

DEADWEIGHT CATTLE TRADE

NI FACTORY BASE QUOTES FOR CATTLE

(P/KG DW)	This Week 18/12/23	Next Week 25/12/23
Prime		
U-3	446 - 454p	446 - 456p
R-3	440 - 448p	440 - 450p
O+3	434 - 442p	434 - 444p
P+3	378 - 386p	378 - 388p
Cows		
O+3	304 - 320p	312 - 320p

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 16/12/23	Steers	Heifers	Young Bulls
U3	471.3	473.7	459.7
R3	467.5	466.0	454.6
O+3	458.5	453.2	448.3

REPORTED COW PRICES NI - P/KG

W/E 16/12/23	Weight Bands			
	<220kg	220-250kg	250-280kg	>280kg
P1	203.9	223.4	234.3	248.8
P2	228.4	253.8	274.6	289.5
P3	240.3	274.7	293.1	298.7
O3	274.9	292.4	306.9	314.5
O4	-	295.2	301.8	316.7
R3	-	-	-	336.5

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

W/E 16/12/23	Northern Ireland	Rep of Ireland	Scotland	Northern England	Midlands & Wales	Southern England	GB
Steers	U3	471.8	428.2	504.5	498.1	496.8	498.5
	R3	470.5	422.0	499.4	493.7	486.5	487.3
	R4	471.6	423.6	501.6	499.6	484.1	489.4
	O3	460.5	414.2	489.4	480.9	471.5	466.0
AVG	460.4	-	498.5	489.9	475.4	474.0	484.8
Heifers	U3	473.4	435.6	506.6	499.5	502.6	499.1
	R3	469.1	426.9	499.2	489.6	488.4	487.0
	R4	466.5	428.9	499.9	495.0	486.0	488.8
	O3	456.8	420.8	481.7	469.9	460.2	464.6
AVG	459.7	-	497.0	484.1	473.5	467.5	480.9
Young Bulls	U3	457.7	419.8	493.4	486.9	479.1	493.5
	R3	452.2	412.3	485.6	476.1	478.3	483.8
	O3	437.7	400.8	451.8	446.0	439.3	422.4
	AVG	443.2	-	480.7	468.2	457.9	445.2
Prime Cattle Price Reported	6,153	-	6,094	6,861	7,474	4,723	25,152
Cows	O3	313.3	343.2	342.0	327.8	323.5	330.2
	O4	316.0	343.1	346.4	331.7	320.8	327.2
	P2	276.0	302.6	297.6	291.2	275.7	289.4
	P3	295.3	322.9	304.1	309.1	296.0	306.1
AVG	278.4	-	334.1	307.2	282.0	286.6	293.7

Notes: (i) Prices are p/kg Sterling-ROI prices converted at 1 euro=85.88p 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

FQAS MART CLINICS JANUARY 2024

LMC Farm Liaison Officer, Terry White, runs Farm Quality Assurance Scheme (FQAS) advice sessions at a range of Livestock Marts across Northern Ireland. Terry is present to assist members of FQAS with non-conformances, general scheme queries and any issues prior to or following an inspection.



Any farmers who wish to join the scheme can also do so through their local FQAS mart clinic. Terry will be available at the livestock marts listed in the table below.

For further information call (028) 9263 3024.

Mart	Date
Saintfield	Wednesday 10th January
Kilrea	Wednesday 17th January
Enniskillen	Thursday 18th January

Deadweight Cattle Trade

Steady levels of both prime cattle and cows were slaughtered in NI last week compared to the week previous, with prime cattle throughput in local plants totalling 7,301 head and 2,921 cows slaughtered locally. Beef supplies on NI farms remain tight and the strengthening deadweight trade continues to reflect this, with stronger quotes received for next week. Last week strong levels of cattle were imported from ROI for direct slaughter locally. Prime cattle imports totalled 170 head with 127 cows also imported. Meanwhile two prime cattle and 25 cows were exported from NI for direct slaughter in ROI last week, with no cattle making the journey to GB for direct slaughter.

