LMC
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INCREASED CATTLE THROUGHPUT TO DATE IN 2022

During the first nine months of 2022 to week ending 01 October 2022, total cattle slaughterings in local plants totalled 369,910 head which is up by a significant 33,642 head when compared to the corresponding period in 2021 when 336,268 head were handled by local processors to the close of September.

This equates to an increase of 10 per cent year on year and cattle throughput for 2022 is also up by 29,013 head or 8.5 per cent when compared to the relative period in 2020 when 340,897 cattle were killed locally.

Prime Cattle Throughput

The NI prime cattle kill totalled 276,559 head during the nine months ending 01 October 2022, accounting for 75 per cent of Northern Ireland cattle slaughterings. This is an increase of 21,756 head from the same period in 2021 when 254,803 cattle were killed, and an increase of 18,906 head from 2020 when 257,653 prime cattle were processed locally.

There was an increase in numbers of prime cattle slaughtered across the prime cattle categories during 2022 to date. Steer throughput in NI during this 39 week period totalled 135,031 head an increase of 7,687 head or six per cent relative to 2021 and a similar increase of 7,375 head or 5.8 per cent relative to 2020.

The number of heifers processed in NI plants during 2022 to week ending 01 October totalled 108,653 head which was a 9,777 head increase from the relative period in 2021. This equates to almost a 10 per cent increase year on year. Meanwhile, heifer processings have increased by almost six per cent or 6,047 head compared to 2020 figures.

Young bull processings in NI during January to week ending 01 October 2022, totalled 32,875 which was an increase of 4,292 head or 15 per cent from 2021 figures. Meanwhile this was a more significant 5,484 head or 20 per cent increase relative to the same period in 2020.

Cow Throughput

Cow throughput in NI during the first nine months of 2022 increased by 10,430 head from 2021 levels to total 83,621 cows. This equates to an increase of 14.3 per cent year on year. This was also a significant increase of 8,801 head from 2020 levels, which equates to an 11.8 per cent increase in cow throughput from 2020 levels.

Calf slaughterings increased during the nine month period ending 01 October 2022, to total 5,021 head up by 702 head or 16.3 per cent from 2021. Mature bull throughput totalled 4,709 head to week ending 01 October 2022, which was up 754 head or 19 per cent from 2021 levels. Both calf and mature bull processings remain at very low levels in comparison to the number of prime cattle and cows processed locally.

Carcase Weights

During the nine month period of 2022 ending 01 October, the average carcase weight of prime cattle decreased by 1.3kg relative to 2021, while increasing 0.6kg compared to the corresponding period of 2020.

Meanwhile the average cow carcase weight has decreased by 6.5kg when compared to 2021 and 7kg compared to the same period of 2020, when the average cow carcase weight in NI was 312.5kg and 313.1kg respectively.

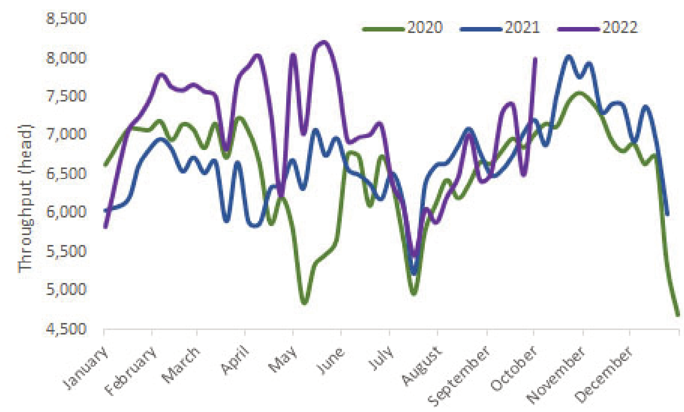
Prime cattle account for the majority of beef production in Northern Ireland. The increase in prime carcase weights alongside the increase in throughput across all categories has seen the volume of beef from prime cattle handled by local processors during 2022 to week ending 01 October, up by 7,245 tonnes, or eight per cent when compared to 2021 levels.

Meanwhile the increase in cow throughput to date of 14 per cent year on year has offset the lighter carcase weights, to increase the volume of cow beef processed in NI plants. To the close of September 2022, a total of 25,585 tonnes of beef from cows was processed locally compared to a total of 22,845 tonnes during the relative period of 2021, accounting for an increase of 2,740 tonnes or 12 per cent year on year.

