

- Farm & Estate Management
- Sales & Purchases of Rural Properties
- Valuations
- Estate Planning
- Landlord & Tenant
- Farming Agreements
- Delinked Payments
- Auctions
- Compensation & Compulsory Purchase
- Farm Buildings
- Expert Witness
- Planning & Development
- Minerals
- Stewardship & SFI
- Woodland
- Digital Mapping
- Diversification & Grants
- Employment
- Payroll & Accounts
- Renewable Energy

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AUGUST 2025

AGRICULTURAL UPDATE

CAPITAL GRANTS 2025 UPDATE

Capital Grants 2025 were open for approximately five weeks and DEFRA has now announced that all £150 million of grant funding has now been allocated. The scheme closed for new applications on 1st August 2025. There were approximately 8,000 applications submitted in a very short window, resulting in the scheme being closed sooner than expected.

DEFRA has confirmed that it expects a further round of funding to be made available in 2026. With the speed of the uptake for the scheme increasing, we advise all that are interested in Capital Grants 2026 to prepare in advance. Please do get in touch with a member of the Agricultural Team to discuss preparing for an application in preparation for the next round of funding.

DELINKED PAYMENTS 2025

We trust that all eligible claimants of the former Basic Payment Scheme (BPS), now known as Delinked Payments, will have received payment from Rural Payments Agency on 1st August. Remittance advices have since been circulated this week.

By way of a reminder, Delinked Payments for 2025 are calculated as a 76% reduction to the first £30,000 of payment which would ordinarily have been received. Amounts above £30,000 face a 100% reduction. This means that the maximum claim paid to any former BPS claimant in 2025 is £7,200.

RPA do have a Delinked Payments Calculator on their website if you wish to check how the sum has been calculated.

The Chancellor announced at the Spending Review in June that approximately £20 million has been allocated to Delinked Payments in 2026 and 2027. For farming businesses, this will represent a maximum payment of £600.

For further assistance in checking Delinked Payments calculations, please contact a member of the Agricultural Team on 01285 648107.

FAMILY FUN AWAITS AT FFF&B PLOUGHING MATCH & COUNTRY SHOW

Saturday 27th September 2025

The Barrington Estate, OX18 4TN by kind permission of Mr. R. Wingfield

The FFF&B Ploughing Match and Country Show returns to the picturesque Barrington Estate this September, promising a perfect day out for families seeking authentic countryside entertainment. This beloved annual event celebrates rural traditions while offering attractions that captivate visitors of all ages.

At the heart of the show, skilled ploughmen will compete in traditional furrow-cutting competitions, demonstrating time-honoured techniques using both vintage tractors and magnificent heavy horses. Spectators can witness the precision and artistry required to create perfectly straight, evenly spaced furrows, showcasing the beautiful contrast between mechanical power and equine strength.

The main ring will buzz with excitement throughout the day featuring a parade of hounds, gundog demonstration, the magnificent Gateridge Suffolk heavy horses, and a falconry display. The thrilling terrier racing will delight spectators of all ages while the impressive tractor parade showcases agricultural heritage. And don't forget the crowd-favourite tug of war competition that brings out everyone's competitive spirit.

Visitors can explore the bustling craft tent, where local artisans display and sell their handmade creations, from traditional skills to contemporary designs. Take a wander along the working area learning about all steam and rural skills. The homecraft competitions are open to all, encouraging community participation and celebrating local talent across various categories. Whether you're an experienced crafter or trying your hand for the first time, there's a category for everyone.

The bar and food outlets ensure no one goes hungry or thirsty, offering a variety of refreshments, all served in the friendly atmosphere that makes this event so special.

New for 2025, visitors can hire mobility scooters to help navigate the showground comfortably, ensuring the day remains enjoyable for everyone regardless of mobility needs. To reserve a scooter, they must be pre-booked by visiting our website.

With ample parking, accessible facilities and genuine entertainment for every family member, the FFF&B Ploughing Match and Country Show really is a countryside celebration not to miss.

Visit the website www.ploughingmatch.co.uk for more information and to buy your tickets.

We would be delighted to see recipients of this newsletter at our stand on the day.



FARMING RULES FOR WATER

In April 2018 the Reduction and Prevention of Agricultural Diffuse Pollution (England) regulations were introduced, more commonly known as the Farming Rules for Water. The eight rules below outline and define to agricultural landowners and managers the farming rules for water.

The 8 rules outline prohibited activities for common farming practices to include applying and storing fertilisers and managing soil and livestock.

The Rules are:

- Rule 1: Planning use of manures and fertilisers
- Rule 2: Storing organic manures
- Rule 3: Applying manures or fertilisers
- Rule 4: Where not to apply organic manures
- Rule 5: Where not to apply manufactured fertiliser
- Rule 6: Reasonable precautions to prevent soil erosion
- Rule 7: Protecting against soil erosion by livestock
- Rule 8: Position of livestock feeders

Farmers must ensure all reasonable precautions are taken to mitigate risk of water pollution. Recent high profile cases such as legal action taken by River Action keep diffuse pollution from agriculture in the headlines and therefore, compliance with these rules, particularly for autumn applications, remains important.

Prohibited actions include, but are not limited, to:

- Storing and applying manure/fertiliser within 10 metres of any inland freshwaters or coastal waters or within 50 metres of a spring, well or borehole.
- Applying organic manure if the soil is waterlogged, flooded, or snow covered, or has been frozen for more than 12 hours in the previous 24 hours. Where precision farming techniques are used for organic manure spreading you must not apply manure within 6 metres of inland freshwaters or coastal waters.
- Applying high readily available nitrogen manures or fertilisers in Nitrate Vulnerable Zones outside the spreading periods.
- Apply manufactured fertiliser within 2 meters of inland freshwaters or coastal waters.
- Land within 5 meters of inland freshwaters or coastal waters must be protected from significant soil erosion by preventing livestock poaching.
- Locating livestock feeders within 10 meters of any inland freshwaters or coastal or within 50 meters of a spring, well or borehole or where there is significant risk of pollution from poaching entering any inland freshwaters or coastal waters.

It is advisable that you read the full guidance, which can be found: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rules-for-farmers-and-land-managers-to-prevent-water-pollution>

AUTUMN SALE DATES



**GENUINE DISPERSAL SALE OF FARM MACHINERY AT MANOR FARM, CASTLE EATON,
to include a Claas Lexion 650 Combine and 3. no. John Deere Tractors**

Wednesday, 10th September - Catalogues in Preparation

**COLLECTIVE AUCTION OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT AT LAKESIDE,
FAIRFORD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

Wednesday, 17th September - Entries are Invited

**COLLECTIVE AUCTION OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT AT GREAT
SOMERFORD, WILTSHIRE**

Wednesday, 8th October - Entries are Invited

FOR SALE

4.61 ACRES OF LAND AT SOMERFORD KEYNES



Enjoying a peaceful and accessible position on the edge of the sought-after village of Somerford Keynes, this parcel of permanent pasture extends to approximately 4.61 acres (1.86 hectares). It presents a rare opportunity to acquire a manageable block of land within the Cotswold Water Park.

Guide Price £100,000

For further details please contact a member of the Rural Sales Team on 01285 648115.



Our Agricultural Team: Stuart Milsom, Jack Ayres-Sumner, Amy McDonald, Richard Dell, Lucy Kernon, Elliot Hutt, Emily Shorter, Tia Bolter, Emily Kirby, Mark Hill, Peter Kirby, Sholto Lloyd, Kellie Gilbride, Lauren Horton & Kirstie Tate.

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