



MEDIA RELEASE

Farmers Urged to Shop Around for Feed

TFGA Dairy Council Chairman, Alan Davenport, urges Tasmanian farmers to shop around for grain and fodder as there are reasonable stocks available.

TFGA Dairy Council invited grain merchants to a recent meeting to look at the current situation for the procurement and pricing of grain. From that recent meeting it was agreed farmers need not “panic buy” but adopt an approach of researching first. It was also advocated that farmers consider alternative feed sources. A talk to their neighbours about maybe a deal to work together as grower and purchaser may also be a viable option. The TFGA Vegetable Council Chairman, Brian Bonde, was present at the meeting and suggested vegetable growers may have suitable feed in chat potatoes or vegetable crops grown for fodder.

The effect of late severe frosts has been devastating for the local cereal crops and the usual harvest of Tasmanian grain will be greatly reduced by as much as 80%. This will mean further grain supplies will be needed to make up the shortfall.

According to today's Grain and Hay Report, commissioned by Dairy Australia, mainland grain prices are up to \$20 per tonne lower than last week. In this situation forward purchase may be an option worth considering.

ENDS

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