

# East Midlands Policy Update

**EAST MIDLANDS NFU Policy Update No 903 2 June.**

## **A NEW OUTLOOK ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE - NEW NFU REPORT**

The NFU is calling for a razor-sharp political focus on markets at home and abroad for the UK's £13.8bn worth of food and drink exports. In [A New Outlook on International Trade](#), the latest in a series of reports on the NFU's [Vision for the Future of Farming](#), the NFU highlights the risks and opportunities for agriculture in trade deals fundamental to the industry's future.

## **BLUETONGUE IN NORTHERN FRANCE**

Livestock producers should keep an eye on the Bluetongue serotype 8 which is currently circulating in France, including two positive animals being identified in another part of northern France. As it is only 150km from the South Coast of England. As a midge-borne disease Defra is working with the met office and modelling the weather etc. to identify any change in risk. Current advice to farmers is that they need to discuss what is appropriate for their farm (potentially vaccination) with their vet. As a notifiable disease, if they do have any suspicion of disease it must be reported immediately to the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) on 03000 200 301. [More details here at NFU Online](#)

## **NEW METALDEHYDE STEWARDSHIP GUIDELINES FOR 2017**

The Metaldehyde Stewardship Group has launched an enhanced campaign for 2017 to ensure maximum protection of the environment, and in particular birds, small mammals and water. The steps are straightforward to implement and will have significant impacts on the future of metaldehyde availability. This includes the introduction of a 10m no spread zone next to watercourses and all field boundaries. Ferric phosphate can be applied on these margins if needed. [Read our briefing document here.](#)

## **OPEN FARM SUNDAY**

Our industries biggest open day is fast approaching; Sunday 11 June will see farms all across the country opening their gates for the event. [Please click here](#) to see a list of NFU members in the East Midlands taking part. If you have any questions about Open Farm Sunday, please contact our LEAF Open Farm Sunday regional co-ordinator, Andy Guy on [andy@andyguyconsulting.co.uk](mailto:andy@andyguyconsulting.co.uk)

## **REPRESENT BRITISH FARMING IN HISTORIC PARADE**

The NFU is giving eight young farmers and a Back British farming supporter the opportunity to land starring roles representing British farming in one of the most popular historic civic pageants in the world. The NFU is looking for a group of young farming champions from across England and Wales to join the Worshipful Company of Farmers and New Holland in this year's Lord Mayor's Show to help take the Back British Farming message into the heart of the City of London. In addition one passionate supporter of the NFU's [Back British Farming](#) campaign is being sought to join in and help spread the word. The 802nd parade takes place on Saturday 11 November and includes most of the 110 livery companies along with more than 7,500 participants, 200 horses, 20 marching bands, dancers, performers, armed forces and Modern Livery Companies.

## **SUBSIDISED TRACKERS STILL AVAILABLE IN DERBYSHIRE**

These magnetic trackers can be used on any farming vehicle/machinery such as quad bikes/trailers/tractors in order to allow the owner and the police to monitor any movements. The trackers RRP is £220, Derbyshire Police in partnership with the company Back2you have agreed to discount this to £100; the first 60 are subsidised a further £50 by the police. So snap up the last few for £50 – includes a SIM card worth £15. Contact Back2you on 0800 009 6366 and

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**The voice of British farming**

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quote DBY30 when making the purchase. [Further details here](#). The Police ask we remind existing buyers to alert them if they intend to move a vehicle fitted with one of these trackers – so they know not to respond!

## #HAPPYCOWS STAR AS WORLD MILK DAY WHIPS UP SOCIAL STORM

World Milk Day proved a social media hit yesterday peaking at top spot on Twitter's list of trending UK topics. Tens of thousands of tweeters included the hashtag, while farmers' pictures of #HappyCows showcased the high welfare standards within the British dairy industry - whatever the system used - and promoted the quality of the milk it produces. The NFUs Twitter content reached 100,000 timelines. [More details here](#).

## TRENT REGIONAL FLOOD AND COASTAL COMMITTEE (RFCC)

The Environment Agency is calling for applicants to the Trent RFCC covering Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and the Isle of Axholme. The RFCC plays an important role in deciding local priorities, raising local levy funding and approving flood and coastal risk management work across the region. Experience of agriculture, farming and land management is one of the key areas that the EA is looking for. The closing date for applications is 5pm on June 23. Interviews will be held on July 10 at the Environment Agency's Trentside offices in Nottingham. To request an application pack, or for more information, contact Dhiren Katwa on 0121 711 5861 or email [Dhiren.Katwa@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Dhiren.Katwa@environment-agency.gov.uk)

## EVENTS

### RURAL CRIME MEETING 26 JUNE

Lincolnshire Chief Constable, Bill Skelly, and Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), Marc Jones, will be at our rural crime meeting on Monday 26 June 2017 at The Granary in Boston, Lincolnshire. The meeting will serve as an opportunity for Lincolnshire's Chief Constable to take our farmer and growers through what his team has done since we last met. Members will also be given the opportunity to have their say on rural crime. [Read more...](#)

### THE FUTURE FOR DAIRY COW NUTRITION & HEALTH 5 JUNE

10am-4pm at Nottingham University. New technologies to monitor performance and welfare provide a wealth of information on how cows respond to their nutrition and environment, [learn more here](#).

[Please click here](#) to view our events page.

- Rutland Show – Oakham – **4 JUNE**
- Farming Fit For Food Nuffield Conference – Nottingham – **8 JUNE**
- Beeswax Dyson Farm Walk – Lincoln – **8 JUNE**
- Open Farm Sunday – **11 JUNE**
- Cereals 2017 – Lincolnshire – **14/15 JUNE**
- CSF Soil Quality & Crop Production Workshop – Walgrave - **19 JUNE**
- DerwentWISE Landowner Networking event – Matlock - **20 JUNE**
- RABI Garden Party – Coalville – **1 July**

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