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Free Farm Business Review

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FCG Sherborne are registered on behalf of DEFRA under The Future Farming Resilience Fund to provide a free half day consultancy to briefly appraise your business and produce an action plan. The purpose is to help your business be ready to embrace the changes to BPS, Environmental Schemes and Water & Air Quality Standards that will be introduced over the next five – six years.

[Read more](#)

What is Happening to Energy Prices?

The UK's wholesale energy markets have reached record highs in recent weeks, having increased gradually since the beginning of the year.

Reasons include a global surge in the demand for gas when gas stores were left depleted by a cold winter, the increased energy demand across Asia and a race to refill gas stores before the return of colder temperatures. Half of the UK's electricity is generated in gas-fired power plants and we have very little gas storage now. [Read more](#)



Milk Powder Availability

As many of you will know from previous articles I've written over the last three years, my milk powder of choice has been the Energized Calf Milk Powder from Trow.

This has led the way in changing how milk powders have been formulated with less emphasis on the crude protein content of the powder, and ensuring that they are digestible sources of protein, and more on the oil content of the powder, providing the calves with more energy. [Read more](#)

Commodities Update



What is Stress Testing by a Bank?

I have recently been talking to banks about how they currently look at interest rates and how they look at variable rate lending. It varies from bank to bank and is also linked to how their EBITDA (Earnings Before Interest Taxes Depreciation and Amortization).

The calculations are pretty standard but the cover they look for on EBITDA varies slightly as well as the potential interest rate rise cover, they are looking for. What would happen to your bank balance if rates increased? [Read more](#)

Why Not to Factor in Body Weight Loss in Your Diets for Fresh Calvers

As we head into winter its currently my busiest time of year as I set up winter diets for group members, nutrition clients and am also being asked to look at more and more non-clients' diets, being that I am independent nutritionist with no ties to any feed manufacturer.

My main aim, wherever possible, is to ensure all my base diets have a minimum 65% forage, as this is to optimise rumen fermentation for butterfat production. [Read more](#)

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