

Electronic Supplementary Material

Semi structured interview questions for livestock farmers

Indicate type of farm (Tick ✓)

Beef ☐ Dairy ☐ Sheep ☐ Pig ☐ Mixed ☐ Other

1. Indicate either positive or negative on how the 2018 dry spell impacted your farm.

Tick ✓ either **positive column** or **negative column**

Kind of impact	Positive	Negative
Grass/Pasture growth conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grass/Pasture yield at harvest or grazing time yield	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feed availability (Forage and fodder availability)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bedding (i.e. Straw)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Animal growth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Milk production	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Animal welfare (eg. Diseases and parasites)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Income	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Costs of purchasing items / Expenses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Price of farm produce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Farmer wellbeing (eg. Stress, illness, etc)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Could you mention the main strategies you used in coping with the drought impact?

Kind of response	Tick	
Drug administration (Vaccination)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Construction of wallows	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Planting Catch crop / Cover crop as feed (eg. Brassica)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Investment in water supply and infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Feed and bedding management	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Feed purchases	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Feed sales	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Selling animals	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Culling animals	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Stock Management		
1. Drying Cows	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Grazing at night	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Outdoor housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Weight control	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Maintaining breeding herd	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fire management	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Water abstractions management	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	Specify:

3. Why did you choose to use different strategies in mitigating the drought impact?

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4. Did you receive any form of assistance that helped you during the drought?

If yes, who are they and what kind of assistance did they provide?

S/N	Actors	Tick	Nature of Support	S/N
1	Natural England, NE	<input type="checkbox"/>	Derogation	
2	Environmental Agencies, EA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Financial support (eg. extra funds, waivers, early payments, etc)	
3	Rural Payment Agency, RPA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Collective support/Farmers' groups	
4	Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board, AHDB	<input type="checkbox"/>	Farming advice	
5	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Flexible specification or	

			preference by retailers	
6	Retailers and or Food processing companies	<input type="checkbox"/>	Others (Specify)	
7	Farm inputs manufacturers	<input type="checkbox"/>		
8	National Farmers Union (NFU)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
9	Farming charity organisation (eg. Forage aid, Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
10	Research scientist	<input type="checkbox"/>		
11	National press journalists	<input type="checkbox"/>		
12	Neighbouring farmers	<input type="checkbox"/>		
13	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

5. What have you done to prepare your farm for future drought?