

The Market Report

February

Professional Ponderings

Spring is just around the corner and thoughts turn to warmer weather and the grass growing. The market has already seen sales of ewes with lambs at foot and the number of in-lamb ewes has been increasing each week. As graziers start to plan their summer grazing if you have any grass keep to let, please do let us know, we have received a lot of enquiries from interested parties.

The recent announcement of the latest Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) standards is a welcome addition to the existing 3 standards and will hopefully be a useful source of funding for farmers.

The new standards are:

- **Improved Grassland**
Farmers will be paid for actions such as taking grassland out of management, managing grassland for winter bird food and establishing and maintaining buffer strips at the edge of fields to help wildlife and biodiversity.
- **Low Input Grassland**
Farmers will be paid to manage low input grassland to improve biodiversity, soil management and water quality.

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

Oakleigh House, Thrapston,
Northamptonshire NN14 4LJ

Alastair Brown: 07885 804450
Jake Wagstaff: 07487 526803

CPH: 29/242/8000 NN14 4JU
CPH: 43/266/8000 CV37 8LP

- **Nutrient Management**

Farmers will be paid to make an assessment and produce a report of their management of nutrients, helping to encourage them to understand how they are managing nutrients and to take further action to deliver environmental benefits such as reducing fertiliser to prevent runoff into water courses. In addition, there are payments for those who incorporate legumes into the crop and grassland management.

- **Integrated Pest Management**

Farmers will be paid to carry out an assessment and produce an integrated pest management plan, establishing and maintaining flower-rich grass margins, blocks, or in-field strips, including payments for not using insecticides and for planting companion crops.

- **Hedgerows**

Farmers will be paid to assess the condition of hedgerows and manage them in a way that will work for wildlife and improve biodiversity.

- **Arable and Horticultural Land**

Farmers will be paid for actions including establishing and maintaining areas of nectar-rich flower mix; establishing and maintaining flower-rich grass margins, blocks, or in-field strips; providing winter bird food; establishing and maintaining grassy field corners and blocks; and establishing and maintaining buffer strips.

Payments are now based on actions and options and in some ways are similar to the Countryside Stewardship options. For example, under the Improved Grassland standard a payment of £235/ha to establish a 4 – 12 metre buffer strip and the same option under the Arable and Horticultural standard pays £451/ha is available. Completing an Integrated Pest Management plan under that standard pays £989/annum. In addition a SFI Management Payment of £20/ha for the first 50ha of the agreement up to a maximum of £1,000 is available. As you are able to upgrade SFI agreements annually, you can add new standards into existing agreements.

The second round of the Landscape Recovery Programme is set to open in the Spring and is aimed at large scale nature recovery projects focusing on net zero, protected sites and habitat creation.

Please do contact a member of the Agricultural team. in particular myself, Grace Millbank or Rob Russell if we can be of assistance with SFI, Landscape Recovery and Countryside Stewardship. We are happy to discuss the payment rates and assist in producing a scheme that will suit your farm.

I would like to take the opportunity to introduce you to Alexandra (Alex) Abrahams who has just joined Bletsoes as a Graduate Rural Surveyor who will primarily be working in the Agricultural Team and will be getting involved in all aspects of the business. Alex hails from Cirencester where she also attended the Royal Agricultural University where she undertook a degree in Rural Land Management. In her spare time she enjoys trampolining and horse riding (not at the same time).

I hope you have a successful lambing, calving and Spring drilling and hope that the weather is kind.

Richard Spendlove
Rural Chartered Surveyor & Auctioneer



Thrapston Forthcoming Events

Thursday 9th February
Prime & Cull Sheep

Saturday 11th February
Store & Breeding Cattle, Sheep & Pigs
Hay, Straw & Fodder Sale

Thursday 16th February
Prime & Cull Sheep

Saturday 18th February
Store & Breeding Cattle, Sheep & Pigs

THRAPSTON FAT STOCK SHOW - CHARITY CHEQUE PRESENTATION

On Saturday 18th February in the main Cattle Ring, prior to the sale of cattle, our 2022 President John Martin will present a cheque for £3,301.85 to Jason Royce from Souster Youth Trust.

