

# The Market Report

## DECEMBER PONDERINGS Rural Funding Opportunities

### **Sustainable Farming Incentive**

DEFRA have released details of the first phase of the Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) scheme which will open in Spring 2022. This new Government funding scheme, the first of 3 to be launched in England under the Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS) umbrella, is the first step towards meeting the UK 25 Year Environment Plan.

### **How will the scheme work?**

**Eligibility** – If you are eligible for the Basic Payment Scheme, you will be eligible for SFI. There is no minimum or maximum amount of land that can be entered into the scheme, and you can choose how many of your fields to enter in to comply with the SFI standards.

**Agreements** – SFI Agreements will last for 3 years, with some flexibility to amend them every 12 months. This will allow you to incorporate additional standards as they become available, add more land to your agreement and increase ambition levels within standards.

**Management Control** – If you farm under a tenancy, you will be responsible for checking that you have sufficient management control to fulfil your SFI Agreement under the terms of your tenancy. You will not be required to show that you have your Landlord's permission.

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

Timings of Applications – The SFI Application window will open in 2022 and the window will be open for 10 weeks.

Payments – SFI payments will be paid in quarterly instalments, beginning 3 months after your Agreement start date.

Capital Payments – There will be no Capital Items available under the SFI Standards in 2022. These will be introduced into SFI later in the rollout.

The Standards available under SFI will be introduced in stages over the next few years. The three standards that will be available in the initial SFI rollout are:

- The Arable and Horticultural Soils Standard
- The Improved Grassland Standard
- The Moorland and Rough Grazing Standard

From 2022 SFI will also fund an on farm annual Animal Health and Welfare Review to encourage and enable farmers to take action to improve animal health & welfare.

Further details regarding payment rates and standard requirements can be found online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainable-farming-incentive-how-the-scheme-will-work-in-2022/sustainable-farming-incentive-how-the-scheme-will-work-in-2022>

### **The Farming Equipment and Technology Fund**

The Farming Investment Fund was launched in November and is now accepting applications. The grant, which is similar to the previous Countryside Productivity Small Grant Scheme, is designed as a contribution to smaller investments in new technology and equipment. The minimum grant is £2,000 and maximum grant £25,000. The items eligible for funding are included in a set list with detailed specification and a total contribution figure assigned to each item, which is the amount you will be paid, regardless of the cost of the item. Applications are to be submitted by the 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Applications will be checked and scored prior to the approval of grant funding. The grant applications are expected to be competitive, and all applications will be scored against the same criteria. Those who have submitted a successful application and received approval, will be able to claim the grant funding once the item has been paid for, taken delivery of, installed, and made operational (if applicable), and all claims must be made by 30th September 2022.

Items are split into categories, and some of the items that we believe may be of most potential interest to clients and market users are listed below, together with the relevant grant amount:

## **Resource Management Items**

- Rainwater Harvesting Systems – 5000 litres (£939) and 50,000 litres (£3,678)
- Slurry Injection System - minimum 3 metres (£8,250) and 6 metres (£8,984)
- Dribble Bar Systems – minimum 6 metres (£4,000) and 10 metres (£8,354)

## **Precision & Analysis Items**

- Direct Drills - minimum 3 metres (£12,054) and 6 metres (£25,000)
- GPS Systems (£480) and Auto Steer Systems (£1,051)
- Variable Rate Controllers (£1,850) and Yield Monitoring Systems (£1,600)

## **Livestock Handling & Weighing Items**

- Cattle Handling Systems – Mobile (£4,456) and Fixed (£3,866)
- Sheep Handling Systems Mobile (£3,100) and Fixed (£1,600)
- Weighing Systems (£440 - £4,758)
- EID Systems (£220-£620)

## **Other Livestock Items**

- Mobile Sheep Dip (£5,616)
- Automated Cattle Footbaths (£2,040)
- Electric Fencing (£341)

## **General Items**

- Grassland Sward Lifters (£2,804)
- Cover Crop Rollers – 3 metres (£1,952) and 6 metres (£3,313)
- Digital Weather Stations (£814)

Full details of the Fund can be found online at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/farming-equipment-and-technology-fund-round-1-manual/annex-3-eligible-items-specification-and-grant-amount>

The Bletsoes Agricultural team are working with clients currently in respect of grants for Farming Equipment and advising in respect of Mid-Tier Stewardship agreements to commence 1st January 2022 as well as starting to prepare for applications to be made next Spring/Summer. If you would like to talk through a possible application, please do not hesitate to contact the team.

