



FARMER GROWER

being a member means more

join today and get more with NFU membership



I write this at a critical point in farming's history. We now stand on the cusp of a pivotal moment: leaving the European Union and the CAP, and taking sovereign control of our agricultural affairs.

When I was elected in February 2018 I had a strong vision and that vision still remains - I am clear on what success looks like. The next two years will herald a period of unprecedented change, a time in which our relationship with the EU and our future domestic agricultural policy will be established - a time in which your support will be vital.

Over the past year, the NFU's expert staff have spoken to and met members in their thousands, not only to canvas opinion on what their NFU should be calling for post-Brexit, but providing second to none insight, advice and guidance locally, regionally and nationally.

This action was seen first-hand when Defra Secretary of State Michael Gove published the Health and Harmony green paper on future domestic agricultural policy, with the NFU going out on the road to galvanise members into sharing their views and grasping a once in a lifetime opportunity with both hands.

As the UK's largest farming union – representing 55,000 members in England and Wales – we took great care in responding to the consultation and reiterating that Britain's farmers are first and foremost food producers, and producing food for a growing population is at the heart of everything we do.

In addition, we will push for better functionality in the supply chain, take control of the narrative which describes modern farming's relationship with the environment and make Brexit a success for British farming.

But that's not all. Over the past year, the NFU has continued to voice members' concerns to decision makers; concerns that were in place long before the word Brexit was created. From the delivery of BPS and Countryside Stewardship payments, the impact of rural crime, supply of farm labour, Bovine TB and animal diseases, to the unprecedented effect of prolonged dry weather and our diminishing plant health armoury, the day-to-day job of delivering for our members, and for farming's future, pressed on.

There will be challenging times ahead. Farming and growing must have a united voice and the NFU is determined to create a better future for members so they have the opportunity to build progressive, productive, profitable and resilient businesses.

Now is the time for an even stronger NFU - by joining us as a member you will ensure that change is made where change is needed most.

I hope you will join us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Minette Batters'.

Minette Batters
NFU PRESIDENT

"We don't spend any money within our business that we don't need to spend – it's as simple as that. But we choose to spend money on the NFU because we believe in the change it makes and how it helps our business.

"It's all about power in numbers and the more farmers that get behind the NFU the easier it will be to look after farming's interest and drive for change in the years ahead."

The Walmsley family



Being a member means somebody fighting your corner

We're here to champion British agriculture and horticulture and protect your way of life now and in the future. As the UK's largest farming union – representing 55,000 members in England and Wales – we're talking directly to policymakers at the heart of government and campaigning to ensure farmers and growers have the opportunity to build progressive, productive, profitable and resilient businesses.

Our team provides a scale of knowledge and service that no other organisation can match. With offices in the heart of Westminster and Brussels, and direct contact with Welsh Government in Cardiff, we're giving our members an unrivalled voice on the political stage.



"The NFU is the only body that lobbies government on behalf of specific agricultural sectors. It is the one organisation that can influence and lobby government by consulting with members, ensuring farming is getting the best outcome.

"British agriculture is going to go through a revolution in the years ahead with Brexit. The NFU is tremendously important in ensuring a workable outcome going forward."


Richard Corbett

"We are knowledgeable enough to know that we will never know enough, but the accumulative experience of NFU officials and members do.

"The NFU is committed to bringing farmers together – and giving us the confidence and belief in our own industry. In it together, producing and shaping our countryside and farming futures."



Gwilym and Rhian Jones




"We joined the NFU because we wanted safety in numbers and to be part of an organisation that is lobbying on our behalf. If the NFU weren't there who is there for the working farmer."

"I feel part of an organisation that really cares for farmers. It's absolutely essential that we have a body that is supporting farmers and fighting our cause up and down the country at every twist and turn."

"When we're on our own, we're completely defenceless, but when we're united and as a team, that's when we can really make things happen. I can't see myself farming and not being a member of the NFU."

John Charles-Jones



"What we can't live without for our dairy farm is the lobbying that the NFU does behind the scenes. The NFU is holding government to account to ensure we, as farmers, get a fair deal."

"It's all about strength in numbers. Individually we can't shape agriculture, but together we can have an influence and a stronger voice."

"The uncertainty of Brexit means we need the NFU even more. The NFU is highly influential on UK policy in Westminster and right now we need the organisation to make the right and essential recommendations to government that will affect British agriculture to ensure a bright future for our businesses."

