

DEADWEIGHT CATTLE TRADE

AVERAGE DEADWEIGHT CATTLE PRICES (P/KG)								
Week Ending 01/02/25		Northern Ireland	Rep of Ireland	Scotland	Northern England	Midlands & Wales	Southern England	GB
Steers	U3	557.9	515.3	625.4	612.6	616.5	617.4	619.8
	R3	557.3	509.9	620.1	615.8	608.6	608.7	612.9
	R4	558.7	512.5	621.2	619.0	605.9	609.8	617.1
	O3	546.1	504.9	604.2	595.4	588.5	589.0	591.8
	AVG	549.9	-	619.5	608.6	598.3	596.6	606.0
Heifers	U3	560.7	519.8	631.1	616.4	622.1	618.7	623.8
	R3	555.1	512.1	620.7	610.6	608.3	610.8	611.2
	R4	555.4	517.5	622.6	614.6	607.1	609.8	615.7
	O3	545.4	508.8	598.2	588.4	586.2	588.0	588.1
	AVG	548.7	-	620.2	605.5	596.6	594.6	604.5
Young Bulls	U3	548.7	514.0	616.2	590.6	590.9	588.4	601.0
	R3	537.2	505.0	605.5	589.1	593.2	587.1	593.0
	O3	529.0	492.9	595.3	555.5	572.3	591.4	571.6
	AVG	530.1	-	601.7	569.9	577.5	581.3	579.5
Prime Cattle Price Reported		6.483	-	6.224	7.327	7.349	5.068	25.968
Cows	O3	439.1	440.9	479.2	464.5	467.1	465.5	467.0
	O4	437.5	441.6	481.6	462.7	462.4	468.6	465.2
	P2	399.8	420.4	441.0	424.8	415.8	419.3	419.0
	P3	417.7	428.9	453.3	440.8	436.1	446.5	441.2
	AVG	404.1	-	479.0	444.5	431.3	431.8	439.4

NI AVERAGE NON-PREMIUM CATTLE PRICES (P/KG)						
Week Ending 01/02/25	Steers	Change	Heifers	Change	Young Bulls	Change
U-3	557.6	▲ +10.8	559.1	▲ +11.6	546.9	▲ +12.4
R-3	553.5	▲ +14.2	551.7	▲ +10.4	534.2	▲ +3.7
O+3	546.4	▲ +13.0	546.8	▲ +10.9	534.1	▲ +12.5
P+3	507.4	▲ +8.2	496.8	▲ +6.9	472.0	▲ +14.0

Prices exclude animals paid at a premium p/kg as notified by price reporting plants. Blank cells indicate no animals within the grade were reported during the period or no price comparison can be made with the previous period.

NI DEADWEIGHT CATTLE BASE QUOTES (P/KG)			
		03/02/25	10/02/25
Steers & Heifers			
U-3		540 - 550	550 - 560
R-3		534 - 544	544 - 554
O+3		528 - 538	538 - 548
P+3		472 - 482	482 - 492
Cows			
O+3		424 - 434	440 - 450

Base quotes for in-spec U-3 steers and heifers, and O+3 cows were received from 5 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.

NI REPORTED AVERAGE COW PRICES (P/KG)									
Week Ending 01/02/25		<220kg	Change	220-250kg	Change	250-280kg	Change	>280kg	Change
P1		321.6	▲ +19.8	334.0	▲ +14.3	352.7	▲ +17.6	373.1	▲ +11.2
P2		351.7	▲ +17.1	374.4	▲ +19.7	389.2	▲ +7.5	412.0	▲ +12.1
P3		367.0	▲ +95.7	404.0	▲ +32.5	411.4	▲ +7.4	419.0	▲ +10.0
O3		322.0	🔻 -56.5	415.7	▲ +19.4	451.6	▲ +29.7	439.0	▲ +12.5
O4		-		-		444.4	▲ +26.5	437.2	▲ +11.7
R3		-		-		-		468.2	▲ +17.3

Blank cells indicate no animals within the grade were reported during the period or no price comparison can be made with the previous

Prices listed are for deadweight price reported animals only.
Prices are p/kg. Sterling to ROI prices are converted at 1 euro = 83.80p Stg.
AVG is the average price of all grades in the category (not just those listed).