Table 1: Monthly prime cattle and cow throughput 2022 compared to 2021
Source: DAERA

	Prime Cattle			Cows		
	2021	2022	% Difference	2021	2022	% Difference
January	25,653	27,589	+8%	8,042	8,656	+8%
February	27,081	30,710	+13%	7,447	9,066	+22%
March	31,640	37,559	+19%	8,301	10,925	+32%
April	25,246	29,651	+17%	6,615	8,347	+26%
May	27,139	31,181	+15%	7,028	8,333	+19%
June	32,168	34,507	+7%	8,701	9,897	+14%
July	24,365	23,481	-4%	7,356	8,285	+13%
August	33,920	32,667	-4%	10,974	10,797	-2%
September	27,591	29,214	+6%	8,727	9,315	+7%
Total	254,803	276,559	+9%	73,191	83,621	+14%

Figure 1: Weekly prime cattle throughput January 2020 to September 2022
Source: DAERA



REGISTER NOW FOR FARMING CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY LMC

The outlook facing NI and UK agriculture will be the subject of a half day conference taking place on Thursday 13 October 2022 organised by the Irish Farmers Journal and sponsored by LMC in association with the Andersons Centre.

The conference will be delivered by Michael Haverty, a senior research consultant and partner at the Andersons Centre, who will provide detailed analysis on the prospects for agriculture into 2023 and beyond.

The main topics covered at the conference are:

Finances on Farms
Trade Update
UK Farm Policy
Future Land Use

The team at Andersons is recognised across the UK and internationally as a leading provider of economic policy and market analysis covering all aspects of agriculture. The conference should be of interest to farm leaders, professionals and agri-food businesses locally.

The conference is being held at the Glenavon Hotel, Cookstown, Thursday 13 October 2022 starting at 1pm.

Please register free for the event at www.ifj.ie/register

INCREASED LAMB THROUGHPUT IN LOCAL PLANTS LAST WEEK

Last week a strong increase in lamb throughput was seen in local processing plants with 12,177 lambs processed. This was an increase of 3,948 head or a 48 per cent increase from the previous week.

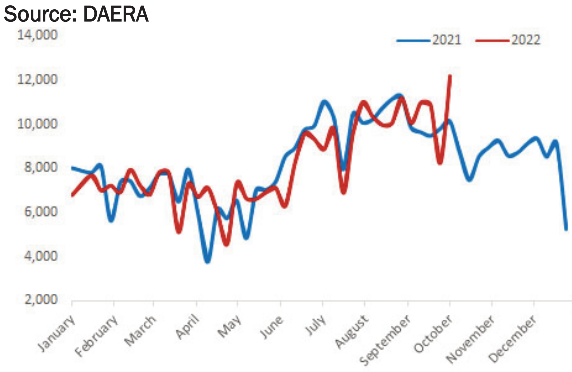
Figure 2 displays weekly hogget/lamb throughput in NI plants during 2022, this has held relatively steady in recent weeks but has generally been running behind 2021 levels. The strong increase in slaughterings last week was well above the corresponding week last year when 10,139 lambs were processed.

ROI continues to act as a valuable outlet for NI origin lambs with 7,996 lambs exported to the region for direct slaughter last week. This was an increase of 387 head from the previous week when 7,609 lambs were exported to ROI plants for direct slaughter.

During the 12 week period ending 01 October 2022, 69,611 lambs were exported from NI to ROI for direct slaughter. This is back 11.7 per cent when compared to the same period in 2021 when 78,821 lambs were exported to processing plants in ROI. These lambs accounted for 36 per cent of total lamb output from NI during the 12 week period in 2022, a decrease when compared to the same period last year.

Total lamb output from the NI sheep flock during the 12 weeks ending 01 October 2022 totalled 190,896 head. This is a decline of 8,638 head or 4.3 per cent from the same period last year.

Figure 2: Weekly NI lamb/hogget throughput 2021 to 2022
Source: DAERA



WEEKLY BEEF & LAMB MARKETS

LMC Livestock & Meat Commission

CATTLE TRADE

NI FACTORY BASE QUOTES FOR CATTLE

(P/KG DW)	This Week 03/10/22	Next Week 10/10/22
Prime		
U-3	414 - 426p	414 - 426p
R-3	408 - 420p	408 - 420p
O+3	402 - 414p	402 - 414p
P+3	346 - 358p	346 - 358p
	Including bonus where applicable	
Cows		
O+3	330 - 350p	320 - 350p

Cow quotes vary depending on weight and grade.
Pricing policies vary from plant to plant. Producers are advised to check pricing policies before presenting cattle for slaughter.

