

The new season is well underway and whilst it is quite wet for some of us, things are otherwise looking positive – GDT prices are holding up and staying strong, the \$A is softening, and the weather is slowly getting warmer.

As part of our pricing discussions with Fonterra, we have agreed to shift the first bi-monthly price review of the season from July to August, which brings it in step following opening price in June.

The current trend of opening prices being closer to the top of the forecast price range means that there may be fewer step-ups, particularly in the first half of the season. However, Fonterra has committed to being consistent and maintaining transparency through its price review process.

The COVID restrictions being again extended into the Victorian regions makes life tough for many, especially for those with school aged children. I am always grateful to have the wide-open spaces of our farm and we are lucky to be able to operate fairly normally in Tasmania. All we can all do is comply with the restrictions, hang in there and hold out for a better, COVID-normal environment.

You may have received a letter or email last week on the class action against Fonterra. This letter was sent to all farmers who were supplying Fonterra during the step-down period in 2015/16.

There have been a few questions raised about this class action, however this is not something on which we, as FASC, are able to provide any legal, or other advice. The only update we can give due to legal restrictions imposed by the Supreme Court, is to advise you to read the letter and make your own decision on whether or not to join.

A big welcome to our two newest FASC Councillors – Damien Cocker from Sheffield in Tasmania, and James Clyne from Newry in Gippsland. A profile for Damien and James was included in Watt Matters several weeks ago. Contact details for all of the FASC team are [available on our website](#).

Our annual FASC calendar competition will be opening soon for 2022 – so please start collating your best farm photos. Keep an eye out for Watt Matters next week for details on how to submit your photos.

I would also like to encourage you to contact us at any time if there are any topics on which we can assist you or raise with Fonterra on your behalf.

Kind regards

Alan Davenport  
Chair – Fonterra Australia Suppliers' Council

