



# Poultry Highlights

15/02/2013

Poultry Highlights is written by the NFU Poultry Team on a weekly basis. Please remember to quote the NFU as the source of the information if this email is forwarded on.

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## #BuyBritish Campaign - get involved

Ten national newspapers will all carry the message that British farmers are leading the way in high standards for fresh, British food as the NFU launches a Buy British campaign this weekend.

Adverts encouraging the public to buy British will run across the national press, highlighting the message that Great British Farmers produce Great British food. And with consumer confidence leading the agenda shoppers are being reminded to look out for the farm assurance logo Red Tractor which stands for traceable and independently inspected food, from farm to pack. To read more and to view the #buybritish graphic please [click here](#)

## NFU release latest Poultry Stats document

The NFU economics and poultry teams have launched a new members-only publication covering market trends in the chicken, turkey and egg sectors. The monthly Poultry Stats newsletter looks at key indicators including chick placings, slaughterings, production and imports and export trends.

The latest edition features consumption data from Kantar Wordpanel, to view one of latest editions please [click here](#)

## Outcome of MFF negotiations

EU leaders have reached political agreement on the EU budget for the period 2014- 2020. It is the first time in the 54 years of the EU budget history that the EU budget has been cut.

To view an NFU briefing of the negotiations please click on related documents. To read the full document please [click here then click on the related documents link](#)

## Neil Parish breakfast meeting celebrates British pork & poultry industries

Neil Parish MP, Chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Pig & Poultry, has hosted a breakfast meeting in the

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House of Commons on Tuesday 5th February for Members of Parliament and industry experts to discuss challenges facing food production and farmers.

Attending the meeting were representatives from the NFU including poultry board chairman Duncan Priestner, British Poultry Council, the National Pig Association, and the British Egg Industry Council. They were joined by former Farming Minister Sir Jim Paice MP, Mark Spencer MP, Robert Goodwill MP and Eilidh Whiteford MP and Richard Bacon MP. Served at the meeting was a full English breakfast, showcasing some of the best British eggs and bacon from British pigs.

The Group discussed issues facing the issue such as the British Lion Code of Practice, the Welfare of Laying Hens Directive, non-compliant pig meat from EU Member states and the high feed costs which are putting enormous pressures on producers.

Speaking at the meeting the Tiverton and Honiton MP Neil Parish said: "We have much to celebrate in the pig and poultry industries. The Lion and Red Tractor assured schemes give consumers the confidence that their food was produced in this country and to the highest welfare standards. "The pork, poultry meat and eggs sectors play a hugely important role contributing as they do many billions of pounds into our national economy – particular in our rural areas – and providing over a 100,000 jobs."

## Model farms hoping to reduce campylobacter

In the November edition of the NFU poultry forum magazine Janes Downes BVSc MRCVS and Daniel Dring group welfare officer from PD Hool Ltd wrote an article on how the poultry sector through model farms is hoping to reduce campylobacter. To read the article please [click here](#) then on the related documents link.

## Reports of poor Russian plantings

There are reports circulating that Russia's winter grain plantings are in worse condition than the multi-year average in the main southern breadbasket region due to unfavourable winter weather.

Alexandr Frolov the head of state forecaster said "The percentage of plantings in a poor state stood at 10.5%, about 1.5 percentage points more than the long term average, Frolov told the Interfax news agency. More plantings in Russia's southern region are at risk of damage soon if cold weather returns after abnormally high temperatures, he added. "The possibility of frosts returning is very high,"

Russia was hit by drought last year, which slashed its grain harvest by a quarter to 71 million tonnes and may return this year. The southern region accounted for about a third of the total grain crop.

## BEIC - Egg myths lead to mums & babies missing out

Myths around eating eggs, which are now safer and more nutrient-dense than ever, mean millions of mums-to-be and their babies are missing out on their proven nutritional benefits.

A new report, to be published in the 13th February issue of the nurses' journal, Nursing Standard, recommends eggs as an ideal food for both mothers-to-be and their babies, but many women are still confused. A balanced diet is vital during pregnancy and weaning, not just for fuelling growth and development, but for minimising potential harm, and there are concerns that unwarranted fears are causing women to overlook eggs. A recent poll showed that more than half of 18-24 year old mothers were concerned about eating eggs while pregnant with nine out of ten worried about their safety. To read the full article please [click here](#)

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## BPC award Harper Adams Students Scholarships

The British Poultry Council has handed out 15 scholarships to scholars at Harper Adams University. The recipients received their awards during the university's annual Development Trust Scholarship Presentation, which has held yesterday in the Queen Mother Hall on campus. During the day, a total of 99 awards were presented to students totalling £225,000.

