

FARM FUNDING AND TRAINING ROUNDUP

AUGUST 2023



Below is a list of upcoming events, webinars and funding available to support your farm business, and help you to get the best out of your land and livestock. Read on to find out more about what's on offer this month....

New grants to fund improved calf housing

Defra has published guidance on new calf housing grants, which will be open for applications later this summer. Cattle keepers will be able to access grants of between £15,000 and £500,000 to co-fund new and upgraded calf housing. In time, Defra will extend the offer to include grants for adult cattle, pig and poultry housing. This expands the range of grants already on offer through the Farming Transformation Fund, which currently includes support for improvements to slurry, water management and productivity. Read the new post on the Defra Farming blog to find out more about the new infrastructure grant and who can apply.



<https://defrafarming.blog.gov.uk/2023/07/26/introducing-animal-health-and-welfare-infrastructure-grants/>



Webinar:

Understanding wood pasture and agroforestry

Catch up on the Forestry Commission's webinar with Natural England that explores the benefits of agroforestry and how you can introduce more trees and woodland into the farmed landscape.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j6i1F207CFE>

More ways to enhance your income, productivity and the environment

Defra announced last month (21 June) that the new and improved Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) 2023 will start accepting applications in a controlled rollout from August, offering farmers additional actions and more flexibility to choose the actions they want to get paid for. Farmers will get paid for taking actions that support food production and improve farm productivity and resilience, while also protecting and improving the environment. There will be 23 actions for you to choose from.

To find out more, visit: <https://defrafarming.blog.gov.uk/2023/06/21/sfi-more-ways-to-enhance-your-income-productivity-and-the-environment/>

A new SFI handbook which includes scheme details has also been published: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfi-handbook-for-the-sfi-2023-offer>





UK Dairy Day will be returning to the International Centre, Telford on 13 September.

The one day show aimed at the dairy industry, provides the perfect opportunity to network, knowledge share, learn and forward plan for the year ahead. Organised by Holstein UK, visitors can expect to see over 300 industry exhibitors, a dedicated learning and development zone, practical demonstrations and cattle shows.

<https://www.nfuonline.com/updates-and-information/uk-dairy-day-is-back-in-september/>

New regulations to promote fairness and transparency for dairy sector

New regulations mean farmers will be able to challenge prices and more easily raise concerns with supply contracts, helping ensure they receive a fair price. Delivering on a key commitment set out at the Prime Minister's Farm to Fork Summit earlier this year, the regulations will help establish stability and accountability across the dairy supply chain by enabling farmers to challenge prices, stopping contract changes being imposed on farmers without agreement, and ensuring farmers are able to more easily raise concerns.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-regulations-to-promote-fairness-and-transparency-for-dairy-sector>



Free Farm Advice

Mersey Rivers Trust is continuing to work with farms in the Darley Brook and Ash Brook catchments from now to the end of March 2024. We can provide your farm with a free farm Water Management Plan that looks at how water could be managed differently on the farm and in the field to benefit water quality. For farms that already have a Water Management Plan we will be able to fund capital works that benefit water quality, such as fencing, rainwater harvesting and so on, and we can provide up to £5k of funding per farm.

Farms within the United Utilities Water Safeguard Zone will also be able to access funding for capital works to benefit water quality.

Contact us on the details below to find out more.



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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