LMC Text Message

LMC is currently trialling a change to its text message service. During a six-month trial period, the Friday afternoon text message update will include the latest NI deadweight prices for cattle and sheep. Base quotes received on a Monday will be issued by text that day. These will continue to be updated as usual on a Wednesday and Friday and are available in the LMC bulletin and on the Market Update page of our website.

<https://www.lmcni.com/market-information/market-update>

Changes to the text service will be kept under review and we welcome feedback.

Cattle Trade

Last week across NI, GB and ROI the deadweight cattle trade strengthened across all reported grades and categories. Strong beef sales and less availability of slaughter fit cattle across the regions continues to drive a record trade.

Last week in NI the deadweight trade for all types of cattle strengthened from the previous week. The average R3 steer and heifer price increased by 10.9p/kg and 8.8p/kg to 557.3p/kg and 555.1p/kg respectively. The average price paid for steer and heifers overall increased to 549.9p/kg and 548.7p/kg, while the average price paid for young bulls was 530.1p/kg. The cow trade in NI also strengthened last week, up 15.6p/kg on average to 404.1p/kg.

Cattle imports from ROI for direct slaughter totalled 235 prime cattle and 166 cows. With the increasing differential between NI and GB deadweight cattle prices, 35 prime cattle and five cows were exported to GB plants for slaughter last week. Meanwhile, four cows travelled from NI to ROI for direct slaughter.

DEADWEIGHT SHEEP TRADE

NI DEADWEIGHT SHEEP BASE QUOTES		
(P/KG)	03/02/2025	10/02/2025
R3 Hoggets up to 23kg	690 - 700	700 - 705

Quotes from the 3 major NI sheep plants.

Sheep Trade

The deadweight hogget trade reported a decline in NI last week with 682.5p/kg paid on average. Fewer hoggets on offer in local marts last week resulted in the average liveweight trade increasing 4.7p/kg despite the ROI deadweight hogget price reporting a decline the equivalent of 29.8p/kg. Meanwhile, this week the trade strengthened across local plants and marts with a stronger trade expected early next week.

NI REPORTED AVERAGE SHEEP PRICES						
(P/KG)	18/01/2025	Change	25/01/2025	Change	01/02/2025	Change
D/W R3 Hoggets	713.5	▲ +29.4	691.0	▼ -22.5	678.4	▼ -12.6
D/W Hoggets	712.1	▲ +26.5	691.7	▼ -20.4	682.5	▼ -9.2
L/W Hoggets	688.8	▲ +22.3	652.0	▼ -36.8	656.7	▲ +4.7

GB/ROI REPORTED AVERAGE SHEEP PRICES						
GB D/W Hoggets	736.0	▲ +12.4	731.2	▼ -4.8	710.0	▼ -21.2
ROI D/W Hoggets	762.7	▲ +32.7	754.1	▼ -8.6	724.3	▼ -29.8

Blank cells indicate no animals within the grade were reported during the period or no price comparison can be made with the previous period.

NI SHEEP MART LIVELWEIGHT PRICES (P/KG) HOGGETS					
01/02/2025 -06/02/25		No	From	To	Avg
Saturday	Omagh	578	656	765	-
	Swatragh	700	650	711	-
Monday	Kilrea	900	660	707	-
	Markethill	800	650	702	-
Wednesday	Rathfriland	425	625	714	655
	Ballymena	1769	650	709	660
	Enniskillen	512	620	717	-
	Armoy	285	625	695	-

HOGGET OUTPUT NI SHEEP SECTOR (HEAD)				
YTD W/E 25/01/25	2025	2024	2023	2022
ROI DS Exports	19,846	29,080	21,361	19,377
NI Slaughtering	25,679	34,877	33,659	28,642

Exports to approved ROI meat plants. Source: DAERA.