

HARPER ADAMS UNIVERSITY

FUTURE FARM

SHROPSHIRE

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Summer is approaching which means BBQs!

*Don't forget to check out our website for more information on the farm at
<https://futurefarm.zone/>*

Farm Update

Welcome Our New Director

Since our last newsletter, we are delighted to have welcomed our new Future Farm Director, Paul Kelly, to the team. We are thrilled to have Paul on board, he brings with him a wealth of knowledge in dairy, along with a real enthusiasm for supporting and developing the farm's work in teaching and learning, knowledge transfer, and research.

We very much look forward to working with Paul and the positive impact he will have on the farm and wider community.



Open Farm Sunday a Great Success

We are still buzzing from the success of this year's Open Farm Sunday! It was a fantastic day, enjoyed by visitors of all ages, and the positive feedback we received made all the hard work truly worthwhile.

A huge thank you goes to the farm staff, who did an exceptional job preparing for the event. A special thank you goes to Jacob Morrison, who despite having deadlines for his Masters degree, still made the day possible.

This year's event was bigger and better than ever, featuring an impressive range of machinery demonstrations from both Harper Adams and external partners. We were also delighted to collaborate with our catering team and Harper Food Innovation, offering a variety of delicious food options. The highlight for many was the honey ice cream, which proved so popular that it sold out before the end of the day!

Events like Open Farm Sunday are a wonderful opportunity to connect with the wider community, showcase the work we do, and celebrate everything agriculture has to offer.

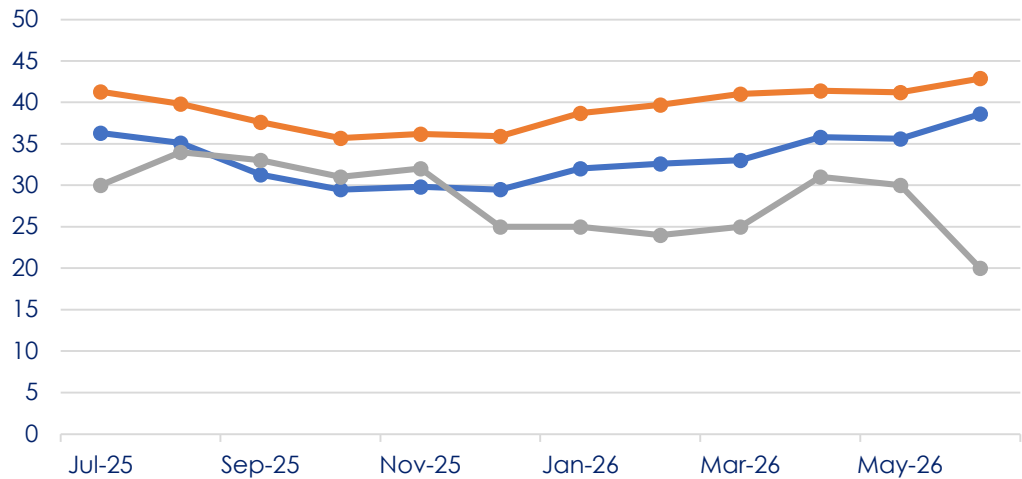
All that's left to say is—roll on next year!



Future Farm Animal Performance in June 2026:

The Main Dairy milk yield and KPI's in comparison to all NMR recorded herds of a similar herd size (Please note. The data in the graph and screenshot of the KPI table are from Herd Companion)

Herd Production Summary - Main Dairy



	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26
● Avg Yield	36.3	35.1	31.3	29.5	29.8	29.5	32	32.6	33	35.8	35.6	38.6
● Avg Milking Yield	41.3	39.8	37.6	35.7	36.2	35.9	38.7	39.7	41	41.4	41.2	42.9
● SCC > 200	30	34	33	31	32	25	25	24	25	31	30	20

