



# bulletin



## UK200Agricultural Group e-bulletin

We have pleasure in presenting you the winter edition of the UK200Agriculture Group bulletin which covers topical issues for your interest.

**Save the date:** The 2020 Agriculture Conference will be taking place on Wednesday 24th June 2020. More information to follow.

[Click here](#) for a full list UK200Agriculture Group members

---

## Dairy farms lose value in 2019

Around half (45%) of dairy farms reported a fall in net worth in the financial year ending March 2019, according to research by dairy consultancy Promar. The research has indicated that poor management practices are the main reason why dairy farms fall in value. Rising feed and energy costs have also led to increased financial pressures on dairy farms despite increases in milk production and prices. In comparison, farms with better management practices managed to grow their profits and net worth in the 12 months to March 2019. Overall, the top 25% of dairy farms when ranked by operating profit made £750 more per cow compared to the worst 25%.

To read more about the research, [Click Here](#).

---

## Red meat exports perform well despite uncertainty

The latest figures from Quality Meat Scotland have indicated that 2019 has been a positive year for UK red meat exports despite Brexit-related uncertainty. Overall, the volume of UK exports of fresh and frozen beef increased by 18% in the seven months to August 2019, while exports of sheep meat increased by 20%. However, the value of UK beef and sheep meat exports only increased by 3% and 8% respectively year-on-year in August 2019. The figures have also indicated that Europe remains the biggest market for UK red meat exports, with 82% of beef and 96% of sheep meat exported to European markets.

Read more about the figures [Here](#).

---

## Study into the economic benefits of auction marts

The Prince's Countryside Fund has commissioned a new research project to identify the social and economic benefits of livestock auction marts to rural communities across the UK. In particular, the project will explore

how to protect the long-term viability of marts so they continue to support the agriculture industry. As part of the project, researchers would like to hear from auctioneers and farmers about the economic contribution of marts to rural communities. The deadline for feedback is 28 February 2020.

[Click Here](#) to read more about the project.

---

## RPA making BPS and agri-environment payments

The National Farmers Union (NFU) has welcomed an announcement by the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) confirming that all farmers and land managers in England will receive Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) and agri-environment scheme payments from 2 December 2019. The RPA also confirmed that all eligible farmers who receive payments under Countryside Stewardship and Environmental Stewardship will receive one full payment against their claim instead of two. According to the NFU it is important that farmers are paid promptly following extreme weather events such as those experienced throughout 2019. The NFU has also urged the RPA to provide bridging payments for farmers who haven't been paid promptly.

Read more about the issue [Here](#)

---

## Grants for farmers affected by flooding

Defra has announced a £2 million Farm Recovery Fund to support farmers affected by flooding across Yorkshire and the Midlands. The fund will provide grants of between £500 and £25,000 to support farmers and land managers who have suffered damage to their properties that is not covered by their insurance. To apply, farmers must be based in an eligible area that was affected by the flooding events in Wainfleet on 12 June 2019, or in Swaledale, Arkengarthdale and Wensleydale on 30 July 2019. The deadline for applications is 31 March 2020.

To read more about the warning, [Click Here](#)

---

## BPS 2019 payment calculations confirmed

The entitlement values and greening rates that will be used to calculate English farmers' payments under the Basic Payment Scheme for 2019 have been confirmed by the Rural Payments Agency. The entitlement values are set at €49.76 per hectare of upland moorland in a severely disadvantaged area (SDA), €181.34 per hectare of SDA upland other than moorland and €182.70 per hectare of non-SDA land.

[Click Here](#) to read more about the entitlement values.

---

UK200Agriculture Group is part of UK200Group Limited, the UK's leading quality assured member association of independent chartered accountancy and law firms. Members of the Agriculture Group have both the necessary in depth knowledge of the sector and advisory skills to deliver the right financial planning and management to farming businesses today.

**Disclaimer:**

*We believe the information contained within this bulletin to be correct. While all possible care is taken in the preparation of this bulletin, no responsibility for loss occasioned by any person acting or retaining from acting as a result of the material contained herein can be accepted by the UK200Group, or its member firms or the authors.*

*Copyright © 2019 UK200Group, All rights reserved.*

**Our mailing address is:**

UK200Group, 3 Wesley Hall, Queens Road, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 3NP

T: 01252 350733

Email: [admin@uk200group.co.uk](mailto:admin@uk200group.co.uk)

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