We thank you for all your support in helping us raise such an incredible amount.

REPORT FOR THURSDAY 2ND FEBRUARY

427 Prime Hogs

A difficult week with all outlets finding meat hard sold. Lack of demand has beaten this weeks trade with a drop to an SQQ of 209.93p/kg. A big influx of heavy hogs makes the trade look worse on paper with 326 over 47kgs. Lighter hogs forward could have benefitted with further finishing on the whole, all being said some top prices achieved with J Pringle and their Texel hogs topping to 227p/kg for 51.5kgs. C & W Murdoch topped the sale overall with hogs to £127 for smart 60kg Charollais.

Highlights - R King topped the lightest hogs with 43kg Rouge selling to £100; DO Threadgold saw comparable highs with 45kgs to £98; R Law saw a strong penning forward of best finished hogs seeing £108 for 51kgs; John Gowling & Sons drew the quality goods with 62kg Charollais crosses topping to £123.50; G & J Rattray topped their best framed Charollais at £121.50 for 54kgs.

CONTACT JAKE WAGSTAFF PRIOR TO SALE DAY FOR WEEKLY TRADE PREDICTIONS.

To		From		Average	
<i>Standards (32.1-39kg)</i>					
210p	£82.00	208p	£80.00	208.5p	£80.60
<i>Mediums (39.1 - 45.5kg)</i>					
233p	£100.00	202p	£85.00	210.2p	£92.54
<i>Heavies (45.6 - 52kg)</i>					
227p	£117.00	200p	£95.00	208.5p	£103.14
<i>Over 52kg</i>					
225p	£127.00	186p	£105.00	200.2p	£112.74

44 Cull Ewes & Rams

Trade remains at the same level as recent weeks with the quality of ewes forward fluctuating. All in average £68.56 with ewes ranging from £10 to £110 for Texel rams from TW Lane; Scott & Scott topped the Mules for the day with big framed thick ewes reaching £85; R King saw highs of £79 for nice meat Continental crosses.

To	From	Average
£110.00	£10.00	£68.56

NOTICE

Gerald Wilford of Clipston died peacefully on 19th January 2023. Funeral service at All Saints Church Clipston on Wednesday 8th February at 11.30.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON DISTRICT COUNCIL - CALL FOR SITES

Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick District Councils are working together to produce a new South Warwickshire Local Plan to cover their combined geographic area. This new local plan will set planning policies about where and how new jobs, homes and infrastructure are all delivered in the context of place-shaping and addressing climate change. They have just opened a Public Consultation on how they should plan for the future of South Warwickshire up to 2050. They are still at the early stages of the process (stage 2 of 8) and further Public Consultations will follow. The Consultation sets out a number of ideas and asks a series of questions and they want your views on the issues they raise and the options they propose as possible solutions. The Consultation document and supporting evidence is available online: www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp/issues-and-options and it can also be viewed at Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick District Council's respective offices and main libraries across the district.

Alongside the Issues and Options Consultation, they are running a second '**Call for Sites**' exercise providing a further opportunity for landowners to submit sites for a variety of uses that can be assessed and considered through the plan making process. Therefore, if you have land that is in the Stratford-on-Avon or Warwick district which you believe may have development potential, then please contact Chris Templar on 01789 722677 or chris.templar@bletsoes.co.uk who will appraise your site and consider whether it is appropriate to submit a Call for Sites Proforma. The Consultation runs until 6th March 2023.

NB. Land/sites which were submitted in the first Call for Sites exercise in 2021, should not be submitted again unless there are changes to the boundary or the proposed use.

WANTED

Yard wanted with large barn and electric.
Please contact Ryan on 07889 227921

NOTICE

Please ensure Entry Forms and all relevant paperwork accompany your entries when bringing livestock into the Market.

Entry Forms can be found on our Website, in the Market Office or alternatively please contact the Main Office.

SATURDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

FAT CATTLE

More Entries Required

E F Wootton & Son - TB4

6 Limousin Steers

24-28 Months

STORE & BREEDING CATTLE

R A Ford

5 South Devon Heifers

16-18 Months

D Daglish - TB4

1 British Blue Heifer

18 Months

3 Aberdeen Angus Heifers

18-19 Months

1 Aberdeen Angus Steer

19 Months

3 British Friesian Steers

21 Months

I S & N K Johnson - TB4

10 Continental Steers & Heifers

20-24 Months

S A C Holgate

38 Store Cattle

15-25 Months

C E Hancock & Son

31 Store Cattle

17-27 Months

HAY, STRAW & FODDER

40 x Round Bales of Hay

*Loading with a Tractor & Loader Only. Can Deliver Locally
At Odell, Bedfordshire (C574)*

50 x 4' Round Bales of Wrapped Haylage

*Loading Facilities for Large Lorries & Assistance with Loading
At Cransley, Northants (C302)*

60 x Packs of 18 Conventional Bales of Wheat Straw

*Stored Undercover
Loading Facilities for Large Lorries
At Berkhamsted, Herts (R1037)*

40 x 4 String Mini Hesston 2022 Barley Straw

*Stored Undercover
Loading Facilities for Large Lorries & Assistance with Loading
At Cottenham, Cambs (J191)*

40 x Quadrant Bales of 2022 Soft Meadow Hay

15 x 4' Round Bales of Soft Centred 2021 Hay

25 x 4' Round Bales of Soft Centred 2022 Hay

*Stored Undercover
Loading Facilities for Large Lorries & Assistance with Loading
At Wansford, Cambs (L262)*

HAY, STRAW & FODDER CONTINUED

15 x 4' Round Bales of 2022 Meadow Hay

Ideal Horse Hay

Stored Undercover

Loading Facilities for Large Lorries & Assistance with Loading

At Langford, Beds (M1487)

200 x 120x90 Bales of Barley Straw

Stored Undercover

Loading Facilities for Large Lorries & Assistance with Loading

At Ravensden, Beds (F522)

120 x 120x70 6 String Bales of Hay

Some Seed, Some Meadow

Stored Undercover

Loading Facilities for Large Lorries & Assistance with Loading

At Barnwell, Northants (C219)

250 x Mini Hesston Bales of Wheat Straw

Will split for lorry loads

Stored Undercover

Loading Facilities for Large Lorries & Assistance with Loading

At Horbling, Lincs (W236)

100 x 8' x 4' x 3' Bales of Wheat Straw (420-450kg)

Loading Facilities for Large Lorries & Assistance with Loading

At Oakham (N180)

100 x Packs of 21 Conventional Bales of Wheat Straw

Stored Undercover

Loading Facilities for Large Lorries & Assistance with Loading

At Walgrave, Northampton (K188)

SATURDAY 18TH FEBRUARY

STORE & BREEDING CATTLE

W Keeves

5 In-Calf Cows - Due end March-April to a Aberdeen Angus

Consisting of:

1 Limousin x	5 Years
1 Limousin	6 Years
1 Limousin x	8 Years
1 Aberdeen Angus x	10 Years
1 Hereford x	7 Years

NOTICE

If you would like your stock to be included in the weekly report presale, please contact the office before 12 noon on Monday.

REPORT FOR SATURDAY 4TH FEBRUARY

Store & Breeding Cattle

Cull Cows - A 4 year old Limousin cow sold to £1460 and a 6 year old Angus to £1400; NP & MJ Russell sold their cows to £1000, £865 and £620. **Heifers** sold to £1080 for three 19-21 month Limousins. 20 month Holstein Friesian **steers** sold to £920 and **Bulls** to £750 for J & D Bavington. Yearling Charolais heifers sold to £850 and Steers to £920.

Pigs

Sold to £100 for a young boar from L Di Caprio with others to £75; J Andrews sold to £90; PA Woodward sold pigs to £70 from £30; and Mrs B Burrows sold eighteen pigs to £30.

Goats

Five Pygmy wether goats sold to £150 each from Woodview Farm Ltd.

247 Store & Breeding Sheep

Breeding Sheep - another quality draw this week with Webb Hatherley Livestock topping again at £171 for their North Country Mule theaves scanned with twins, the singles topped to £150; Famington Farm Lamb had a mixed age showing of ewes scanned with triplets, seeing Charollais cross ewes reaching £127.

