

# MILKMINDER

## November 2020 Monthly Report

A brief summary of the month's results



### KEY MONTHLY FIGURES & DRIVERS

The average total feed cost per litre has increased to **9.12p**



An average milk price increase of **0.51 p/litre**

is reflective of the market conditions.

An increased feed cost of **£3.51 per cow** has been offset by a rise in milk income of **£9.71 per cow**

To find out more about MilkMinder **contact us now**

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### IMPROVING PROFITABILITY

#### THE TOP 20% OF FARMS

If we look at the top 20% by Margin over Purchased Feed, we can see some useful pointers for improving profitability.

TOP 20% PRODUCE a margin that is **£461 PER COW** greater than that of the average group



On a 200-herd farm this equates to an advantage of **£92,200**



An additional yield per cow in milk per day of **3.7 litres**

An additional **188 litres/cow** was produced from forage



### COMPARISON TO NOVEMBER 2019



Margin per cow is **£6 higher** at **£145**

and **0.26ppl** higher

Yield per cow in milk per day has risen from **25.3 litres** to **26.1 litres**

We've seen an increase in monthly concentrate price of

**3.8%**

We've seen an increase in rolling calving rate (%)



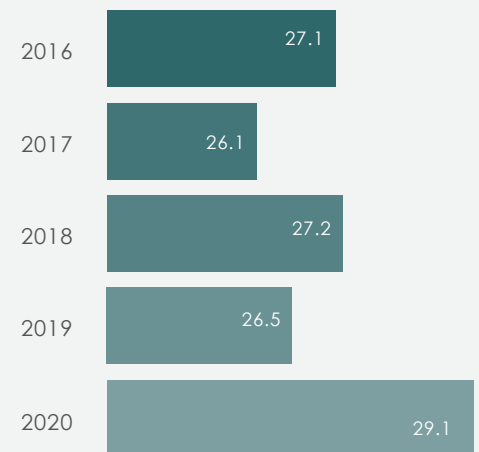
While at times we have seen erratic changes to herd replacement rate and calving rate, overall, both have increased over the past 12 years. The recent rise in herd replacement rate can be put down to milk volume restrictions introduced following the first Covid-19 lockdown. Calving rate, on the other hand, has seen an increase due to a combination of higher numbers of heifers being brought into herds and by improving fertility.

Calving rate increases during periods of herd expansion, so it is important to remember that benchmarks for this metric are most relevant when herd size is relatively stable. Herd replacement rate should be benchmarked alongside understanding the reasons for cows leaving the herd. A figure higher than 25% is only desirable when most cows leaving the herd are planned culls and are being replaced by heifers of significantly higher genetic merit.

Looking ahead, we predict that calving rate will increase should fertility continue to improve. Higher numbers of replacements in the system, as is currently the case, means that herd replacement rate is also likely to remain high over the next 12 months.

**Tim Harper**  
Senior Consultant

There has been a large jump in herd replacement rate



\*All data released in February 2021