REPORTED NI CATTLE PRICES - P/KG

W/E 01/10/22	Steers	Heifers	Young Bulls
U3	437.4	441.0	432.6
R3	432.9	435.8	425.7
O+3	425.3	428.6	416.5

*Prices exclude AA, HER and Organic cattle

REPORTED COW PRICES NI - P/KG

W/E 01/10/22	Weight Bands			
	<220kg	220-250kg	250-280kg	>280kg
P1	254.0	267.6	279.3	295.0
P2	268.7	299.5	316.1	333.0
P3	284.8	315.4	334.1	344.3
O3	-	331.9	354.8	361.0
O4	330.0	-	341.7	363.2
R3	-	-	-	378.1

Deadweight Cattle Trade

Base quotes for in-spec U-3 grade steers and heifers remained steady at 414-426p/kg at the end of this week however paid prices indicate that higher prices are available than these quotes suggest. The trade for cows also remained steady this week with quotes for good quality O+3 grade cows ranging from 330-350p/kg with quotes for next week expected to be back to 320-350p/kg.

Prime cattle slaughterings in local plants last week totalled 8,000 head an increase of 1,491 head from the previous week. This brings prime cattle throughput for the last four weeks to 29,214 head, an increase of 2,770 head from the previous four week period when prime cattle throughput totalled 26,444 head. Cow slaughterings in NI last week increased to 2,451 head which brings cow throughput for the last four weeks to 9,315 head, an increase of 887 head from the previous four week period.

Prime cattle imports from ROI for direct slaughter last week totalled 308 head, a decrease of 101 head from the previous week. Cull cattle imports comprised of 85 cows and one bull. Meanwhile cattle exports from NI to ROI for direct slaughter last week comprised of 51 prime cattle and 54 cull cattle.

Price reported deadweight figures in NI generally continued to report a weakening in trade last week. The average steer price in NI last week was up by a marginal 0.1p/kg to 425p/kg with the R3 steer price up just over half a penny to 436.2p/kg. The average heifer price in NI last week was 427.7p/kg, back 1.7p/kg from the previous week, while the R3 heifer price was back by 0.7p/kg to 436.8p/kg. The average cow price in NI last week decreased by a notable 7.1p/kg from the previous week to 324p/kg while the O3 cow price recorded an increase of 1.8p/kg to 360.3p/kg.

In GB last week the deadweight prime cattle trade reported downward movement across all regions for most types of cattle. The average steer price in GB last week decreased by 0.8p/kg, to 439.2p/kg with R3 steer price back by a similar margin to 445.8p/kg. Last week all of the GB regions recorded a decline in the R3 steer price from the previous week, with decreases ranging from 0.3p/kg in the Midlands and Wales to 1.2p/kg recorded in Scotland. The average heifer price in GB last week was back by 0.7p/kg to 436.4p/kg with the R3 heifer price back marginally to 444.8p/kg. The average O3 cow price in GB recorded a decrease of 0.8p/kg last week bringing it to 375.5p/kg, with price changes varying across the regions. In Scotland the O3 cow price recorded an increase of 2.1p/kg, while in Southern England a decrease of 2.3p/kg was recorded.

Last week in ROI the deadweight cattle trade reported increases across all grades attributed to the strengthening of the euro. The R3 steer price in ROI last week was up by 5.7p/kg to 420.9p/kg from the previous week. The R3 heifer price increased by the equivalent of 6.1p/kg to 424.9p/kg. The O3 cow price in ROI reported an increase of 6.1p/kg bringing it to 379.9p/kg last week.

LAST WEEK'S DEADWEIGHT CATTLE PRICES (UK / ROI)

W/E 01/10/22		Northern Ireland	Rep of Ireland	Scotland	Northern England	Midlands & Wales	Southern England	GB
Steers	U3	437.7	429.6	453.7	450.4	447.8	451.7	451.1
	R3	436.2	420.9	452.5	447.0	441.8	442.7	445.8
	R4	433.6	420.0	454.2	448.7	438.0	443.5	448.8
	O3	423.2	404.8	439.9	435.9	424.7	422.5	429.0
	AVG	425.0	-	450.0	442.6	431.7	431.5	439.2
Heifers	U3	439.8	435.7	455.8	450.6	453.5	451.2	453.1
	R3	436.8	424.9	452.1	445.5	443.6	440.4	444.8
	R4	432.7	425.1	454.3	445.7	441.7	439.7	447.6
	O3	424.9	413.5	431.0	437.2	417.0	417.5	424.6
	AVG	427.7	-	450.5	444.3	426.1	424.8	436.4
Young Bulls	U3	432.9	416.4	447.1	444.8	444.1	441.6	445.3
	R3	425.9	408.9	440.7	434.0	435.5	433.1	436.6
	O3	408.5	392.6	413.6	407.4	411.0	416.9	412.0
	AVG	416.2	-	429.9	430.8	424.0	425.7	427.1
Prime Cattle Price Reported		6,461	-	5,887	6,650	7,398	4,594	24,529
Cows	O3	360.3	379.9	383.2	376.0	374.2	369.8	375.5
	O4	362.0	380.5	386.6	378.3	377.6	368.5	376.7
	P2	318.3	340.1	341.8	331.0	337.7	332.3	335.4
	P3	338.7	367.5	356.3	349.9	356.1	347.2	352.5
	AVG	324.0	-	376.9	349.9	338.2	337.3	345.0

