

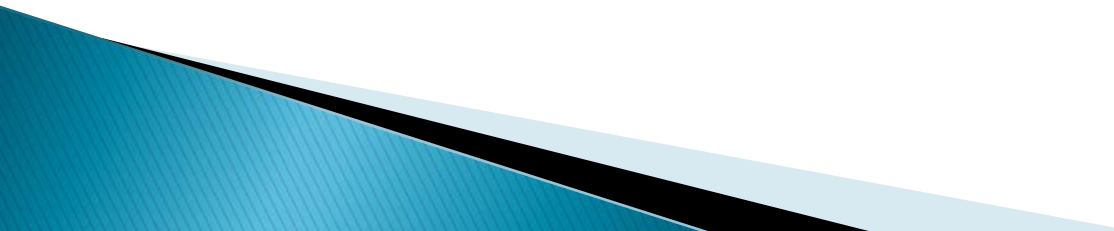
SOUTH WEST

FARM CONSULTANTS


Robotic organic small-scale dairy production

By Tom Tolputt

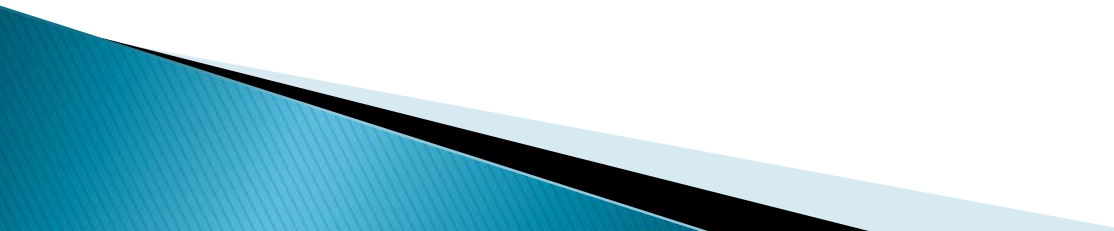
Organic Sector – Current Situation

- ▶ Milk Production is in equilibrium with the market.
 - ▶ No active recruitment.
 - ▶ Existing suppliers to expand production?
 - ▶ Considering converting some beef producers.
 - ▶ There are current organic businesses looking to diversify and therefore seeking new suppliers.
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Assumptions

- ▶ Good quality forage growing on farm.
 - ▶ Near an existing OMSCo or milk supply route.
 - ▶ Have buildings which are suitable to convert to dairy housing.
 - ▶ Good supply of electricity.
 - ▶ Good quality mobile reception.
 - ▶ Good access for a articulated milk tanker.
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Further Assumptions

- ▶ You will be a good stockperson or have a good stockperson working with you.
 - ▶ You will be reasonably technically minded.
 - ▶ Strange as it may seem you will also probably be the sort of person that works well and gets on with other people.
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Costs

Costs	£/pa
1x VMS De Leval Robot + consumables	£18,250
Water	£2,000
Concentrates	£56,000
Vet/A.I./Recording	£7,000
Replacements	£15,000
Rent	£20,000
Contracting	£25,000
Bedding	£10,000
Labour	£10,000
Total	£161,250

Income

Income	£ / pa
Milk 500,000lt @ 35ppl	£175,000
Basic Farm Payment	£14,000
OELS	£4,600
Culls	£3,000
Calves	£10,000
Total	£206,600

Gross Margin

▶ $£206,600 - £161,250 =$

£45,350 / pa

Conclusion

- ▶ There are current opportunities to make monetary gains over beef production via Organic Robotic Milk production.
- ▶ But its a lot more commitment and harder work!

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