The Walmsley family

Being a member means more support locally

We're at the heart of the farming community, supporting members on any farming issue, in every sector, across the whole of England and Wales. With 7 regional offices plus NFU Cymru in Builth Wells, 250 local offices and 385 Group Secretaries, and 50 expert local advisers, we're raising the issues that matter locally and working on your behalf to make a difference in your area. With our crucial local connections, you can rest assured that we're here when you need us most.



"Locally the NFU's help with setting up a TB eradication strategy has been invaluable. Being a beef farmer, TB can affect our business drastically and we need to manage that going forward. I feel very fortunate and lucky that the NFU is focussing on this area."

Richard Bower



"Being a member of the NFU makes me feel privileged to be part of the organisation. In our local area we have events, including informal meetings on anything from BPS to TB which really make you feel part of the community even more. NFU membership is value for money. For what my subscription is throughout the year the information I get from my NFU county advisers is invaluable, I can't tell you how much I respect and value the advice and information. Money can't buy it."

Duncan Hawley

"You can always pick the phone up to talk to someone locally when it comes to issues affecting your business. The NFU always understands – that is really reassuring."

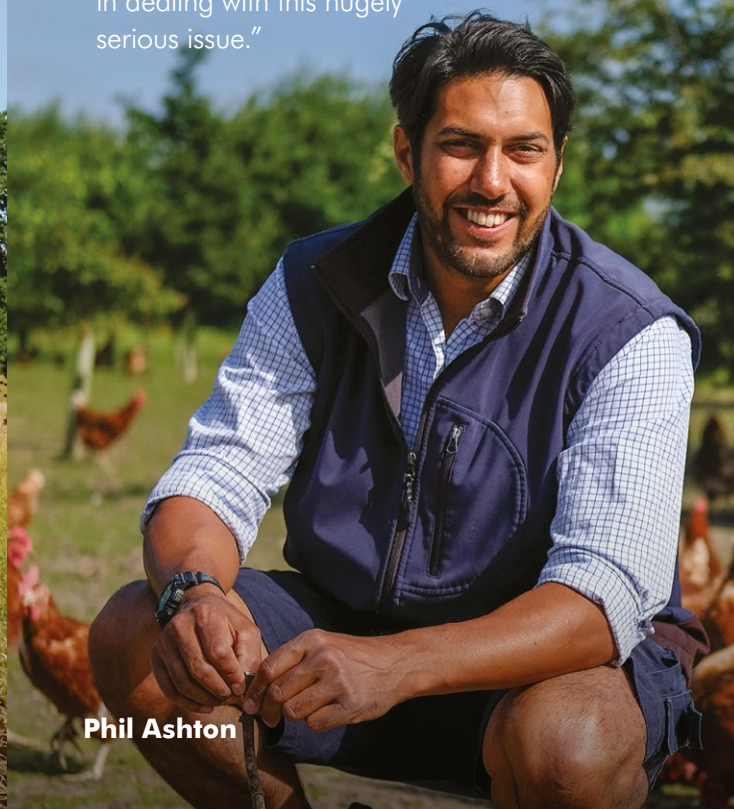
"Completing BPS paperwork can be confusing, but with the NFU there is an expert there to go through it step-by-step to ensure everything is up to scratch and there are no mistakes."



Will and Gillian Sedgley

"Before NFU membership, farming was lonely and my voice was unheard. Being a member of the NFU has really brought a sense of community to what can be a lonely operation and it's reassuring to have someone supporting you every step of the way."

"The organisation's help at a local level has been invaluable. It has helped combat rural crime by bringing the community, local authorities and MPs together in dealing with this hugely serious issue."



Phil Ashton

Being a member means giving you a voice and keeping you informed

We're proud to be the voice of British farming and growing locally, nationally and internationally. Our wide-range of member communications, delivered directly to the farmhouse door and at the click of a button, means you'll always be ahead of the curve when it comes to the issues that matter most.

With our year-round press office, we're keeping our finger on the pulse to ensure the farming agenda remains in the media spotlight. That's not all – from a wealth of magazines and e-newsletters, to NFUonline and social media, our communications will always showcase how we're campaigning on the issues that matter to you.



"We are always impressed by the appearances of NFU officials and members in the media. They speak so well – with authority and knowledge and are excellent at promoting farming in the community. As we have an educational background, we are proud of the work that has gone into schools and giving opportunities for children to understand the work that farmers do."

