

UPDATE ON THE EUROPEAN ROUNDTABLE FOR BEEF SUSTAINABILITY (ERBS)

Three years ago the European Roundtable for Beef Sustainability (ERBS) was launched. Having evolved from SAI Platform's Beef Working Group, the ERBS is a multi-stakeholder platform focussed on beef sustainability across the European region and across all aspects of the value chain, from farm to fork.

The ERBS represents the European beef value chain as one voice on the global stage, through its active participation in the Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (GRSB). The ERBS is firmly focussed on the important role the beef sector has to play in a sustainable food system. The beef sector transforms inedible feedstuffs into high value protein for human consumption. It is also a major land steward across the European region, able to provide key ecosystem benefits such as carbon sequestration and biodiversity maintenance.

Countries currently involved in the work of the ERBS represent more than 70% of European beef production. The Board of ERBS is chaired by Claire Donoghue,

Operations Director and EU Head of Sustainability for OSI and LMC's Chief Executive Ian Stevenson is a representative of the Allied Industry Constituency on the Board.

In order to achieve meaningful progress on beef sustainability on the ground and at European scale, the ERBS has focussed its efforts on a handful of key priorities.

Building upon the progress already made since the founding of SAI Platform's Beef Working Group back in 2011, the ERBS initially concentrated on four key priority areas: greenhouse gas emissions, animal health and welfare, animal medicines and farm management.

These were identified through engagement with more than 150 stakeholders across Europe and are reviewed regularly to ensure the European beef sustainability agenda remains at the forefront. Within the four priority areas eight outcome targets were agreed in order to align all Platforms within the European region. These are:

Environment

- An intensity reduction of 15% in GHG farm emissions by 2025 from a 2015 baseline.

Animal Medicines

- Total usage of antibiotics below 10mg/PCU by 2023.
- Reductions of 50% in the use of HP-CIAs by 2023 from a 2016 baseline.

Animal Health and Welfare

- Target mortality rates are below 1.5% (for systems with mortality rates above this target, a year on year reduction of 20% should be achieved from a 2019 baseline).

- All animals have access to loose housing (when housed) by 2030.

- All animals are given pain relief (analgesics) for all surgical procedures and for all forms of castration, dehorning and disbudding.

Farm Management

- A reduction in serious accidents on farm and a reduction in fatalities with an overall target of zero.

- Financially viable farms that have a business plan in place.

Since 2018 there have been six countries within the European region which have established country platforms to coordinate activities and improve the sustainability of beef production within their respective countries. The United Kingdom, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy and Poland have all established country platforms and through the ERBS recognition framework each of these countries are reporting annually on their progress towards achieving the outcome targets under each of the key ERBS priority areas.

The UK Cattle Sustainability Platform (UKCSP) is the country platform for the UK beef industry and has over 70

members from beef production, beef processing, beef retail and food service, allied industry and civil society constituencies. Chaired by Sarah Haire, Head of Agriculture for Dawn Meats / Dunbia the UKCSP has been formally recognised as a country platform by ERBS. The UKCSP meets regularly to review and report on progress against the ERBS targets, develop position statements on key sustainability issues and works collectively to ensure that the UK beef industry meets the needs of consumers and stakeholders today and in the future with a reputation built on science and trust.



ERBS

European Roundtable
for Beef Sustainability

NEW DATES ADDED FOR AMR TRAINING

New dates have been added for the 'Responsible Use of Antimicrobials on Beef and Sheep Farms' Training. These training sessions have been organised by CAFRE in partnership with AI Services to be delivered throughout Northern Ireland over the coming months by qualified Veterinary Surgeons. From 03 February 2020 it became a requirement for FQAS that 'At least one person responsible for administering animal medicines must be formally trained in the responsible use of antimicrobials'.

Responsible Use of Antimicrobials courses are available as face-to-face courses in local venues or as online webinars. The workshops are free to farmers, members of the farm family and employees.

