

PRESS RELEASE



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22 September 2010

Number of dairy producers falls again

The number of dairy farmers in the southern region continues to fall. Recently published figures show that the number of dairy farmers in Hampshire has fallen by 4% since this time last year and by 40% over the last five years.

Andrew Bays of BCM comments: "These figures show pressures on dairy producers in terms of farm gate milk price, cost of inputs and costs of keeping units sufficiently modern in line with production standards continue to force producers out of dairying. Behind these figures of reduced producer numbers is an increased specialisation in dairying in those that remain in the industry and in many cases they have increased the size of their units as well. Technological advance and market pressures can, in our view, only mean that these pressures will continue resulting in fewer, larger dairy farmers."

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