Benchmark	New	Export
NMR14: Holstein herds > 300 cows	Benchmarks	Export

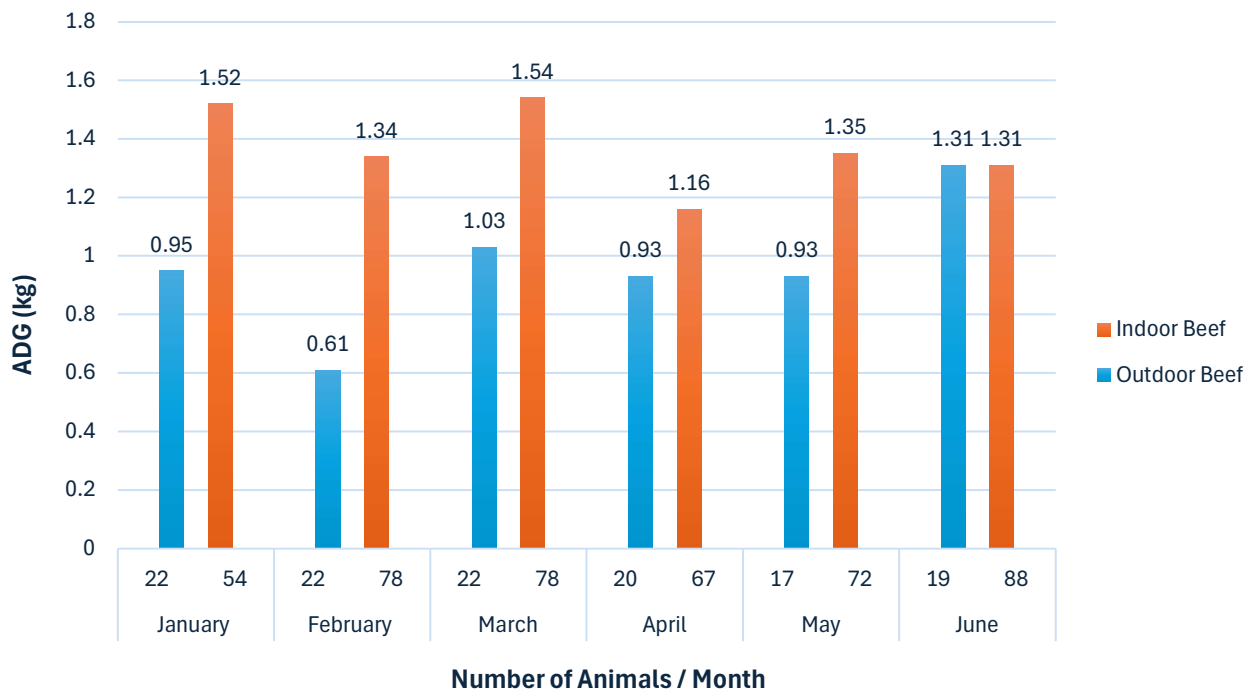
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KPIs	'Worst' <-----> 'Best'	Worst	You	Best	Mean
Milk/Cow/Year of life		4,094	7,318	9,531	6,282
Milk/Cow/Year		6,750	12,190	14,094	10,114
Lactation Yield		6,676	11,350	13,254	9,936
305 Day yield		6,533	10,561	11,910	8,990
Protein/Cow/Year		232	403	471	351
Fat/Cow/Year		287	482	676	434
Ave. Protein %		3.14	3.31	3.78	3.48
Ave. Fat %		3.68	3.95	5.23	4.30
Mean Parity		1.99	2.66	3.90	2.78
Calv. Interval < 385 %		29.17	37.83	80.00	58.53
Ave. Lactation length		370	290	249	314
Ave. SCC		297	100	85	157
% Cows in Parity 1		42.75	30.91	11.00	29.37
Age 1st Calving		1,020	709	704	781
Ave. Calving interval		451	413	369	392
Ave. Dry days		85	64	34	55
Culling + Death %		65	35	3	31
Ave. No. Cows		86	399	1,229	487

The Main dairy milk quality components in comparison to the Benchmark Muller average.

June 2026

	Main Dairy	Muller Average
Avg Bfat (%)	4.07	4.18
Avg Protein (%)	3.35	3.38
Avg SCC ('000/ml)	94	143.7
Avg BAC ('000/ml)	13	20.71
Therms (cfu/ml)	180	486.3

Indoor & Outdoor Beef Systems Average Daily Weight Gain 2026 (kg)



Industry News

Cereals 2026 and Farming Innovation

One of the largest arable events of the year, Cereals 2026, took place earlier this month, hosted at Diddly Squat Farm. Alongside this major event, the release of *Clarkson's Farm* Season 5 has brought renewed attention to both the opportunities and challenges facing modern agriculture.

The series highlights how technological advancements, particularly in mainland Europe, are beginning to transform farming systems using autonomous machinery and precision farming techniques; making the most of emerging technologies and new approaches to help mitigate risks and build more resilient systems for the future.

The series also highlighted some of the more difficult realities of farming, including livestock health and personal health challenges and the emotional toll these can have.

Political Landscape and Rural Policy

There continues to be change and uncertainty within the wider political landscape, which is being closely followed by the farming community. Industry leaders are calling for a renewed focus on rural policy, with hopes that future decisions will better support farmers and rural businesses.

As developments unfold, the sector remains resilient, adapting to both challenges and opportunities, and continuing to play a vital role in delivering for the nation.

Let's talk about the weather!

Summer is approaching and that means one thing, it is BBQ season!

Whether you prefer a disposable or a top-of-the-range BBQ, there is nothing better than cooking your meat or veggies in the summer heat. If you are bored of the usual burger or hot dog and would like to try to do something different this year, why not try and smoke some meat, maybe some beef brisket? Or pork shoulder?

Whatever takes your fancy we have plenty to offer at Future Farm, just contact the office at futurefarmenquiries@harper-adams.ac.uk and ask about our available cuts of meat to purchase.

Want some recipe inspiration? Why not try this [BBQ brisket](#) recipe or [Mustard & rosemary pork chops](#) recipes courtesy of BBC good food.

Thank you for reading the Future Farm monthly update newsletter, if you have any feedback or would like to see something in upcoming updates, please send your request to futurefarmenquiries@harper-adams.ac.uk.

We apologise for anyone who has made a suggestion for the newsletter and the content you requested was not included. We are doing our best to gather this information for future issues. In the meantime, if you or someone else would like to know more about the farm and our practices, check out our newly updated website <https://futurefarm.zone/>.