

# The Market Report

## Stratford Forthcoming Events

### Tuesday 15th August

Prime, Cull & Store Sheep - 10.30am

Fur, Produce & Misc - 10.00am

### Saturday 19th August

Thrapston Sale of Breeding Sheep & Rams

*At Thrapston Livestock Market*

### Tuesday 22nd August

Prime, Cull & Store Sheep - 10.30am

Fur, Produce & Misc - 10.00am

### Tuesday 29th August

Prime, Cull & Store Sheep - 10.30am

Fur, Produce & Misc - 10.00am

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

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

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## REPORT FOR TUESDAY 8TH AUGUST

### 463 Prime Lambs

A stronger week going forward with a lift to 255.49p/kg for the SQQ. Lambs over 42kgs continue to see a clear premium with meat even more so, lambs are still growing. Abingdon & Witney College topped the day at 270p/kg for extreme Texels at 36.5kgs. FG Belcher & Sons topped the day overall with best end Charolais at 52kgs selling to £127.50.

**Highlights** - JW Higgins saw their best end Texels to 267p/kg for 42kgs; PG Kane & Son saw comparable highs with pure Charollais at 43.5kgs reaching 263p/kg; P & M Careless saw another flyer for best meat Continentals with 42.5kgs at 262p/kg and following pens to 260.5p/kg and 260.5p/kg; J & M Ironmonger topped the heavier lambs with smart Texels to 261p/kg for 46kgs; C Clews saw their usual stamp of Texels to 260p/kg for 48.5kgs; AF & RF Slatter topped the Suffolks for the day at 258p/kg for 46.5kgs.

To		From		Average	
<i>Lights (25.5-32kg)</i>					
265p	£83.48	265p	£83.48	265p	£83.48
<i>Standards (32.1-39kg)</i>					
270p	£98.55	247p	£92.50	254.9p	£96.28
<i>Mediums (39.1 - 45.5kg)</i>					
267p	£117.00	242p	£98.36	255.5p	£109.82
<i>Heavies (45.6 - 52kg)</i>					
261p	£127.40	244p	£117.07	256.1p	£121.02
<i>Over 52kg</i>					
225p	£121.50	225p	£121.50	225p	£121.50

### 19 Store Lambs

Store lambs saw a smart trade with D Morris topping with Charollais to £80 and Suffolks at £50; A Phillips saw a good framed run of Charollais crosses to £75.

To	From	Average
£80.00	£50.00	£72.95



Click the link to view our Stratford Facebook page for further up to date information about our sales pre and post sale.

<https://www.facebook.com/StratfordLivestockMarket/>

## 117 Cull Ewes & Rams

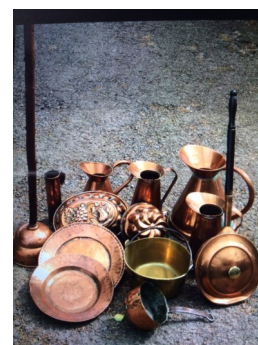
Trade continues at the same level with weight paying alongside leaner meat at premiums. All-In average £90.82. JMM Beasley topped with Texel rams to £181 for best shape meat; C & S Bloodstock topped the ewes with Texels to £150; TR Tame & Son saw the best of the Suffolks with ewes at £131 for big framed ewes; GC Hodges & Son saw a flyer in the Mules with strong ewes to £103. The vast majority sold above £80 with a few feeding types between £55 and £70.

To	From	Average
£181.00	£46.00	£90.82

### TUESDAY 15TH AUGUST

#### Items Entered:

Quantity of Egg Trays, Incubator, Poultry Crate  
Quantity of Chainsaws to include **STIHL & STANLEY**  
**PROTOMETER** Moisture Meter  
**WOLF** Electric Impact Drill & **STIHL** Electric FSE81 Strimmer  
Set of Animal Markers & Quantity of Electric Fence Stakes  
Vintage Sack Barrow  
Assortment of Copper Jugs, Plates & Pans  
Silver Items  
Antique American Style Childs Rocking Chair  
Antique Childs Rocking Chair



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](mailto:richardwilde.FCN@gmail.com)

## ANIMAL HEALTH & WELFARE INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT - CALF HOUSING UPGRADES



Further funding has recently been made available to cattle farmers in England. The new £10 million Animal Health and Welfare Infrastructure Grant set out by DEFRA now allows cattle farmers with over 10 cattle to apply for a grant of between £15,000 and £500,000 to co-finance improvements to farm buildings used for calf housing.