Notes: (i) Prices are p/kg Sterling-ROI prices converted at 1 euro=89.35p Stg
(ii) Shading indicates a lower price than the previous week.
(iii) AVG is the average of all grades in the category, not just those listed

LATEST LIVEWEIGHT CATTLE MART PRICES NI

W/E 01/10/22	1st QUALITY			2nd QUALITY		
	From	To	Avg	From	To	Avg
Finished Cattle (p/kg)						
Steers	255	283	268	210	254	228
Friesians	192	206	200	172	190	183
Heifers	234	273	244	200	233	216
Beef Cows	216	271	234	170	215	192
Dairy Cows	144	172	158	100	143	122
Store Cattle (p/kg)						
Bullocks up to 400kg	255	308	280	210	254	228
Bullocks 400kg - 500kg	240	300	262	185	239	215
Bullocks over 500kg	235	294	255	185	234	210
Heifers up to 450kg	260	332	280	210	259	225
Heifers over 450kg	240	334	260	170	239	200
Dropped Calves (£/head)						
Continental Bulls	410	580	450	275	405	340
Continental Heifers	370	500	400	250	365	300
Friesian Bulls	125	200	175	50	120	85
Holstein Bulls	50	120	90	1	45	30

SHEEP TRADE

NI SHEEP BASE QUOTES

(P/Kg DW)	This Week 03/10/22	Next Week 10/10/22
R3 Lambs up to 21kg	495- 510p	500- 510p

REPORTED SHEEP PRICES

(P/KG)	W/E 17/09/22	W/E 24/09/22	W/E 01/10/22
NI L/W Lambs	453.0	452.3	450.6
NI D/W Lambs	489.6	486.9	494.2
GB D/W Lambs	523.6	524.8	522.4
ROI D/W	532.7	539.6	548.9

Deadweight Sheep Trade

Quotes for R3 grade lambs came back mid-week and ended this week at 490-500p/kg up to 21kg with quotes of 500-510p/kg expected for early next week. Lamb throughput in NI plants last week totalled 12,177 head which was an increase of 3,948 head from the previous week. Meanwhile, exports of lambs to ROI for direct slaughter increased last week with 7,996 lambs exported to southern processing plants compared to 7,609 lambs exported during the previous week. The average NI deadweight lamb price was up by 7.3p/kg to 494.2p/kg last week. In ROI last week the average deadweight lamb price was the equivalent of 548.9p/kg, up 9.3p/kg from the previous week.

Liveweight Sheep Trade

Smaller numbers of lambs passed through local marts last week with a weaker trade to the previous week. In Swatragh last Saturday 1,908 lambs sold from 455-505p/kg compared to 2,380 lambs selling from 485-560p/kg the previous week. In Kilrea on Monday 790 lambs sold from 452-482p/kg compared to 1,100 lambs selling from 450-493p/kg last week. This week in Saintfield 606 lambs sold from 444-500p/kg compared to 940 lambs last week selling from 450-500p/kg. On Wednesday in Enniskillen 1,150 lambs sold from 425-480p/kg compared to 900 lambs last week selling from 428-495p/kg. The trade for cull ewes remained firm this week with top reported prices generally ranging from £140-179 with the highest price of £242 reported in Ballymena.

LATEST SHEEP MARTS (P/KG LW)

From: 01/10/22		Lambs			
To: 06/10/22		No	From	To	Avg
Saturday	Swatragh	1908	455	505	-
	Omagh	1423	465	491	-
Monday	Kilrea	790	452	482	-
	Massereene	778	440	472	-
Tuesday	Saintfield	606	444	500	-
	Rathfriland	1039	450	515	461
Wednesday	Ballymena	2469	430	484	445
	Enniskillen	1150	425	480	-
	Armoy	544	428	490	-
	Markethill	1130	440	468	-

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