

# XMAS STUFFED

## Turkeys look set to dry up

■ by BRENDAN MCFADDEN

**CHRISTMAS could be ruined by a shortage of turkeys.**

Some farmers are not rearing them this year in a bid to stop the spread of bird flu – and it could lead to a festive drought.

Charlotte Blackler, 49, runs an artisanal farm – but she has decided for the first time to not raise any of the birds, due to outbreaks of the disease. Others are taking similar steps.

Charlotte, based in Glenalmond, Perth, said: “We felt as though the risk was too big this year to rear turkeys.

“It would go against our ethics to have the birds living without access to nearby pastures.”

But a National Farmers’ Union spokesman added: “As far as we understand there won’t be a shortage of turkeys this Christmas.”

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TOO RISKY: Charlotte with turkeys