***Rob Russell***

*Agri Business Consultant*

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# Thrapston Forthcoming Events

**Thursday 9th December**

Prime & Cull Sheep

**Saturday 11th December**

Store & Breeding Cattle, Sheep & Pigs  
Hay, Straw & Fodder Sale

*Catalogue Available Online Soon*

**Thursday 16th December**

Prime & Cull Sheep

**Saturday 18th December**

Store & Breeding Cattle, Sheep & Pigs  
Dispersal Sale of In-Lamb Ewes & Sheep Equipment

*For further information contact  
Alastair Brown or Jake Wagstaff*



Souster Youth is a charity based in Thrapston which works in local schools to support the social, emotional, and spiritual needs of young people. The team also work closely with churches, youth workers and community organisations to help youth ministry flourish in East Northamptonshire.

The team is based at the old Methodist Church on Market Road, Thrapston.

Souster Youth relies on fundraising and the generosity of donors and grant bodies to continue it's good work in our area. Thank you for your support!

## **REPORT FOR THURSDAY 2ND DECEMBER**

It was a glorious day in Thrapston for the Annual Show & Sale of Primestock, with cattle, sheep and pigs on offer.



*2021 Champions*



There was a good company of exhibitors, buyers, young farmers, spectators and trade stands, all of which enjoyed their day in the sun. The Show's Supported Charity this year is Souster Youth Trust, a small charity based in Thrapston supporting youth in the local area. Please do find more about them at <https://www.sousteryouth.org/> We raised £738 on the day.

### **9 Prime Show Cattle**

There were some super cattle here today judged by Chris Bustance. The Champion of the Show and Champion Heifer was a fantastic British Blue weighing 600kgs, selling for 347p, realising £2,082, which came from Will Burden's grand run and was purchased by the Judge. Will Burden also took the Reserve Champion with a Blonde heifer weighing 680kgs selling for 312p, realising £2,121.60 purchased by Andrew Evans. Will Burden also took the Champion Steer which weighed 650kgs selling for 282p realising £1,833 also purchased by Andrew Evans. WA Yeomans & Son had 300p for their good British Blue heifer, and Will Burden's final beast, a home-bred Limousin steer made 293p realising £2,109.60 which sold to John Coleman.

### **Show Sheep**

There were cracking lambs in the pens for both the Show and the commercial section. The sheep were judged by John Coleman. Messrs F & SM Stamper had a super entry in both sections and took the Championship with 50kgs Beltex at £230 per head. They also had the Reserve Champions at £205 per head for 46kg Beltex lambs, both going to the Judge. The Northampton Show Champions came from SJ Leedham, Beltex again 47kgs at £190 per head to Patrick Holmes, with the Northampton Reserve Champions from GW Amos, Continentals 56kgs at £160 per head which were sold to Brian Wilson.

## 14 Show Pigs

There were some good quality pigs on offer today, judged by John Coleman. The Champion pair exhibited by Mrs F Hughes made £84 a head and the Reserve Champion pair from E Hartop made £79 a head.

We are very grateful to all our exhibitors for their support and for showing some excellent stock. We are also indebted to our judges, Chris Bustance and John Coleman, who gave up their time and supported the Show.

We were delighted to be joined at the Show by the Northamptonshire young farmers for their annual Stock Judging event.

