

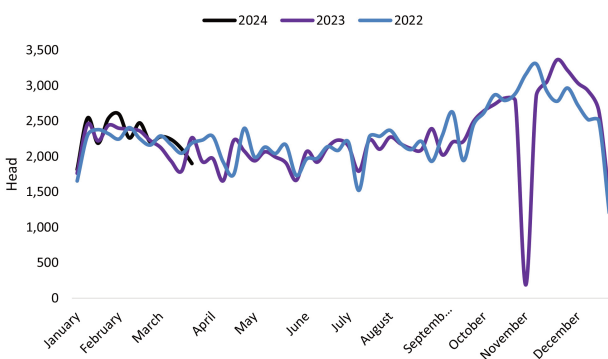
## DEADWEIGHT CATTLE TRADE

### NI FACTORY BASE QUOTES FOR CATTLE

(P/KG DW)	This Week 25/03/24	Next Week 01/04/24
<b>Prime</b>		
U-3	454 - 460p	454 - 460p
R-3	448 - 454p	448 - 454p
O+3	442 - 448p	442 - 448p
P+3	386 - 392p	386 - 392p
<b>Cows</b>		
O+3	322 - 340p	322 - 340p

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.

**Cow Throughput in NI to date 2022-2024.**  
Source: DAERA.



## FARMER NOTICE: CHANGES TO HOW LMC'S LEVY INCOME IS TREATED- OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF VAT

HMRC has introduced new guidance that changes how LMC's levy income is treated. From 1st April 2024, levy will change from being standard rated to outside the scope of VAT. This change DOES NOT impact NIBL FQAS fees.

### What will this mean for you as a farmer?

LMC levy deductions that your red meat processor apply to cattle and sheep presented for slaughter on or after 1st April 2024 should no longer include VAT. For clarity, levy collected on cattle and sheep up to and including 31st March 2024 is still standard rated.

### REPORTED NI CATTLE PRICES - P/KG

W/E 23/03/24	Steers	Heifers	Young Bulls
U3	481.9	485.1	471.3
R3	479.0	474.8	462.7
O+3	469.8	470.1	452.6

\*Prices exclude AA, HER, WAG and Organic cattle

### REPORTED COW PRICES NI - P/KG

W/E 23/03/24	Weight Bands			
	<220kg	220-250kg	250-280kg	>280kg
P1	218.5	236.3	253.2	269.9
P2	248.7	270.8	291.1	310.2
P3	262.7	288.8	310.7	319.0
O3	-	348.2	331.7	337.2
O4	-	-	331.1	339.0
R3	-	345.0	328.0	354.8

### Deadweight Cattle Trade

Prime cattle throughput across local plants last week totalled 6,391 head, a decline of 1,409 head from the previous week with a tighter cow throughput of 1,901, back 208 head on last week's levels. Imports for direct slaughter from ROI totalled 153 prime cattle and 87 cows, meanwhile 13 cows and one steer were moved across the border for direct slaughter last week.

The deadweight cattle trade in NI strengthened last week with fewer cattle available. Prices paid for steers and young bulls on average were up by 2.6p/kg to 471.5p/kg and 3.9p/kg to 453.7p/kg respectively, with the average price paid for R3 grade steers and young bulls last week up by 0.9p/kg and 0.7p/kg respectively. Last week the average heifer price in NI was 470.3p/kg with R3 heifers back 2.2p/kg to 477.4p/kg. On average, cows in NI were back 2.5p/kg to 299.1p/kg, despite increased prices for O3 grading cows which were up 3.1p/kg to a paid price of 337.0p/kg in NI last week.

In ROI last week the trade strengthened in both sterling and euro terms with the largest increases reported across the cow category. Prime cattle saw strong increases in ROI with R3 grading steers, heifers and young bulls up 3.3p/kg, 2p/kg, and 3.5p/kg respectively. O3 cows recorded an increase of 5.4p/kg to a paid price of 359.1p/kg, putting ROI 22.1p/kg above the NI average O3 cow price last week.

GB continued its downward trajectory of paid prices for all types of cattle last week. On average, steers reported a decline of 2.8p/kg while heifers and young bulls by category both reported a decline of 4.8p/kg.

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

W/E 23/03/24	Northern Ireland	Rep of Ireland	Scotland	Northern England	Midlands & Wales	Southern England	GB
Steers	U3	482.3	453.5	502.5	505.1	503.3	504.0
	R3	480.3	445.3	504.0	503.3	497.9	493.3
	R4	481.2	448.1	501.5	505.6	496.1	493.9
	O3	471.8	438.0	492.7	490.2	481.0	475.1
	AVG	471.5	-	499.3	498.3	487.5	484.5
Heifers	U3	483.8	460.4	506.6	504.8	510.2	503.6
	R3	477.4	449.7	500.8	497.6	497.6	490.9
	R4	475.9	452.8	501.5	503.5	496.5	492.3
	AVG	470.3	-	498.1	493.6	483.7	479.0
Young Bulls	U3	470.5	441.1	487.1	482.5	479.2	489.0
	R3	461.6	435.2	483.2	482.3	486.0	471.1
	AVG	453.7	-	467.9	469.6	467.4	466.1
Prime Cattle Price Reported	5,514	-	5,964	7,066	8,322	5,443	26,795
Cows	O3	337.0	359.1	374.9	373.4	376.3	376.5
	O4	338.8	358.2	375.9	377.9	376.4	373.5
	P2	293.2	324.0	329.5	334.0	324.1	325.3
	P3	313.3	341.0	342.2	350.5	347.1	347.2
	AVG	299.1	-	367.5	356.6	345.4	336.5

