

The Market Report

DECEMBER PONDERINGS

Grant Schemes & Funding Opportunities

The Rural Payments Agency (RPA) have launched the Slurry Infrastructure Grant, to provide help towards farm businesses upgrading their on-farm slurry storage. The grant is to fund works which will upgrade the Slurry Storage System to provide up to 6 months storage for the current demands of the farm business. Grants from £25,000 up to £250,000 are available based upon fixed contributions. Payments are made in arrears once you have completed the works. The grant is open from 6 December 2022 to 31 January 2023. Applications are via a two-stage approach with the initial application to assess your eligibility. Examples of the funding available:

- above-ground steel slurry stores - £31.50 per m³
- precast circular concrete slurry stores - £26.17 per m³
- earth bank lagoons without synthetic liner - £10.08 per m³
- earth bank lagoons with synthetic liner - £18.22 per m³
- Payments for concrete panel stores; slurry bags; pipes, pumps, reception pits, agitators and safety equipment.

As Basic Payments reduce and potentially leave a void within farm incomes, do consider a Countryside Stewardship agreement (if you haven't already). Applications will open again in early Spring. This will be the last opportunity to apply for Countryside Stewardship, as it will be replaced by Environmental Land

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

Management Scheme (ELMS). Please contact a member of the Agricultural team if you would like to discuss the options and possible payments that would be available for your farm.

ELMS is still evolving and we await details of the funding opportunities that will be available. The Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) was launched earlier this year as part of ELMS. SFI agreements last for 3 years and have the flexibility to be amended every 12 months in terms of increasing the level of standards or adding additional land. There are three standards (options): the arable and horticultural soils; grassland soils; moorland and rough grazing. Payment rates range from £22 - £58 per hectare dependant on the standard and level selected. If you would like to find out more or make an application, please contact Rob Russell.

Farm & Rural Land Agency

Bletsoes have recently launched 12.5 acres of pasture and amenity land at Wilstead Hill, Haynes, Bedfordshire. If you would like further details, please contact Richard Spendlove. We are hoping to offer a range of properties throughout 2023, both on the open market and privately. If you are looking for property of any type, please do contact a member of the team to register your potential interest.

Seasons Greetings

The team at Bletsoes would like to take the opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. We look forward to working with you in 2023 and seeing you at one of the Shows that we will be attending:

- Saturday 20th May – Bedfordshire YFC Rally, Hulcote MK17 8BT
- Saturday 27th May – Northamptonshire YFC Rally, Kelmarsh (tbc)
- Wednesday 14th & Thursday 15th June – Cereals, Thoresby Estate, Perlethorpe, Newark (NG22 9EQ)
- Saturday 5th August – Blakesley Show, Maidford (NN12 8HH)
- Saturday 30th September – Gransden Show, Great Gransden SG19 3AW

Please do contact the Agricultural team directly on 01832 732241 to discuss any of the above or any other matters. We will be very pleased to speak to you.

Richard Spendlove
Rural Chartered Surveyor



Stratford Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 13th December

Prime, Cull & Store Sheep - 10.30am

Fur, Produce & Misc - 10.00am

Tuesday 20th December

Prime, Cull & Store Sheep - 10.30am

Fur, Produce & Misc - 10.00am

Christmas Poultry Sale - 12 noon

Tuesday 27th December

No Market

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Prime, Cull & Store Sheep - 10.30am

Fur, Produce & Misc - 10.00am

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

Stratford Market Report 2022 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

REPORT FOR TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER

A good entry of over 500 Prime Sheep forward today saw some excellent prices achieved at the Christmas Fatstock Show & Sale. Prices topped at 460p or £230 to achieve an overall average of 241p for the lambs, the Ewes sold to £140, Rams to £135 and Store Lambs sold to £83.50.

We would like to thank all the competitors today that brought sheep to the Show and Sale, we would also like to thank our judge today Mr Robert Leach for giving up his time to not only judge the sheep but also be a very strong buyer on all classes in the market today.

It is a great to see our loyal customers return to Stratford every year on Fat Stock Show day, along with new customers supporting the market, and many more that come not just to buy and sell, but to join this social part of the farming community that we have in our local market, meeting new and old friends. Why not come and see what's going on here for yourself every Tuesday!

Today we were supported by two vicars. RABI had a stall at the market and Mrs Cook arranged a stall selling Christmas gifts for the local Church.

Prime Lambs

6 Lights – Only one pen forward this week and the last of TO Withers lambs for this year, which sold to 234p or £73.71 weighing 31.5kg.