## Young Farmers Stock Judging Results

### Cattle:

1<sup>st</sup> Grace Millbank (Oundle)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ben Baseley (Towcester)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Dan Baseley (Towcester)

### Lambs:

1<sup>st</sup> Grace Millbank (Oundle)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Minnie Burges-Lumsden (Kelmarsh)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Jack Evans (Towcester)

### Overall:

1<sup>st</sup> Grace Millbank (Oundle)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Hollie Wright (Grendon)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Minnie Burges-Lumsden (Kelmarsh)

Venture Farm Machinery  
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### **Commercial Sheep**

Plenty of lambs £150+ and 300p+ with top slot going to Miss V Webb at £167 for 58kgs and £155 for 51kgs. Messrs Stamper sold to £165 for 52kgs, £158 for 45kgs and £150 for 47.5kgs, all Beltex Crosses. Today's market average was 291.5p per kg.

### **35 Cull Ewes & Rams**

Very short in this section today and a very varied selection. We began in good form with Cull Rams from JC Dixon making £150. Mule Ewes from C Stancombe made £116. Rams from EC Hartop made £164 and £150; and B Howkins sold to £128 with Continentals.

#### **INFORMATION REQUEST**

We have been informed that on Thursday 2nd December a Volkswagen Tiguan was damaged on the drivers and passenger doors, while parked next to the hedge in the Market Carpark. If you have any information please can you speak to a member of staff.

## **THRAPSTON & DISTRICT FAT STOCK SHOW SOCIETY**

Incorporating  
**NORTHAMPTON CHRISTMAS PRIME STOCK CLUB**

### **Prize Giving Dinner**

**POSTPONED**

**At The Stanwick Hotel, Stanwick**

*Contact Beth Kitchener for Tickets*

**SATURDAY 11TH DECEMBER**

**BREEDING & STORE CATTLE**

**C Horrell Ltd - TB4**

6 Shorthorn Steers

14 Months

**S A C Holgate**

25 Store Cattle

15-25 Months

**C E Hancock & Son**

26 Quality Store Cattle

17-27 Months

**P Krempels**

3 Aberdeen Angus Steers

21-22 Months

2 Aberdeen Angus Heifers

21-22 Months

**STORE & BREEDING SHEEP**

**M Kellet**

1 Pedigree Texel Ewe Lamb

1 Texel x Beltex Ewe Lamb

**NOTICE**

To ensure your entries are listed in the Saturday Store Sale Catalogue,  
please book in your stock by 4pm on Friday.

**NOTICE**

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

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## REPORT FOR SATURDAY 4TH DECEMBER

*A week to remember with class and quality with a trade to match.*

**Store Cattle** topped the day with a showing of all grades, EF Wootton & Son penned a top quality showing of steers in forward condition with Charolais steers at 28 months old selling to £1670, with Limousin steers at 29 months nearly matching at £1660, several other lots of the same stamp sold above £1500; J Hurley & Son started the day with a run of Limousin steers at 15 months topping to £1045 with others at £990 and £950; I Warpole saw a smart run of Aberdeen Angus cattle forward with 20 month old steers selling to £940 and heifers at £910; JI Holmes saw her quality entry of Aberdeen Angus steers through the ring with younger cattle at 17 months hitting the mark with steers at £905 and heifers to £770; M & M Hutton continued the trend with Angus steers at 8 months topping at £750.

**Store Sheep** continue to hit new highs, as the season continues forward the trade has lifted for the lambs sold. On the day an all-in average saw £92.81 for the store lambs with highs of £133.50 for Texel cross lambs from AT Harris; J Armstrong continued the trend with a strong penning of Continental lambs at £118; D King saw £100 for Texel cross lambs in forward condition; H Houghton & Son topped the Suffolks for the day with big framed lambs selling to £99; B Connor topped their run with tight skinned Texel crosses at £98; JE Parsons saw the same trade with Continentals selling to £98; HM Farms saw a run of size with well bred Suffolk crosses topping at £97; G Smith penned the usual mark of class with Charollais showing serious potential topping at £96.50. On the day the vast majority of lambs saw a trade over £85 with the longest term lambs still selling above £70. Store Lamb trade has never looked so good with buyers having full confidence in the future.