The average price paid across all cattle categories continued to increase in NI last week. The overall average steer price was up by 2.9p/kg to 460.4p/kg, while the average price paid for an R3 grade steer last week was up 1.9p/kg from the previous week to 470.5p/kg. The overall average heifer price was up by 1.2p/kg to 459.7p/kg, while the average R3 heifer price declined by a marginal 0.3p/kg to 469.1p/kg. The young bull trade has also continued to improve in NI with an overall average price of 443.2p/kg last week, up 4.3p/kg from the previous week. The NI O3 cow price increased by 2.5p/kg to 313.3p/kg, while the overall average cow price was up by 3.6p/kg to 278.4p/kg compared to the previous week.

The beef trade also continued to firm across GB and ROI last week. In GB the average R3 steer price was 491.2p/kg, up 0.7p/kg from the previous week while the average steer price was up 1.7p/kg to 484.8p/kg. In ROI the average R3 steer price was the equivalent of 422p/kg an increase the equivalent of 5p/kg.

LIVEWEIGHT CATTLE TRADE

LATEST LIVEWEIGHT CATTLE MART PRICES NI

W/E 16/12/23	1st QUALITY			2nd QUALITY		
	From	To	Avg	From	To	Avg
Finished Cattle (p/kg)						
Steers	250	298	278	200	249	225
Friesians	208	227	218	151	204	187
Heifers	240	281	257	200	239	220
Beef Cows	230	289	250	175	229	205
Dairy Cows	120	159	135	60	119	85
Store Cattle (p/kg)						
Bullocks up to 400kg	300	385	330	220	299	255
Bullocks 400kg - 500kg	245	311	270	200	244	220
Bullocks over 500kg	245	300	270	185	244	215
Heifers up to 450kg	270	338	295	215	269	240
Heifers over 450kg	230	285	260	180	229	200
Dropped Calves (£/head)						
Continental Bulls	350	460	400	200	345	280
Continental Heifers	350	500	390	175	345	240
Friesian Bulls	125	175	145	60	120	90
Holstein Bulls	80	165	110	1	75	35

DEADWEIGHT SHEEP TRADE

NI SHEEP BASE QUOTES

(P/Kg DW)	This Week 18/12/23	Next Week 25/12/23
R3 Lambs up to 22kg	530 - 535p	530 - 535p

REPORTED SHEEP PRICES

(P/KG)	W/E 02/12/23	W/E 09/12/23	W/E 16/12/23
NI L/W Lambs	475.3	476.8	472.0
NI D/W Lambs	533.7	531.1	535.7
GB D/W Lambs	588.7	585.8	585.3
ROI D/W	562.6	550.5	554.1

Sheep Trade

Base quotes from the major lamb processing plants this week for R3 grade lambs remained steady on last weeks levels at 530-535p/kg up to 22kg. Similar base quotes are expected next week. Strong numbers of lambs continue to come forward for slaughter, with throughput last week totalling 11,852 lambs. In comparison, during the corresponding week of 2022 lamb throughput in NI plants totalled 10,812 head. The average weight of lamb carcasses processed in NI last week was 21.9kg, indicating producers are presenting lambs for slaughter at specified weights. Exports of lambs to ROI for direct slaughter last week declined by 214 head from the previous week to total 7,643 head. Meanwhile, ewe exports to ROI for direct slaughter increased last week to total 712 head.

The deadweight trade for lambs strengthened in NI last week with an average deadweight lamb price of 535.7p/kg, an increase of 4.6p/kg from the previous week. However the liveweight trade eased last week with 472p/kg paid on average for factory type lambs, a decline of 4.8p/kg from the week previous. In ROI last week, the deadweight lamb trade also strengthened with the average price paid for lambs up by the equivalent of 3.6p/kg to 554.1p/kg.

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LMC
Livestock & Meat Commission

LMC would like to wish all of our levy payers and stakeholders a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

LMC offices will close on 22 December, until 1 January. The office will reopen at 9am on Tuesday 2 January.

ANSWERPHONE & TEXT SERVICE

There will be no answerphone or text message service during the Christmas and New Year period

LMC BULLETIN

The LMC bulletin will be published as normal throughout the festive period