Attendees must pre-register in order to attend a workshop.

Before you register for a webinar, it is recommended that you carry out a speed test on your broadband. You will need download and upload speeds of at least 2mb/second to ensure that you can participate fully and be able to view

the video in the presentation.

Attendance certificates to meet FQAS requirements will be issued on successful completion of the face-to-face workshops or webinars.

To successfully complete a webinar you will need to:

- Pre-register. Log in details are only provided if you are pre-registered.
- Be logged in to the webinar for at least 90% of the presentation.
- Complete the poll during the webinar, and
- Complete the evaluation at the end of the webinar.

To register for a course please log on to: <https://www.cafre.ac.uk/business-courses/responsible-use-of-antimicrobials-on-beef-and-sheep-farms/> or contact AI Services (028) 9083 3123

Tuesday 28th September	Online	7.30PM
Thursday 30th September	Online	7.30PM
Monday 4th October	Mellon Country Hotel, Omagh	7.30PM
Thursday 7th October	Millbrook Lodge, Ballynahinch	7.30PM
Monday 11th October	Online	7.30PM
Tuesday 12th October	Walshs Hotel, Maghera	7.30PM
Thursday 14th October	Online	7.30PM
Thursday 14th October	Dunsilly Arms Hotel, Antrim	7.30PM
Monday 18th October	Fir Trees Hotel, Strabane	7.30PM
Tuesday 19th October	Online	7.30PM
Thursday 21st October	Online	7.30PM
Monday 25th October	Online	7.30PM
Thursday 28th October	Online	7.30PM

FQAS Helpline

If you have had a recent inspection and need help and advice to rectify any non-conformances, contact the FQAS helpline:
Tel: 028 9263 3024

Answerphone Service

Factory base quotes & Mart results
Updated 5pm Daily
Tel: 028 9263 3011

Text Service

Free weekly base quotes sent to your mobile phone
Email: bulletin@lmcni.com
Tel: 028 9263 3000

WEEKLY BEEF & LAMB MARKETS



CATTLE TRADE

NI FACTORY BASE QUOTES FOR CATTLE

(P/KG DW)	This Week 20/09/21	Next Week 27/09/21
Prime		
U-3	384 - 394p	384 - 394p
R-3	378 - 388p	378 - 388p
O+3	372 - 382p	372 - 382p
P+3	318 - 332p	318 - 332p
	Including bonus where applicable	
Cows		
O+3	280 - 300p	280 - 300p

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.

Deadweight Cattle Trade

Base quotes from the plants this week for U-3 grading prime cattle ranged from 384-394p/kg with similar quotes expected for next week. In the same week in 2020 the major processors were quoting 350-358p/kg for in spec U-3 grade steers and heifers. Quotes for good quality O+3 cows this week continued to range from 280-300p/kg, with similar quotes expected for early next week.

Prime cattle throughput last week totalled 6,762 head, an increase of 195 head on the 6,567 prime cattle processed the previous week. However, this is back 200 cattle when compared to the corresponding week in 2020 when prime cattle throughput totalled 6,962. Meanwhile a total of 2,190 cows were processed in NI last week, this is up 93 from last week.

Imports of cattle from ROI for direct slaughter in local plants last week totalled 308 prime cattle and 197 cows with no cattle imported from GB for direct slaughter. Exports from NI to ROI for direct slaughter consisted of three prime cattle and 55 cows. This brings cattle exports for direct slaughter from NI to ROI to 1,888 head during 2021 to date. Meanwhile this week no cattle were exported to GB for direct slaughter.

