & Sussex

Large Fowl – White Stars, Warrens, Faverolles,
Oxford Game, Hybrid Layers & Rangers

Ducks – Mallards, Call, Mandarins & Muscovys

**Bonded Pairs of Peafowl, Turkey Hens,
50 x Pheasants & Quantity of Chicks**

A full list of entries will be available online or sent by request



on behalf of S & G Fur & Feather Supplies

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— EST. 1881 —

Friday 12th April, 10.30am

at The Limes, Main Street, Barnack, Cambridgeshire. PE9 3DN

A Complete Farm Dispersal Sale



To Include:

1988 **JOHN DEERE** 644E-H Loading Shovel,
JCB 814 Super Powerslide Excavator, 1970 **MOXY** D16B Articulated Dumper,
1993 **JOHN DEERE** 2066 Combine Harvester,
1992 **JOHN DEERE** 4255 4WD Tractor, 1995 **JOHN DEERE** 810 4WD Tractor,
1991 **JOHN DEERE** 3650 4WD Tractor,
2003 **HONDA** Foreman Rubican 4WD Quad Bike, 3 x Diesel Forklift Trucks,
LANDQUIP Trailed Sprayer, **JOHN DEERE** 750A No Till Drill,
SPEARHEAD Orbital Hedge Cutter, 30,000L Bulk Tanker Trailer,
40' Articulated Fridge Trailer, Commercial Pillar Drill.

A sale of 1000 Lots

Workshop Tools, Car Ramp, Welders, Nuts & Bolts, Toolboxes

on behalf of W Aldwinckle

The sale is due to retiring from farming

Contact Alastair Brown 07885 804450

Catalogues will be available online or by request

Bletsoes

— EST. 1881 —

Friday 19th April, 10.30am

at Bridgehill Road, Newborough,
Peterborough. PE6 7SD

Auction Sale of over 1200 Lots



To Include:

1999 **JCB** Fastrac 2135, 1994 **JOHN DEERE** 6600 4WD Tractor,
1994 **JCB** 520-55 Telehandler, **CATERPILLAR** D4D Crawler,
3 Tonne Tipper Trailer, **WESTWOOD** Ride-on-Mowers,
Dealer Closures & Farm Clearance Stock, Spares, Parts & Literature,
Tractor Parts & Plough Spares, Wheels & Tyres.
Tractors, Vehicles, Trailers & Implements. Livestock Equipment
Bygones, Agricultural Salvage & Memorabilia
Models, Racking, Shelving & Display Units

on behalf of M V Weston

Contact Alastair Brown 07885 804450

Catalogues will be available online or by request

Bletsoes

— EST. 1881 —

An Auction



NO entries will be accepted after this date

For further information contact Beth Kitchener

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Grants Available in 2024

DEFRA have published a summary of grants available to look out for in 2024.

Grant	Important Dates
SFI Annual Health & Welfare Review	Applications Open
Laying Hen Housing for Health & Welfare	Open in Spring-Summer 24
Cattle Housing for Health & Welfare	Open in Autumn 24
Farming Equipment & Technology Fund 2024:	
Grant to Improve Productivity	Apply Now - Deadline 17 th April
Improve Animal Health & Welfare	Application Window TBC
Improve Slurry Management	Apply Now – Deadline 17 th April
Improving Farm Productivity (Round 2)	Apply Now – Deadline 21 st March
Slurry Infrastructure Grant	Closed. Open again later in the year
Water Management Grant	Round 2 - Deadline for Full Applications end October. Round 3 open later in the year.

**Contact the Agricultural Team
to discuss an Application**