Gwilym and Rhian Jones

"The NFU's publications are fantastic. Every week we get a weekly email called the NFU Bulletin and I always read this to keep aware of what's going on. British Farmer & Grower – the NFU's membership magazine – is both farmer-led and professional and the NFU's #studentfarmer magazine is doing a great job in engaging with young farmers."

Richard Bower

"The monthly British Farmer & Grower magazine keeps us up-to date with what's going on regionally and nationally and the weekly Bulletin emails are brilliant to update you with what the NFU is doing. It's good to know the NFU is always fighting our corner."

Will and Gillian Sedgley



@NFUTweets



@NFUonline




@NFULife

Being a member means access to unrivalled services and discounts


Our second-to-none discounts and services are exclusive to NFU members and are designed to cover every aspect of your farming business. Our services offer political, legal, regulatory or technical information, to more practical business-focussed solutions covering law, planning, environment and energy.

Your NFU membership means that you'll get access to discounts, specifically negotiated with farmers and growers in mind, ensuring you're getting the best possible access to what's on the market.




"As we've diversified into a woodchip business, we've been able to tap into the expert advice provided by FEC Energy through the NFU Energy Service. They have helped us complete a significant amount of paperwork and applications."

Huw Owens




"As a business we've received invaluable, expert advice about our BPS payment and the Young Farmer top-up. The NFU talked us through the process and in turn helped us to manage our future succession plan – for that I thank them."

Richard Bower



"I decided to join the NFU because of the membership benefits we receive. Not only that, but on the end of the line there is a fantastic service in NFU CallFirst who have been so helpful in the past. They're a brilliant team and dedicated to their job, and can help with any problem."

Duncan Hawley



"The standout service for me is the Legal Assistance Scheme (LAS). For the past 25 years we've been a member of the scheme and wondered why and never imagined that we would use the service. However, our wind turbine has been the cause of two judicial reviews and the LAS has supported us fully for almost the past six years and has awarded us more than our entire NFU membership costs since I became a member in 1989. That, to me, is incredible"

John Charles-Jones

Why now is more important than ever to join us...



"It's extremely important that our industry pulls together and joining the NFU helps us to do that. You always know that there is someone there keeping a handle on things and looking out for farmers. We all need to stick together."

Will and Gillian Sedgley

"If you want to be represented in new rules and regulations that Brexit will present and want someone to fight your corner, then the best people to do that with the knowledge expertise and access is the NFU."

Richard Corbett



"There's never been a better time to join the NFU. As an industry we face unprecedented uncertainty. I say: don't look at the cost of the membership – look at the value of the many benefits that membership can bring. Very quickly you'll realise that the membership cost is small in comparison."

John Charles-Jones



"Now is more important than ever to join the NFU. We have to look at the future as a massive opportunity as farmers and we've got to market ourselves better. Let's all join together to push our industry forward. I'm proud to be a member of the NFU every day."

Richard Bower



"Now is more important than ever to join the NFU because the discussions being had on the future of our industry are so crucial that if the right voices aren't put in the right place and supported correctly, we won't be able to forge the future we'd like to see in the UK.

"Membership is the best way for our industry to have a voice and be heard when it comes to key decisions being made by policymakers.

"As a farmer, sometimes you can feel isolated. By being a member of the NFU you have access to likeminded people who are passionate about the industry. Without the NFU, I don't know what body would speak for us.

"There truly is strength in membership. Together we are united."

Oliver Collingham





being a member means more

MORE REPRESENTATION

Locally represented with MPs, MEPs and local authorities

Nationally and internationally represented in Westminster, the Welsh Assembly and Brussels

Campaigning with
#BackBritishFarming
#BackWelshFarming
throughout the whole
food chain

MORE ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Local support from a network of 385 NFU Group Secretaries, 250 local offices and more than 50 expert local advisers across England and Wales

Specialist member services covering legal assistance, employment, tenants' issues, energy, contract checking, tax, ratings, fly-grazing, VAT return filing, fresh produce audit documentation and many more. Plus business guides, model clause documents and telephone advice through NFU CallFirst

Publications including member magazines, newsletters, policy briefings and NFU websites

MORE MEMBER BENEFITS

Save money on vehicles, tyres, security products, training and certification, healthcare, building supplies, machinery hire and much more

NFU Mutual Union Advantage:
A long-term loyalty scheme providing a wide range of enhanced cover and discounts for NFU members who also commit to being NFU Mutual customers for at least three years

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