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Autumn Grazing Management - Remove the Guess Work

The drought has broken and those who have looked after their pastures through a challenging time (see my previous article [here](#)) will be seeing a “second spring” – with high growth rates and excellent quality.

This is one of the most valuable resources on your farm, and we have the tools to manage this to best effect, to:

- Balance rations and eke out an excellent source of protein
- Reduce demands on tight winter forage stocks
- Keep animals out for as long as possible, reducing slurry handling, diesel costs etc. [Read more](#)

Dairy Cost of Production Review

Each year FCG Sherborne with Old Mill Accountants publish the annual Cost of Production to the end of March of that year. This has just been published and launched at the Dairy Event on the 5th October.



Actuals to March 2022 -

The gap between the top and bottom 10% of herds closed significantly but is still £693/cow lower in the top 10% of herds. Two thirds approximately of this difference is labour and machinery. Historically,

irrespective of system there is a high degree of correlation between the lower costs of machinery and labour (Cost of Doing Work) and lower costs of production. [Read more](#)

Commodities Update



Mycotoxins – A Forgotten Issue?

Is your herd suffering from a larger than normal mycotoxin burden this autumn?

Several silage pits that I have inspected this autumn on farms, have shown heating and mould growth. This was just on the face. How far back does it go?

These warm favourable growing conditions this autumn, may not be helping with the increased mycotoxin load. Hopefully if we get a real cold spell then it will significantly reduce the growth.

[Read more](#)

Cattle Records Update

Are your cattle records all up to date? If not, then now is the time to change this. If you are using a paper book/excel spreadsheet or software, then you need to make sure that the information you have recorded is correct. See below the information you need to record: [Read more](#)

Where Will Your Business Finances be in Six Months' Time?

We are now half way through the tax year for the majority of businesses (who have a March year-end). You know how much feed you have, or have not, and the quality of that feed. You hopefully have fixed your feed price for the winter and forward bought your fertiliser. A lot of the larger costs in your business are fixed. Milk price has stabilised and looks set to remain where it is at least for the winter. [Read more](#)



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