

# Drought impacts on agriculture & irrigation practices

**Paul Hammett**

**National specialist (water resources)**

**[paul.hammett@nfu.org.uk](mailto:paul.hammett@nfu.org.uk)**

# Sector overview



- Rain-fed crops
- Livestock & dairy
- Horticulture
- Access to water

# Rain-fed crops



- Variable yields
- Poor crop quality
- Increased fire risk
- Field edge bird & flower mixes

# Livestock & dairy



- Reduced grass yields
- Reduced milk yields
- Forage shortage
- Low animal fertility
- Heat stress & disease

# Fruit & vegetables



- High demand
- Increased production costs
- Lower yields and quality

# Access to water



- Low mains pressure
- Burst pipes
- Vulnerable private supplies

# NFU 2018 drought survey

- 71% of farmers experienced negative drought impacts
- 69% of arable farmers said yields worse than expected
- 85% of livestock farmers said 2<sup>nd</sup> cut silage worse than expected
- 78% of livestock farmers experiencing fodder shortages
- 36% of livestock farmers facing bedding shortages

# NFU Fodder Bank

https://www.nfuonline.com/sectors/crops/crops-news/the-nfu-fodder-bank-is-now-open/


Home Page - Intranet Home Dry weather advice - all the inf... NFU Water Bank - listings The NFU Fodder Bank is now ... The NFU Fodder Bank is no... World Water Week | World Wat...

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## The NFU Fodder Bank is now OPEN



SELLING OR SEARCHING?  
**NFU FODDER BANK**




The NFU Fodder Bank is a **free service** that helps our members find cattle feed and animal bedding for their farms - or lets them sell any surplus.

You can either appeal for stocks, or list what you have to sell.


**Why is it so useful?**

- Avoid paying for advertising in publications
- Flexibility on delivery and collections.

**LATEST NEWS**



Brussels in Brief newsletter




BF&G article: Transparency in the UK fertiliser market


# NFU Water Bank

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.nfuonline.com/cross-sector/environment/water/water-must-read/nfu-water-bank/>. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible, including 'Home Page - Intranet', 'Home', 'Dry weather advice - all the inf...', 'NFU Water Bank', and 'World Water Week | World Wat...'. The website's navigation menu includes links for Home, About Us, News, Our Offices, NFU Membership, Sectors, Cross Sector, Back British Farming, Jobs, and My Profile. A breadcrumb trail indicates the current location: You are here: // Cross Sector // Environment // Water // Water Must Read // NFU Water Bank.

## NFU Water Bank



**DONATING  
OR  
SEARCHING?**



**WATER  
BANK**

The NFU Water Bank is a new service designed to help match farmers and growers who urgently need water with neighbouring farm businesses who have a surplus.


The Environment Agency has agreed to consider and approve wherever possible fast-track, short-term trades of water to help farmers cope with pressures on food production caused by the unprecedented spell of hot, dry weather.

Water trading will be localised, with donors and recipients needing to operate within the same hydrological unit - meaning the same river or (part of) groundwater aquifer.


**NFU Vice President Stuart Roberts said:**

"The launch of the NFU Water Bank as a web-based noticeboard could be of

**LATEST NEWS**



Brussels in Brief newsletter



BF&G article: Transparency in the UK fertiliser market

# Drought impact on food prices?



- July 2018 food price inflation 1.9%
- Food costs less than 5 years ago
- Global dimension

# Our policy asks *Water for Food*



- PLAN
- PROTECT
- PAY

# Looking ahead to 2019