To		From		Average	
234p	£73.71	234p	£73.71	234p	£73.71

65 Standards – Sold to 246p for 36kg lambs from JH Butcher, closely followed by father Nick at 244p for 37kg lambs; W Blencowe sold 38kg to 239p; RL Stone sold lambs to 235p; and KA Perkins sold 35.5kg lambs to 234p. Top price per head sold to £93.21 for NK Butcher; and £90.82 for W Blencowe.

To		From		Average	
246p	£93.21	226p	£77.97	235.7p	£87.41

149 Mediums – CJ & L Vernon-Miller sold 40kg lambs to 253p; TO Withers sold 42kg lambs to 247p; DM & A Andrews sold 45kg lambs to 247p; P & M Careless sold 41kg lambs to 246p; NK Butcher sold 44.5kg lambs to 245p; S Collett sold 45kg lambs to 244p; R & JL Peebles sold a 40kg lamb to 240p; and WS Gabb sold 43kg lambs to 239.5p. Top price per head sold to £111.15 for DM & A Andrews; £109.80 for S Collett; £109.03 for NK Butcher; and £107.33 for JD Weaver.

To		From		Average	
253p	£111.15	233p	£94.40	239p	£101.48

79 Heavies – *Champion Lambs* weighed 50kg from Stephen Leedham which sold to 460p; CJ & L Vernon-Miller sold 46.5kg lambs to 253p; DM Harris sold 48kg Bleu Du Maine lambs to 249p; S Collett sold 47.5kg lambs to 243p; P & M Careless sold 47kg and 46.5kg lambs to 241p; JD Weaver sold 50kg lambs to 240p; and GF Heath & Son sold 46kg lambs to 239p. Top price per head sold to £230 for S Leedham; £120 for JD Weaver; £119.69 for W Painter; and £119.52 for DM Harris.

To		From		Average	
£460p	£230.00	235p	£109.48	248p	£118.66

8 Over 52kg – DM Harris sold 54.5kg lambs to 244.5p; and Stephen Leedham sold 55kg lambs to 242p. Top price per head sold to £133.25 for DM Harris; and £133.10 for S Leedham.

To		From		Average	
244.5p	£133.25	242p	£133.10	243.6p	£133.20

64 Store Lambs

Topped at £83.50 for BS & FL Pile; W Painter sold to £81; W Blencowe sold to £79; DP Harries & Son sold to £72; KA Perkins sold to £70; and Mandy Gasson sold hers to £59.50 from £59.

To		From		Average	
£83.50		£41.00		£66.55	

151 Cull Ewes & Rams

Ewes sold to £140 for T Swift; £128 for W Painter; £125 for CJ & L Vernon-Miller; £121 for WE Budd & Son; £110 for W Blencowe. Mules topped at £101.50 for GF Heath & Son; £101 for A & KM Byrd; and £96 for RL Stone. Rams sold to £135 from £110 from A Cook.

To		From		Average	
£140.00		£30.00		£74.17	

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 20th December
 Christmas Sale of Dressed Poultry

*Please forward your entries as soon as possible
 for advertising purposes.*



Show Results

**Champion Pen of Lambs
Awarded with the Bob Burrows & Sons Trophy**

Stephen Leedham

**Reserve Champion Pen of Lambs
Awarded with the David Elgin Glass Trophy**

Stephen Leedham

Class 1 – Continental Lambs – Awarded with the Clive Spencer Memorial Trophy

1st – Stephen Leedham

2nd – Stephen Leedham

3rd – Miss DM Harris

Class 1 – Native Bred Lambs – Awarded with the Adkins & Thomas Trophy

1st – S Collett

2nd – GF Heath & Son

3rd – S Collett

Class 1 – Cull Ewes

1st – Stephen Leedham

2nd – T Swift

3rd – CJ & L Vernon-Miller

Claret Jug – For the most sheep shown in Stratford Market in the past 12 months

1st – NK Butcher – 769 entries

2nd – R Hall & Son – 740 entries

3rd – GC Hodges & Son – 734 entries

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@mail.com

We hope you can join us for a Carol Service at 11.45am preceding the Christmas Poultry Sale on 20th December. There will be coffee, mince pies and shortbread served. A plate for donations benefitting the Farming Community Network will be available.



At Thrapston Livestock Market

Bletsoes
— EST. 1881 —

COLLECTIVE SALES OF HAY, STRAW & FODDER

2022

Saturday 10th December

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 & Catalogues, visit www.bletsoes.co.uk

Alastair Brown 07885 804450

Jake Wagstaff 07487 526803

Bletsoes

— EST. 1881 —

Christmas Dressed Poultry Sale

*Tuesday 20th December
at 12 noon*

To be held at Stratford 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 & Other Poultry sections will also be available.

Entry Forms available online or from the Market Office