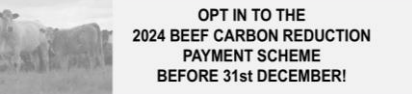


DEADWEIGHT CATTLE TRADE

NI FACTORY BASE QUOTES FOR CATTLE

(P/KG DW)	This Week 16/12/24	Next Week 23/12/24
Steers & Heifers		
U-3	494 - 508p	494 - 508p
R-3	488 - 502p	488 - 502p
O+3	482 - 496p	482 - 496p
P+3	426 - 440p	426 - 440p
Cows		
O+3	385 - 400p	385 - 400p

Base quotes for in-spec U-3 steers and heifers, and O+3 cows were received from 6 of the 7 major NI beef slaughter plants. Base quotes vary depending on age, weight and grade. Pricing policies vary from plant to plant. Producers are advised to check pricing policies before presenting cattle for slaughter.



OPT IN TO THE 2024 BEEF CARBON REDUCTION PAYMENT SCHEME BEFORE 31st DECEMBER!

To be eligible for the

2024 Beef Carbon Reduction payment Scheme

you must 'opt in' online before 31st December 2024.

For more information on the scheme and how to opt in visit

<https://www2.dardni.gov.uk/beefustainability>



LMC
Livestock & Meat Commission

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

Holiday Arrangements

The LMC office will close on Tuesday 24th December 2024 for the Christmas period, reopening on Thursday 2nd January 2025.

Answerphone & Text Service

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

The Bulletin

There will be no LMC Bulletin published on Saturday 28th December 2024 or Saturday 4th January 2025. LMC Bulletin will recommence on Saturday 11th January 2025.

NI REPORTED AVERAGE CATTLE PRICES - P/KG

W/E 14/12/24	Steers	Heifers	Young Bulls
U3	519.1	521.3	510.8
R3	512.3	514.7	496.6
O+3	504.5	505.4	495.2

*Prices exclude Aberdeen Angus, Hereford, Wagyu and organic cattle.

NI REPORTED AVERAGE COW PRICES - P/KG

W/E 14/12/24	<220kg	220-250kg	250-280kg	>280kg
P1	263.0	283.4	297.0	318.8
P2	293.1	320.2	335.2	354.7
P3	299.8	344.3	347.6	364.2
O3	-	354.0	375.9	380.1
O4	350.0	333.3	364.0	382.8
R3	-	-	-	413.3

Deadweight Cattle Trade

The deadweight cattle trade continued to improve across NI, GB and ROI last week. In NI, the average price paid for a U3 steer and heifer was 519.4p/kg and 521.3p/kg, up by 3.9p/kg and 5.1p/kg respectively from the previous week. The average price paid for steers overall strengthened 2.2p/kg to 509.5p/kg, while the average price paid for heifers increased by 6.7p/kg to 511.1p/kg. The U3 young bull price also reported a 2.2p/kg increase last week, despite the overall young bull price softening 0.9p/kg to 487p/kg. The trade for cows in NI continued to strengthen for the sixth consecutive week with the average cow price up by 5.3p/kg to 340.8p/kg.

In GB last week all reported base grades strengthened week on week with U3 steers and heifers increasing by 3.5p/kg and 3.7p/kg to 559.3p/kg and 561.3p/kg respectively. The average price paid for an O3 cow surpassed 400p/kg for the first time during 2024. Similarly, in ROI the trade continued to strengthen for all types of cattle in both euro and sterling terms.

Cattle throughput in local plants increased last week with 8,063 prime cattle and 2,848 cows slaughtered. Imports of prime cattle from ROI for direct slaughter declined by 164 head on the previous week to total 236 head. Direct slaughter cow imports continued at a steady level last week with 252 cows imported. No prime cattle travelled from NI to ROI last week for direct slaughter, while 39 cows were exported. Meanwhile, a widening disparity between NI and GB cattle prices, saw 40 cattle exported to GB for direct slaughter last week, the first consignment of cattle to leave NI for a mainland plant since week ending 29 April 2023. Last week's shipment comprised of 31 steers, six heifers, one young bull, one calf and a cow.

