

AGRI-FACTS | 6th FEBRUARY 2012

The RPA Online service will be unavailable from 6 February while we update the system to include information for making SPS 2012 applications and some enhancements to the service. This also covers some essential down time for the Government Gateway service and some security checks and performance testing we need to make.

During this time customers will not be able to obtain new or re-issued Personal Identification Numbers (PINs). This is because PIN packs are being sent to all customers who have not already registered to use the online service.

The RPA Online service will re-open on 28 February when customers will be able to start making their SPS 2012 applications.

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Scotland's farmers are being presented with another opportunity to help shape the future of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) as the Scottish Government launches its consultation on the EU Commission's proposals for the Policy today (Tuesday 31 January).

The detailed survey, which is available online or in hard copy, comes hot on the heels of the Government's CAP Roadshow and NFU Scotland's own regional and branch AGMs, at which senior NFUS office bearers and staff summarised the proposals and discussed them with members.

A detailed discussion on the CAP proposals will also take place ahead of the Union's AGM on 13 and 14 February 2012.

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The Uplands Transitional Payment (UTP) Regulations 2012 have been issued and will come into force on the 13th of February 2012. Rules are similar to previous years and relate to the claimants' occupation of qualifying land with qualifying livestock in 2011.

Payment Rates are:

SDA (first 350 ha)	£40.96 /ha
SDA (350-700 ha)	£20.48 /ha
Moorland (first 350 ha)	£15.52 /ha
Moorland (350-700 ha)	£7.76 /ha

As before the maximum total eligible forage area payable on is 700 ha, to include both SDA and Moorland, and linked to the claimed area in 2010.

Markets:

National Averages

Fat Cattle	£1.84- £1.88/kg LW	Up 2p/kg LW on the week
Fat Lamb	£2.04/kg LW	Up 3p/kg LW on the week
Feed Wheat	£162/Tonne	Up £7/Tonne on the week
Feed Barley	£155/Tonne	Up £8/Tonne on the week
OSR	£360/Tonne	Similar £/Tonne on the week

Currency:

1 Euro = 0.83170 British pounds, a modest decrease on the previous week.