Store Lambs - trade continues to loom buoyant against the fat with an all in average of £64.93. G Wakefield topped with thumping Suffolk lambs selling to £123, with more at £121 and £119; MF Grace & Son topped their run with Charollais selling to £90 with their Texel types to £81 through to £75 and £70; CJ Harris topped with big frame Mule crosses at £85; LA Burton penned the usual smart spec Continental crosses reaching £78.50. Smaller long term lambs were seen at mid £60's with longest term in the £40's.

Feeding Ewes - prices held fast with best size commanding the trade. All in average £81.03; BJ Reynolds topped to £112 for smart Texel crosses with their Beltex at £108 and £102.50; H Elsdon topped the rams with Dorsets to £110. Lighter weight meat ewes were seen in the £70's with lean and smaller types mid £50's.

NOTICE

We are sad to announce that on Wednesday 4th January James Lionel Marks (Jim), formally of Stanwick but more recently of Gillyflatts Farm, Darlington died. A memorial service will take place on Wednesday 1st March at 3pm at St Lawrence Church, Stanwick.

SATURDAY 11TH FEBRUARY AT 10.30AM

**J Millbank – Dispersal of Sheep
Equipment due to their complete Flock Dispersal**

To include;

Sheep Snacker Feeder – Wheel Driven, 250kg

IAE Sheep System – Circular Forcing Pen, Drafting Gate,
Race Panels, Guillotine Gate

POLDENVALE Sheep Handling System – Race Panels,
Drafting Gate, Guillotine Gates, Race Spreaders

Lamb Weigh Crate – Manual Scales

15 x **IAE** Walk Through Feed Troughs - 8ft

4 x **IAE** Personnel Gates – 3ft

4 x **IAE** Lamb Adopter Fronts

1 x **IAE** 10ft Hurdle with Internal Sliding Gate

2 x **IAE** Hayracks on Wheels

1 x **IAE** Dual End Forcing Gate – 10ft

2 x Sheep Ring Feeders

2 x Sheep Round Bale Hay Cradles

45 x **IAE** Hurdles - 4ft

50 x **IAE** Hurdles - 6ft

1 x **IAE** Plastic Footbath – In Race Style

15 x Green Hurdles – 6ft

10 x Sheeted Hurdles – 10ft

Quantity of Lamb Feeders (Milk Bottles & Buckets)

20 x Plastic Hang on Buckets

30 x Buckets

2 x Plastic Hopper Feeders



Grab a COVID-19 Jab at



Thrapston Livestock Market

- Market Road, Thrapston, NN14 4JU
- Saturday 11 February
- 8.30am to 4pm

Seasonal boosters for 50+ and those eligible, boosters for 16+, 1st and 2nd doses for 5+*.

*Must have turned 5 years old before 1st September 2022.

MOBILE VACCINATION SERVICE – no need to book!

Visit www.nhs.uk/CovidVaccine for more locations and information

Our chaplain Rev. Eddie Smith, Church of England Minister, member of the Agricultural Chaplains Association and the Farming Community Network will be in attendance at the market on the 1st & 3rd Saturday each month for a chat, if you would like to talk.

eddie.smith@talk21.com

Thrapston Market Report 2023 Advertising Tariff

Advertising Charges

1/8 Page	£10 Per Week
1/4 Page	£20 Per Week
1/2 Page	£30 Per Week
Full Page	£50 Per Week
+ VAT	

Discounted Rates Available

For further information, or to place and advert, please contact Beth Kitchener on 01832 732241 or beth.kitchener@bletsoes.co.uk

Bletsoes

— EST. 1881 —

COLLECTIVE SALES OF HAY, STRAW & FODDER

2023

Saturday 11th February

Saturday 11th March

Saturday 8th April

In the main cattle sale ring

All types of Hay, Straw, Silage & Haylage required.
Please forward your entries as soon as possible,
for advertising & cataloguing purposes

For Entry Forms & Catalogues, visit www.bletsoes.co.uk

Alastair Brown 07885 804450 / Jake Wagstaff 07487 526803

Bletsoes

— EST. 1881 —

THRAPSTON COLLECTIVE MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT SALES 2023

Last **Friday** of **Every** Month

March 31st

May 26th

July 28th

September 29th

February 24th

April 28th

June 30th

August 25th

October 27th

November 24th

Entry Forms are Available Online or in the Market Office.
Please forward your entries 10 days prior to the sale date.