The deadweight prime cattle trade in NI remained under pressure last week with the majority of prices back from the previous week. The average steer price in NI last week was back 0.1p/kg to 390.8p/kg with the R3 steer price up 1.6p/kg to 400.9p/kg. In the same week last year, the R3 steer price was 364.1p/kg, 36.8p/kg behind current levels. The average NI heifer price last week came back by 1.4p/kg to 393.5p/kg while the R3 heifer price came back 0.2p/kg to 400.8p/kg. In the same week last year, the R3 heifer price was 365.7p/kg. The average young bull price in NI last week was back 1.4p/kg to 379.7p/kg while the R3 young bull price up 1.9p/kg to 390.2p/kg. Meanwhile the NI cow trade improved last week across most grades from the previous week with the average NI cow price up 0.4p/kg to 280.4p/kg with the O3 cow price back 1.2p/kg to 313.9p/kg.

In GB last week the average steer price was up 0.8p/kg to 411.3p/kg with the R3 steer price down 0.5p/kg to 417.1p/kg. This places the R3 steer price in GB at 16.2p/kg above the equivalent price in NI. Last week the average heifer price in GB increased marginally to 410.4p/kg, up 0.3p/kg from the previous week. The R3 heifer price was back 0.5p/kg to 417.7p/kg. This places the R3 heifer price in GB at 16.9p/kg above the same price in NI. The average cow price in GB last week was back 0.9p/kg to 285.9p/kg with the O3 cow price back 2.4p/kg to 311.3p/kg. This puts the O3 cow price in GB at 2.6p/kg below the same price in NI.

The deadweight trade for prime cattle in ROI continued to come under pressure last week with the majority of the reported prices back from the previous week. The R3 steer price in ROI last week was the equivalent of 357.6p/kg, back 1.7p/kg from the previous week. This puts the R3 steer price in ROI at 43.3p/kg behind the same price in NI. Meanwhile the R3 heifer price was back 1.4p/kg to 361.1p/kg. The O3 cow price reported a decrease of 1.4p/kg to 301.6p/kg.

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

	W/E 18/09/21	Northern Ireland	Rep of Ireland	Scotland	Northern England	Midlands & Wales	Southern England	GB
Steers	U3	403.6	366.8	421.3	423.4	421.9	425.7	422.7
	R3	400.9	357.6	420.0	418.2	414.9	416.2	417.1
	R4	396.3	357.9	421.5	424.9	412.4	415.3	420.5
	O3	390.9	343.6	406.0	404.0	393.0	397.1	398.6
	AVG	390.8	-	417.5	415.4	403.8	407.0	411.3
Heifers	U3	403.3	371.4	428.9	431.8	427.1	424.2	428.3
	R3	400.8	361.1	420.6	421.9	416.2	414.1	417.7
	R4	397.8	362.3	421.5	421.9	415.9	416.4	419.7
	O3	394.3	351.3	401.8	404.3	387.8	399.2	396.4
	AVG	393.5	-	418.2	415.1	403.4	404.0	410.4
Young Bulls	U3	394.1	352.3	410.8	418.4	411.3	422.5	414.4
	R3	390.2	342.3	408.9	408.6	409.9	411.3	409.4
	O3	376.8	331.7	384.9	386.7	379.9	384.4	383.6
	AVG	379.7	-	404.9	395.2	395.9	399.7	398.4
Prime Cattle Price Reported	5342	-	6245	6340	6326	4768	23679	
Cows	O3	313.9	301.6	317.9	308.4	309.2	316.0	311.3
	O4	316.0	301.7	319.7	313.1	309.9	313.3	312.9
	P2	275.5	272.2	273.5	264.2	266.3	282.0	270.6
	P3	296.4	291.1	289.3	283.9	282.8	294.1	286.3
	AVG	280.4	-	312.0	289.8	278.8	282.8	285.9

Notes: (i) Prices are p/kg Sterling-ROI prices converted at 1 euro=85.25p 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

REPORTED NI CATTLE PRICES - P/KG

W/E 18/09/21	Steers	Heifers	Young Bulls
U3	404.3	405.1	394.2
R3	398.4	400.6	389.6
O+3	391.2	394.9	378.6