LAST WEEK'S AVERAGE DEADWEIGHT CATTLE PRICES

W/E 14/12/24	Northern Ireland	Rep of Ireland	Scotland	Northern England	Midlands & Wales	Southern England	GB
Steers	U3	519.4	464.6	564.0	557.5	552.9	557.6
	R3	515.4	460.4	563.5	553.9	549.3	547.7
	R4	518.2	461.7	563.3	558.2	545.9	547.3
	O3	509.7	454.9	543.8	542.7	532.3	531.2
AVG	509.5	-	559.5	549.7	538.4	538.8	546.7
Heifers	U3	521.3	472.4	568.9	555.5	560.5	559.9
	R3	516.8	463.5	561.1	550.2	547.6	548.2
	R4	518.4	466.5	560.5	553.0	545.5	547.5
	O3	510.2	459.5	527.7	530.2	522.8	525.9
AVG	511.1	-	557.1	542.0	532.4	532.6	541.0
Young Bulls	U3	505.9	467.4	544.4	553.2	548.3	558.0
	R3	497.5	458.3	546.3	525.5	535.1	548.8
	O3	483.3	446.4	524.9	505.0	513.4	513.7
	AVG	487.0	-	538.3	527.2	520.0	520.5
Prime Cattle	6,656	-	6,007	7,289	7,700	4,849	25,845
Cows	O3	379.4	397.3	402.9	402.8	398.4	401.4
	O4	381.5	396.8	409.1	402.4	396.3	401.2
	P2	344.2	362.9	362.9	358.6	351.7	360.8
	P3	361.6	378.8	380.5	374.3	369.2	379.9
AVG	340.8	-	402.5	374.9	358.2	362.7	367.7

Prices listed are for deadweight price reported animals only. Prices are p/kg. Sterling to ROI prices are converted at 1 euro = 82.66p Stg. Shading indicates a lower price than the previous week. AVG is the average price of all grades in the category (not just those listed).

NI LATEST LIVELWEIGHT CATTLE MART PRICES

W/E 14/12/24	1st QUALITY			2nd QUALITY		
	FROM	TO	AVG	FROM	TO	AVG
Finished Cattle (p/kg)						
Steers	295	330	308	250	294	268
Friesians	230	249	236	201	229	219
Heifers	280	330	294	240	279	255
Beef Cows	255	298	275	155	254	195
Dairy Cows	150	194	160	56	149	115
Store Cattle (p/kg)						
Steers up to 400kg	350	477	380	260	349	295
Steers 400kg - 500kg	320	395	353	240	319	275
Steers over 500kg	300	354	320	230	299	255
Heifers up to 450kg	300	428	340	200	299	255
Heifers over 450kg	275	375	300	220	274	245
Dropped Calves (£/head)						
Continental Bulls	380	590	450	300	375	320
Continental Heifers	325	500	385	210	300	265
Friesian Bulls	150	295	190	50	145	80
Holstein Bulls	135	210	165	45	130	80

DEADWEIGHT SHEEP TRADE

NI DEADWEIGHT SHEEP BASE QUOTES

(P/Kg)	This Week 16/12/24	Next Week 23/12/24
R3 Lambs up to 23kg	660p - 680p	680p

NI REPORTED AVERAGE SHEEP PRICES

(P/KG)	W/E 30/11/24	W/E 07/12/24	W/E 14/12/24
D/W R3 Lambs	651.4	661.4	659.7
D/W Lambs	652.3	662.4	662.5
L/W Lambs	629.8	635.3	637.0

AVERAGE SHEEP PRICES (GB / ROI)

GB D/W Lambs	685.9	690.7	689.9
ROI D/W Lambs	655.9	674.6	683.7

Sheep Trade

This week base quotes for R3 lambs continued to strengthen, with plants quoting 670-680p/kg mid week up to 23kg. Preliminary quotes of 680p/kg have been received from the three major processing plants for Monday's kill. Last week, lamb throughput in local plants totalled 8,992 head, an increase of 140 head week on week. The average deadweight lamb price locally remained steady on the previous week at 662.5p/kg. In GB, despite the average deadweight lamb price reporting a decline of 0.8p/kg to 689.9p/kg last week, 279 NI lambs were exported to GB for direct slaughter.

ROI remains a strong source of demand for NI sheep with the ROI trade strengthening by the equivalent of 9.1p/kg to an average of 683.7p/g last week. In turn a strong live trade was reported across local marts with the average price up 1.7p/kg week on week to 637p/kg. Last week 4,380 lambs were exported to ROI for direct slaughter.



LMC Farm Liaison Officer Terry White will be present at **Saintfield mart on Wednesday 08th, Enniskillen Thursday 09th and Kilrea on Wednesday 15th January** to assist FQAS members with scheme queries and offer advice. Contact Terry on the FQAS Helpline.

LATEST SHEEP MARTS (P/KG LW)

From: 14/12/24		Lambs			
To: 19/12/24		No	From	To	Avg
Saturday	Omagh	866	655	731	-
	Swatragh	750	648	703	-
Monday	Kilrea	1850	630	684	-
	Markethill	1160	630	687	-
Tuesday	Saintfield	600	620	700	-
	Rathfriland	400	635	717	-
Wednesday	Ballymena	2259	600	700	632

Information supplied by LMC / DAERA/ AHDB/ DAFM

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Contact LMC
T: 028 9263 3000
E: contactmi@lmcni.com
W: www.lmcni.com

Information
FQAS helpline: 028 9263 3024
Answerphone: 028 9263 3011