**Feeding Ewes** were sold to the same story, with an average on the day of £86. Top of the day saw S Gawthrouph and their Texel cross ewes at £100; L Scott penned a smart Texel ewe, with best conformation selling to £99.50. L Brawn saw an equal top end trade with cross bred ewes reaching £96.50. On the day trade looks to be the same or more powerful than a Thursday cull market for the ewes forward.

### **Calves**

These continue at the same level, seeing quality rewarded. JEJ James penned another strong showing seeing British Blue bull calves top to £320 with Aberdeen Angus heifers selling to £255 over several lots.

## Goats

Trade of the day was seen in the goat section with the star of the show being a four year old Pygmy Billy from P Keeling selling to £200, the same vendor saw equal highs with an outfit of a Nanny and Wether kid selling to £190 a life; G Sayers continued the trend with Boer Nannies selling to £150.

## Pigs

Continue to cause a stir with W Aves & Son penning a quality entry of Pietrain x gilts in forward condition selling to £40; C Pugh saw a smart trade for Large White weaners with the best weaners selling to £10.

## Horses

A Special entry from J Brocklebank saw ponies at £350 over several lots, with a high of £500 for a IMHPS Miniature chestnut colt.

A special sale of sheep equipment saw 560 sheep hurdles forward with much interest on the day. Over 480, 6 foot hurdles sold in lots of 30 which topped at £29.50 each. Several lots of 8 foot hurdles sold to £50 each with the sale of the day seeing a run of 4 foot hurdles sell to £38 each.

If you have any type of sheep equipment or hurdles laying around the yard unused, there is very strong demand at the moment, selling close to and often more than new prices. We have a substantial list of potential buyers if you have the goods to sell. Please contact us with your entries.

On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December there will be a Genuine Dispersal of In-Lamb Ewes and Sheep Equipment which will be held in the market, comprising of Pedigree Blue Texel Ewes of all ages, Texel crosses and Masham Ewes. All ewes are scanned and will be announced at the sale to Texel rams. The equipment will include, **IAE** sheep hurdles, feed fences, hay racks, quantity of electric fencing, water troughs, creep feeders and feed troughs, with much more to be added.

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# Bletsoes

— EST. 1881 —

## COLLECTIVE SALES OF HAY, STRAW & FODDER

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April

In the main cattle sale ring at 11am

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

For Entry Forms and Catalogues, visit [www.bletsoes.co.uk](http://www.bletsoes.co.uk)

Alastair Brown 07885 804450

Jake Wagstaff 07487 526803

# Bletsoes

EST. 1881

## Christmas Dressed Poultry Sale

*Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December  
at 5pm*

**To be held at Thrapston Livestock Market**

Entries are invited to include all types of oven ready birds and meats.

Sections include: Turkeys, Chickens, Guinea Fowl,  
Ducks Partridge & Pheasants. Long Legged & Feathered Poultry  
sections will also be available.

***Additional Stalls to include: Manor Farm Drinks, Brockleby's Pies,  
The Village Grocer & Natures Fayre***

**Entry Forms available online or from the Market Office**

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- Umbilical Slurry Application c/w 12m dribble bar and GPS

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Can you help?

**We are interested in hearing from farmers in the UK who are aged over 18.**

A study is being carried out to understand the problems being faced on our farms today and whether being in touch with other people, like our friends and neighbours, can help us deal with these.

If you are able to take part please visit <https://bit.ly/3mNxYbk> or scan the QR code. The survey is completely anonymous and should take less than 10 minutes to complete.