*Prices exclude AA, HER and Organic cattle

REPORTED COW PRICES NI - P/KG

W/E 18/09/21	Weight Bands			
	<220kg	220-250kg	250-280kg	>280kg
P1	211.7	221.3	238.1	234.7
P2	226.5	254.4	273.8	289.1
P3	219.8	276.6	289.5	299.5
O3	-	281.2	304.5	315.9
O4	216.5	277.5	303.8	318.1
R3	-	-	-	333.1

LATEST LIVEWEIGHT CATTLE MART PRICES NI

W/E 18/09/21	1st QUALITY			2nd QUALITY		
	From	To	Avg	From	To	Avg
Finished Cattle (p/kg)						
Steers	240	259	248	205	239	220
Friesians	178	195	184	120	175	156
Heifers	228	256	240	200	227	212
Beef Cows	183	222	196	140	182	160
Dairy Cows	125	155	135	105	124	115
Store Cattle (p/kg)						
Bullocks up to 400kg	250	300	270	205	249	225
Bullocks 400kg - 500kg	230	272	248	200	229	210
Bullocks over 500kg	215	240	225	180	214	195
Heifers up to 450kg	225	270	240	200	224	210
Heifers over 450kg	225	255	235	180	224	205
Dropped Calves (£/head)						
Continental Bulls	400	515	430	250	395	320
Continental Heifers	320	460	350	200	315	250
Friesian Bulls	185	280	210	100	180	130
Holstein Bulls	120	185	150	30	115	75

SHEEP TRADE

NI SHEEP BASE QUOTES

(P/Kg DW)	This Week 20/09/21	Next Week 27/09/21
R3 Lambs up to 21kg	475-480p/kg	480-485p/kg

REPORTED SHEEP PRICES

(P/KG)	W/E 04/09/21	W/E 11/09/21	W/E 18/09/21
NI L/W Lambs	449.1	441.9	439.2
NI D/W Lambs	481.2	476.3	469.2
GB D/W Lambs	529.1	526.9	508.4
ROI D/W	528.1	520.2	501.5

Deadweight Sheep Trade

Quotes from the local processors for R3 grading lambs are ranging from 480-485p/kg up to 21 kilos, with similar quotes expected early next week. Lamb throughput decreased last week with 9,474 lambs processed in local plants, down 169 lambs from the previous week. In the same week last year 10,067 lambs were processed locally. A further 7,265 lambs were exported from NI to ROI for direct slaughter, an increase of 249 lambs when compared to the previous week. The average deadweight lamb price in NI last week was 469.2p/kg, back 7.1p/kg from the previous week. Meanwhile the deadweight lamb price in ROI was down 18.7p/kg to 501.5p/kg.

Liveweight Sheep Trade

Good numbers of lambs passed through the sale rings this week. In Swatragh last weekend 1850 lambs sold from 424-452p/kg compared to 1625 lambs sold from 412-490p/kg the previous week. In Massereene on Monday 978 lambs sold from 440-471p/kg compared to 956 lambs sold from 415-440p/kg the previous week. This week in Ballymena 1932 lambs sold from 410-497p/kg compared to 2075 lambs sold last week from 400-473p/kg. On Thursday in Markethill 1450 lambs sold from 440-469p/kg compared to 1280 lambs sold the previous week from 430-460p/kg. The trade for well fleshed cull ewes has remained firm with top prices reported ranging from £119-£168.

LATEST SHEEP MARTS (P/KG LW)

From: 18/09/21		Lambs			
To: 23/09/21		No	From	To	Avg
Saturday	Omagh	582	468	535	-
	Swatragh	1850	424	452	-
Monday	Kilrea	500	429	473	-
	Massereene	978	440	471	-
Tuesday	Saintfield	515	437	526	-
	Rathfriland	705	434	528	465
Wednesday	Ballymena	1932	410	497	434
	Enniskillen	525	424	480	-
	Armoy	566	425	465	-
	Markethill	1450	440	469	-

Information supplied by LMC / DAERA/ AHDB/ DAFM

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