Farm Cornwall



What we do

- Farm business support for farmers across Cornwall and Isles of Scilly to businesses who find themselves in difficulty be that debt, succession, mental health, physical health, family relationships
- We work in co-operation with RABI, FCN, Dartmoor and Exmoor Hill Livestock producers, Farm Chaplaincy, Addington Fund and a Local mental health charity
- We also provide training through the Prince's Countryside Fund
- Funded by Prince's Countryside Fund, Saputo Dairies, Duchy Benevolent Fund, Garfield Weston Trust, local Estates and private consultancy

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Why are 28% of farmers are thinking of giving up or downsizing (Farmers Weekly October 2022)

Price of Commodities

- Price of commodities has remained static for decades
- Price of wheat in 1980 £100/ton, price of wheat 2009- £110/ton
- Price of wheat in 2018 £180/ton, Price of wheat today £300/ton
- Price of milk 1990 19ppl, 1996 26ppl, 2015 -17ppl, 2021 28ppl
- Price of milk October 2022 50ppl
- That long period of depressed prices has hollowed out the industry

Why the 28% - Succession

- Average age of farmers 59 years old
- Succession is a real issue being delayed because of control or tax avoidance, or whom the son/daughter has married and will it last?
- I still see parents in the eighties who still have control of the finances and don't see their offspring as being good enough. If that next generation is in their 50's before succession happens then I believe we now have an end date on that business, and the following generation in their 20's are off to pastures new

28% cont'd Environmental Schemes

- Lack of continuity in schemes
- Lack of adequate funding particularly with the new ELMs Scheme
- Lack of clarity of what ELMs will look like and what its worth
- Having to still deal with the RPA
- Taking livestock off the hills, does the environmental income compensate for the lack of income now not generated by livestock
- Buying land by wealthy individuals to Plant trees

28% cont'd Appreciation

- During lockdown farmers were not considered KEY workers
- Yet they never stopped milking cows, growing crops, looking after livestock
- The price they are paid is only just enough or breaking even as such what time they do have to themselves has to be spent with their family, no time to play rugby or watch a match or just have a pint with friends
- No longer seen as the person who cleared the snow, provided straw and a field for the show, no longer on the parish council
- They appear to be to blame for GHG emissions in total, even though agriculture emits 10%. Yet take a proportionally higher blame for it
- Veganism

28% legislation