Notes: (i) Prices are p/kg Sterling-ROI prices converted at 1 euro=85.58p 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

## LIVEWEIGHT CATTLE TRADE

### LATEST LIVEWEIGHT CATTLE MART PRICES NI

W/E 23/03/24	1st QUALITY			2nd QUALITY		
	From	To	Avg	From	To	Avg
<b>Finished Cattle (p/kg)</b>						
Steers	260	305	280	215	259	238
Friesians	213	226	218	185	210	200
Heifers	255	308	275	210	254	235
Beef Cows	216	264	235	145	215	180
Dairy Cows	125	165	147	50	124	100
<b>Store Cattle (p/kg)</b>						
Steers up to 400kg	305	403	350	240	304	260
Steers 400kg - 500kg	300	358	320	200	299	245
Steers over 500kg	280	327	300	210	279	235
Heifers up to 450kg	315	400	340	235	314	265
Heifers over 450kg	270	344	285	200	269	230
<b>Dropped Calves (£/head)</b>						
Continental Bulls	450	660	480	300	445	375
Continental Heifers	400	535	445	285	395	335
Friesian Bulls	150	310	180	20	145	80
Holstein Bulls	85	165	115	26	65	40

## DEADWEIGHT SHEEP TRADE

### NI SHEEP BASE QUOTES

(P/Kg DW)	This Week 25/03/24	Next Week 01/04/24
R3 Hoggets up to 22kg	700p	690p
R3 Hoggets up to 22.5kg	690 - 710p	680p

### REPORTED NI SHEEP PRICES

(P/KG)	W/E 09/03/24	W/E 16/03/24	W/E 23/03/24
D/W R3 Hoggets	659.9	692.4	726.7
D/W Hoggets	665.1	697.0	727.2
L/W Hoggets	597.5	620.8	619.4
D/W R3 Spring Lambs	-	-	834.7
D/W Spring Lambs	-	-	807.5
L/W Spring Lambs	-	-	746.1

### REGIONAL SHEEP PRICES (GB / ROI)

GB D/W Hoggets	743.7	789.8	838.8
ROI D/W Hoggets	675.6	696.2	722.8

### Deadweight Sheep Trade

Base quotes for R3 grading hoggets are expected to come back next week with one plant paying 690p/kg up to 22kg and another plant paying 680p/kg up to 22.5kg. Last week, a total of 7,437 hoggets were presented for slaughter in local plants, a decline of 1,402 head from the week previous. Last week the deadweight hogget price in NI recorded a 30.2p/kg increase to 727.2p/kg. The R3 hogget price increased by 34.3p/kg from the week previous to 726.7p/kg. The 2024 spring lamb trade is off to a strong start with 834.7p/kg paid on average for an R3 grade lamb last week. Further improvements were seen in GB with the hogget price up 49p/kg to 838.8p/kg. Meanwhile in ROI deadweight hoggets were paid 722.8p/kg last week up 26.6p/kg from the week before.

### Liveweight Sheep Trade

Hogget prices remain at record levels. In Rathfriland this week, 576 hoggets sold at a range of 600-700p/kg (avg 638p/kg) compared to 560 hoggets the week prior at a price range of 600-755p/kg (avg 630p/kg). Similar levels of spring lambs were sold in Rathfriland this week selling to an average of 685p/kg, with 100 spring lambs in Ballymena on Wednesday selling to an average of 770p/kg. The ewe trade in NI marts this week was back on the previous week however remains at strong levels with a top price of £296 paid in Kilrea on Monday.

## LIVEWEIGHT SHEEP TRADE

### LATEST SHEEP MARTS (P/KG LW)

From: 23/03/24		Hoggets			Spring Lambs				
		No	From	To	Avg	No	From	To	Avg
Saturday	Omagh	568	618	705	-	23	679	721	-
	Swatragh	800	623	706	-	-	-	-	-
Monday	Kilrea	1100	634	736	-	-	-	-	-
	Markethill	990	610	657	-	-	-	-	-
Tuesday	Saintfield	450	630	770	-	-	-	-	-
	Rathfriland	576	600	700	638	46	670	713	685
Wednesday	Ballymena	1601	600	781	640	100	700	843	770
	Enniskillen	780	622	706	-	18	705	710	-
	Armoy	445	620	750	-	-	-	-	-