

The year is off to a flyer!

We have been tapped out. With the East Coast Dry and the West Not. There is plenty of stock movement from one side to the other.

Our quote list is rather depleted as we seem to be running very current with little stock hanging around.

There seems to be enough of the country with feed to counter the dry areas and as a result market levels for both Sheep & Cattle have stayed relatively strong.

Kill numbers are certainly not pouring out, for example for the short week last week the North Island Cattle kill was 20000 short on total capacity.

Export markets seem to be all over the place.

But the general trend is an actual firming, but exchange rates come into play. Beef still has hurdles to get over with growing numbers globally - So the challenge is out there for our marketers promote our product for what it is "Grass Fed"

Sheep seems to have bottomed out with enquiry from markets picking up. Could have something to do with them realising that we don't actually have all that many of them anymore. Wonder Why?

As I said store markets are still quite vibrant with enquiry for most classes strong.

Even in the dry areas, yardings of cattle over the last week were relatively small indicating that the depth is not there.

Huge sheep sale in Feilding on Friday with 25000 Ewes & Store Lambs. The Lamb Market was firm once again supported by South Island buyers. Ewes were not over priced with the best 2ths not making over \$148.

March is almost here and that signals the start of the Weaner Calf sales.

Will the beef calves match last years values?

My feeling is that the good quality well breed types certainly will as it is a numbers game (Not enough).

Dairy beef calves won't make much more than current values as they appear to have hit a price plateau.

Even though they are getting heavier the CPK is easing.

However those that have bought recently are more than happy to have calves on board.

The first Taupo Weaner Sale is on the 6th March - Entries are being taken.

The dairy scene now has to contend with with a grumpy Russia. So not out of the woods yet.

Cows are selling well - In calf Dairy Heifers are a little harder to move unless they are of very good quality.



David Weir

On Friday the 9th Feb Dapper passed away losing his short battle with an aggressive cancer.

Dapper will be greatly missed by all of us and our condolences go out to Sandra his Wife and his Family.

Dapper has been part of Central Livestock from the beginning and words cannot describe the loss we feel.

He was a good bugger and a loyal mate.

His send off will be on Thursday the 16th Feb at 11am in Tauranga at Legacy Funeral Home.