The aim is that buildings built or upgraded under the grant will deliver health and welfare benefits for calves up to the age of 6 months. The grant can pay for the capital costs to build new, upgrade, or replace existing calf housing buildings such as:

- A-frame buildings with 4 walls
- Mono-pitch buildings with 3 walls and one open side
- Permanent open-sided structures with igloos or hutches
- Other types of building that do not fit the above categories.

In addition to this, farmers are also able to access funding for **roof top solar panels** on calf housing buildings providing both improved thermal insulation and lower energy costs for calf housing.

Before applying, you need to discuss your project with a vet and include a letter of confirmation in your full application. The building must be in situ for a minimum of 5 years.

Grants can cover up to a maximum rate of:

- 40% of the eligible costs of a project OR
- 25% if rooftop solar PV panels are included as part of your project.

You can claim the grant payment after the work is finished and has been paid for. The RPA have indicated that similar grants will become available in due course for adult cattle, pig and poultry housing.

If you would like to discuss this grant in greater detail, please speak to a member of the Agricultural Team on 01789 722677.

## **CONTRACT FARMING ARRANGEMENTS & HOW BLETSOES CAN HELP**

With the loss of BPS, high input prices and increased machinery costs, now could be a good time to consider a change in your farming business. If your current machinery fleet is coming up for renewal, you want to sharpen your costs or you're looking to relieve your workload. A Contract Farming Agreement might be the solution to meet a number of objectives while still retaining your status as a Farmer.

### **How do Contract Farming Agreement work?**

A farmer instructs a contractor to undertake the practical operations and management of a crop or other enterprise within the farmer's stated policies.

Roles and operations are defined by the contract between farmer and contractor. The crop or other produce is the farmer's and the contractor provides labour, machinery and any other services specified on an agreed basis for remuneration.

#### **Key points**

1. The instructing farmer is and remains the responsible person with financial risk from the outcome of farming.
2. The contractor is a supplier of services to the farmer.
3. The contractor's role is defined by the contract and has access to the land by the farmer's consent.
4. A good working relationship and liaison between the two parties is essential to make this work, aided by prior agreement on expectations and responsibilities.

### **How can Bletsoes help?**

Bletsoes can advise and talk you through how a Contract Farming Agreement (CFA) works highlighting the potential tax benefits and will explain in detail each parties' responsibilities. We can create and implement the contract agreement and ensure that the agreement works for both parties.

#### **CFA Management**

We can simply set up the new agreement or we can provide a management service ensuring that everything runs smoothly running a comprehensive cash book which can then be used to complete a computation of figures to work out a profit share for the growing year. We will be able to provide a schedule of performance giving you an insight into yields and costs.

*Rob Russell*  
*Agri-Business Consultant*



# Bletsoes

— EST. 1881 —

## SALE OF BREEDING SHEEP, STORE LAMBS & RAMS

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September,  
Approx 11am

To include: MV & Non MV Sections  
Entry forms are available on our website now,  
In the Market Office or by request

**Important, completed entry forms must be returned by  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August to be included in the catalogue  
and for lotting & penning purposes.**

Jake Wagstaff – 07487 526803 / Alastair Brown – 07885 804450  
[www.bletsoes.co.uk](http://www.bletsoes.co.uk)

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— EST. 1881 —



## Oakhurst Farm Eye, Cambridgeshire

In all about 115 acres (46 hectares)  
For sale as a whole or in up to 5 lots

- 5 Bedroom Farmhouse and 4 Bedroom Barn Conversion
- Consent to convert farm buildings to create 3 dwellings
- 105.65 acres of Arable Land
- Environmental and Redevelopment Opportunities



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