

# PRESS RELEASE



The Old Dairy  
Winchester Hill  
Sutton Scotney  
Winchester SO21 3NZ

Telephone: 01962 763900  
Fax: 01962 763901  
Email: [info@bcm.co.uk](mailto:info@bcm.co.uk)  
[www.bcm.co.uk](http://www.bcm.co.uk)

17 February 2009

## Optimising your Single Payment

The current strength of the Euro against Sterling is perceived by many to be unsustainable going forward, with most commentators predicting that there will be a reduction if not collapse in the value of the Euro against GBP.

The current Euro – Sterling rate is extremely favourable to farmers as it is about 12% above the rate they received last year for their SFP. The natural progression from this is to look at mechanisms whereby farmers can protect their Single Payment by locking into the current rate for their next SFP.

Andrew Bays of BCM comments: “Whilst most farmers are sceptical of taking foreign currency positions, it would seem that there is an opportunity here to lock into a favourable exchange rate for the 2009 scheme year and also possibly 2010. We have been looking at this with our colleagues at World First, a Foreign Exchange Broker and Consultancy and they have a scheme specifically set up to deal with this. The key is that farmers can be in a position to make an informed decision on currency in the same way that some already do with regard to wheat futures. In order to lock in the contract, farmers would need to put down a 10% deposit of their total Single Payment to reserve the exchange rate. We are considering this on behalf of a number of clients and time is of the essence as the predicted relative weakening of the Euro against Sterling has already started. “

For further information please contact Andrew Bays at BCM on 01962 763900

Partners: Iain Curry Andrew Bays Henry McCowen Ros Foreman Alastair Wilson James Fraser

BCM Bays Curry McCowen is a trading name of BCM Bays Curry McCowen LLP a Limited Liability Partnership registered in England and Wales No: OC318704  
Registered Office: The Old Dairy, Winchester Hill, Sutton Scotney, Winchester, SO21 3NZ