Before the official presentation, all recipients of British Poultry Council scholarships, who will receive two payments of £3,500 over two academic years, met with their sponsors at a lunchtime reception in the university's Regional Food Academy.

The British Poultry Council is aiming to encourage more young adults into the Poultry sector and as such offered the scholarships to second year degree students and first year FdSc students studying agriculture and food production. A condition of the scholarship is that the recipient must undertake their placement year with the awarding firm.

John Reed, Chairman of the British Poultry Council said: "I'm delighted to be here today with our young scholars. The British poultry industry is committed to investing in people; we want to recruit and train the new generation of poultry people and I'm confident many scholars will develop a successful career in poultry. Our on-going collaboration with Harper Adams University will help foster skills and talents and ensure a bright future for the industry." To read more please [click here](#)

## LEAF produce document on Simply Sustainable Water in practice

Linking Environment and Farming (LEAF) have produced a document simply sustainable water in practice. The guide done in collaboration with ASDA and Molson Coors Brewing Company outlines six simple steps for managing water quality and use on your land. To view this document please [click here](#)

## UK feed output rises

Compound feed production in the UK increased sharply in the second half of 2012 as a shortage of quality forage forced farmers to use more bought-in feed for ruminants. DEFRA figures show that total production of compound feed reached 5.05 million tonnes in the July-December period - up 5% on the previous year.

Poultry feed production was up 4%, and the figures December show a 7% drop in the amount of wheat used in compound feed when compared to the same month in 2011. This was compensated for by higher use of a number of other materials, including barley, oats and maize. Similarly, soya meal and sunflower meal have been replaced by alternatives such as rape meal and sugar beet pulp. Usage of molasses and distillery by products was also significantly up on the previous year.

## Events

**Wed 17th Apr  
2013**

**Yorkshire Egg Producers Discussion Group** - Dr Maureen Bain from Glasgow University – composition and factors affecting egg shell quality - Burn Hall Hotel York, YO61 1JB  
Contact Harry Atkinson – Tel 07557159341, Email - [harry@thompsons-feeds.co.uk](mailto:harry@thompsons-feeds.co.uk)

**Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> July**

**Yorkshire Egg Producers Discussion Group** - Louis Hurdidge – Probiotic use in poultry  
Burn Hall Hotel York, YO61 1JB. Contact Harry Atkinson – Tel 07557159341, email [harry@thompsons-feeds.co.uk](mailto:harry@thompsons-feeds.co.uk)

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Wed 31<sup>st</sup> Oct

**Pullet Rearing Course** - Workshop looking at the best practice for Pullet Rearing - Colliton Barton Farm, Colliton Barton, Broadhembury, Devon EX14 3LJ contact Rachel Watkins Tel: 07966558386 or Rural Business School 0845 458 7485 Email: rachel.watkins@duchy.ac.uk

## National Poultry Board dates

27 March  
22 May  
17 July  
18 September  
20 November  
22 January 2014

## Egg-celling links:

[http://vla.defra.gov.uk/science/sci\\_salmon.htm](http://vla.defra.gov.uk/science/sci_salmon.htm) - Salmonella guidance and control in poultry flocks information

[www.nfuonline.com](http://www.nfuonline.com)

[www.ukturkeys.co.uk](http://www.ukturkeys.co.uk)

[www.greatbritishchicken.co.uk](http://www.greatbritishchicken.co.uk)

[www.farmingdelivers.co.uk/](http://www.farmingdelivers.co.uk/)

[www.britishpoultry.org.uk/](http://www.britishpoultry.org.uk/)

[www.britishpoultry.org.uk/?page\\_id=2052](http://www.britishpoultry.org.uk/?page_id=2052) – BPC Careers in the Poultry Industry pages

[Link to Local Food Directory & Accreditation Scheme](#)

[www.nfuonline.com/x17049.xml](http://www.nfuonline.com/x17049.xml) (Finding local food producers near you).

[www.hgca.com/markets](http://www.hgca.com/markets) (Up dated cereal prices).

[www.worldeggday.com](http://www.worldeggday.com)

[www.britegg.co.uk](http://www.britegg.co.uk)

[www.theranger.co.uk](http://www.theranger.co.uk) British Free Range Egg Producers Association

[www.fwi.co.uk/poultry](http://www.fwi.co.uk/poultry)

<http://randd.defra.gov.uk/Default.aspx?Menu=Menu&Module=Detail&Completed=0&FOSID=3>

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