Auctioneers: Alastair Brown 07885 804450
Jake Wagstaff 07487 526803

Bletsoes

— EST. 1881 —

An Auction



Horse Tack & Equine Sundries

Saturday 25th February at 1.00pm

At Thrapston Livestock Market

Entries by Monday 13th February
for cataloguing & advertising purposes

For further information contact Beth Kitchener

HENRY SAUNDERS

AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

07748 140502 | 07786 311824



- Combining - 9m Lexion TerraTrac c/w Yield Maps
- Ploughing and all Cultivations
- 6m Horsh Joker ideal for Shallow Cultivation
- Direct / Min-till and Conventional Drilling
- Self Propelled Spraying c/w GPS
- Fertiliser Application c/w GPS and Section Control
- Silage and Hay Making - Complete Service Available
- Round and Square Balers (120cm*90cm) c/w Wrappers
- Straw and Hay Baling (Grass and Straw wanted)
- Hedge Cutting and Verge Mowing
- Flail Mowing and Heavy Duty Topping
- Muck Spreading / Carting / Yard Clearance / Muckspreader Hire
- Umbilical Slurry Application c/w 12m dribble bar and GPS

Land wanted to farm, agreements can be tailored to your requirements.

College Farm, Oakley, Bedford
saunders.agricul@btinternet.com

   @HSaundersAg



Sustainable Soil Management: Farming, Food & Climate Change Workshop

Hosted by Catchment Sensitive Farming and Anglian Water, you are invited to attend a free informal event with presentations from:
Stacey Branson (CSF Adviser) on schemes and grants available.

Neil Fuller - Technical Director of Atlas Sustainable Soils Program

Neil will join us on the day to discuss Sustainable Soil Management. Taking a deep dive into the impact of soil management on climate change, regenerative agriculture, soil carbon balance and carbon emissions, along with the challenges and opportunities of Nitrogen and the use of cover crops for biogenics and atmospheric carbon drawdown. Neil will also introduce the concept of the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) for agriculture and what this means for your business in the journey towards becoming Carbon Neutral. Following on from Neil's presentation he will also be putting your soil under the microscope in a soil safari.

Anyone attending the event is welcome to bring along a sample soil profile from their own farm to be reviewed. Samples need to be up to 30cm in depth and with plants if possible.*

**Due to numbers expected we cannot guarantee all samples will be reviewed on the day.*

Anglian Water Agricultural Adviser

Kim Hemmings will give an introduction on Anglian Water's 'Get River Positive' Plan, how they are working with farmers, and grants available.



Environment Agency Senior Agricultural Adviser

Alan Jones will be on hand to advise and answer questions.

Wednesday 15th February 2022

9:30am – 2:30pm

(Booking Essential & Lunch Provided)

BASIS and NRoSO points available

Great Gidding Village Hall, Main Street, Great Gidding, PE28 5NU

What3Word Location: gold.unloaded.elevated

Please reserve/confirm your attendance either by emailing
stacey.stringer@naturalengland.org.uk or phone 07500 097169.

Alternatively, follow CSF South Anglia on Eventbrite to book a place.

Natural England take looking after your data as seriously as we take looking after the environment. Your data is only used by us so we can email, call, write or text you about Catchment Sensitive Farming. This will include advice, access to grants, events and campaigns. We hope you want to hear from us, but you can change your preferences or mind at any time by emailing us on catchmentsensitivefarming@naturalengland.org.uk. For more information visit GOV.UK.

Catchment Sensitive Farming (CSF) is led by Natural England, in partnership with Defra and the Environment Agency.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Environment
Agency



NATURAL
ENGLAND



Land off Swineshead Road, Swineshead, Bedfordshire

Approximately 7.13 acres (2.89 hectares) of arable land

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY AS A WHOLE