

Welcome to the regular Agri-Business Update from P&L.

We want to help keep you updated with news, information and the latest important advice, for Farmers and Agri-Business, during these uncertain times. We will be keeping in touch with regular communication and would ask that if you have any specific questions relating to your situation, you should contact P&L as soon as possible.

Diary Dates 2020

15th June 2020

BPS 2020- the deadline to complete your BPS has been extended until midnight on 15th June.

15th June 2020

Countryside Annual Revenue Claim 2020- the deadline has been extended until midnight on 15th June.

30th June 2020

NEW Mid-Tier Agreements 2021- Countryside Stewardship- Deadline to request an online application pack- must be done **online** through your RPA Account.

31st July 2020

Mid-Tier- Application must be completed

See more details on Mid-Tier below

HEADLINES

NEW Funding to support dairy farmers through Coronavirus.

Grass Growth Variation

NEW Coronavirus Bounce Back Loan.

Mid-Tier Stewardship Deadline

Coronavirus Dairy Support

- The new fund will be eligible for English Dairy Farmers
- Eligible dairy farmers will be entitled to £10,000 each (to cover 70% of their lost income during April and May)
- To be eligible dairy farmers must have lost more than 25% of their income over April and May due to coronavirus disruption.

Coronavirus Bounce Back Loan

- The scheme launched 4 May 2020
 - Any Business that is based in the UK that has been negatively affected by Coronavirus can apply for a loan between £2,000 and £50,000
 - No Fees or interest or capital to pay back in first 12 months
 - Loan then to be paid back over the next 5 years at 2.5%
- Please speak to you P&L Consultant before considering or applying for this loan***

Note: CBILS Loan Scheme still available

Grass Growth

- After an extremely dry April- with the UK overall having only received 40% of average April rainfall grass growth is starting to be affected- especially on light to medium land.
- Large Variation in Grass Growth in the UK- and amongst the P&L Region of Cheshire, Shropshire and Welsh Borders, with the cooler mornings holding back growth in some areas.
- Ensure your grass is measured weekly- if not more often- as we are approaching the highest grass growth in May/June
- UK AVERAGES (as per AHDB 8th May 2020)

Grass Growth Rate
64 kg/DM/Day

Grass ME Content
12.6 MJ/kg DM

Grass CP Content
23.4%

Dairy News

- Milk Deliveries for the week ending 25th April 2020 were up 0.5% on the previous week (as per AHDB source)
- The spread in farmgate milk prices widened in April and May 2020, with the average milk price overall decreasing.
- More Cull Cows are expected to enter the market, as some farms look at reducing litres- therefore this may result in a decrease in cow numbers and replacements going forward. As well as an impact on beef price in the next few months.

Mid-Tier and Water Capital Grants

If you are applying for a Mid-Tier Stewardship in the next few months AND are in a catchment sensitive area, you may be entitled to additional water capital grants- such as hardcore tracks and concrete for yards- in order to improve water quality and reduce the amount of pollution entering the water ways.

However these items must be discussed and signed off by your local catchment sensitive farming (CSF) officer before the end of May.

To Note; Other grants items relating to you Mid-Tier Application such as fencing or water troughs do not need to have involvement from a CSF officer.

For further discussion or to help with any questions that you may have, please contact your P&L Consultant.

All information in this newsletter correct as of 11th May 2020. For the latest Coronavirus updates regarding loans and grants see GOV.UK.