

Milk prices on the rise

Jack – Thursday 16 March 2017

After months of pain, the British milk price could be on the rise. Back in December of 2016, farmers were getting paid on average 23.71p per litre with a 14p drop the year before.

A few months on, there was an increase of 68.8%. British farmers are slowly gaining the money back at 26.05p per litre.



Taken by Jack at Whitehall farm, Hampton Bishop

What affect has this had on British Farmers?

Nigel Phillips, a farm worker, said “many local, small farms are going out of business as a result of the milk price drop.”

We found out that 60% of consumers will pay more money for milk if the money will go directly to farmers. A second fact shows that roughly one in ten small dairy farms closed in the last 3 years. More than 1,000 small dairy farms have shut down in England and Wales. Despite accusations Morrisons said that they guaranteed to pay extra to farmers.

How would Brexit change the price?

On average it costs a farmer 30p to produce a litre of milk. However, super markets are only paying them on average 23p per litre, which is the reason farms are going out of business as the price of feed isn't exactly cheap. Many farmers are getting by with the single farm payment that may change as a result of Brexit. Common Agricultural Policy also known as CAP is made up to support farmers in financial difficulty and give them the funds to survive. The issue with this is that it is made up from the EU.

SOURCE: Defra, DARD & AHDB Dair

