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UK in early 2000

Nine dairy farmers were retiring every week.

One dairy farmer committed suicide every week.

UK used to be more self sufficient. Now they import 1.5 million litres of milk a day.

As in NZ, it was suggested that the biggest problem was retailers' profits.

Some farmers who process their milk into cheeses are thriving.

Britain's hedgerows, with their thriving wildlife, are actually maintained by farmers. As well as providing a natural boundary between pastures, their hedges are trimmed out of the nesting season, to provide a breeding ground for birds and other wildlife.

Greenhouse gas emissions from UK dairy farms have declined sharply over the last 20 years to only 2% of the UK's total emissions. Their transport is responsible for 25%.

Clovers in pastures increase its feed value and save the costs and pollution of using urea.

This UK photo shows their frequent grazing of much longer pasture than in New Zealand, which is one reason why they have less clover. The frequent harvesting of longer pasture for their longer winters is another.



Note the cows typical grazing of the short pasture rather than the long.

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