For more information, or to obtain a printed copy of the survey and stamped envelope to return, please contact [sarah.l.kyle@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.l.kyle@northumbria.ac.uk)

This research study has been reviewed by the Northumbria University Ethics Board and has been approved under application reference 34554

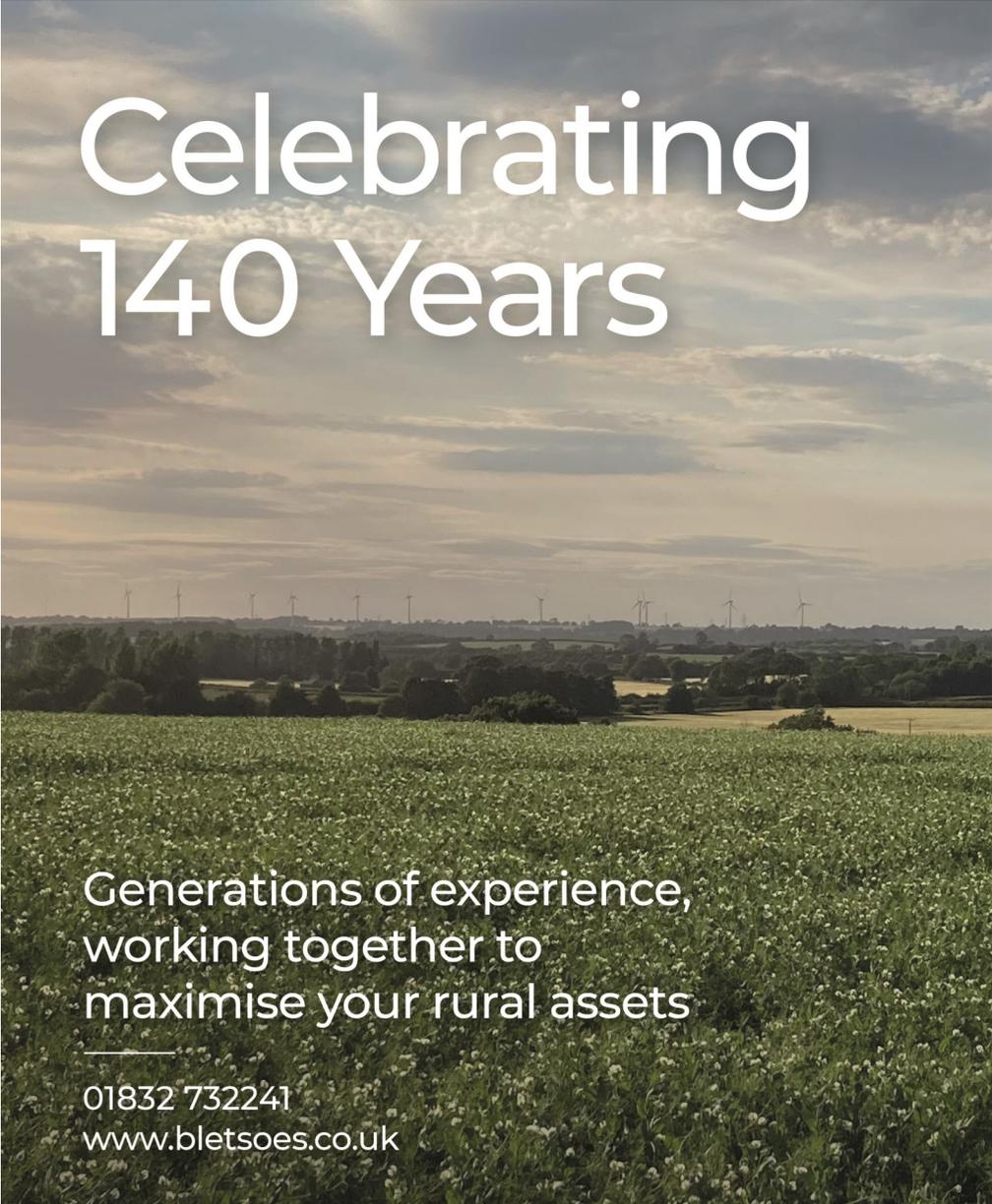
## **Thrapston Market Report 2021 Advertising Tariff**

### **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	

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For further information, or to place and advert, please contact Beth Kitchener on 01832 732241 or [beth.kitchener@bletsoes.co.uk](mailto:beth.kitchener@bletsoes.co.uk)



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