

CATTLE TRADE

AVERAGE DEADWEIGHT CATTLE PRICES (P/KG)								
Week Ending 03/05/25	Northern Ireland	Rep of Ireland	Scotland	Northern England	Midlands & Wales	Southern England	GB	
Steers	U3	688.7	650.0	728.1	711.7	708.1	710.4	716.2
	R3	684.1	643.8	724.8	711.2	706.0	704.0	709.8
	R4	682.7	644.8	722.4	710.5	704.6	705.4	713.4
	O3	674.8	637.7	704.0	695.8	686.8	682.7	689.1
	AVG	678.0	-	720.5	705.0	696.5	693.4	703.4
Heifers	U3	689.1	656.5	732.0	718.8	717.2	713.0	720.4
	R3	683.5	645.5	723.8	709.2	704.1	703.5	707.0
	R4	685.5	650.4	723.8	711.2	698.5	707.0	712.8
	O3	675.5	639.4	693.1	683.7	680.1	683.8	682.8
	AVG	679.6	-	720.6	702.4	691.3	692.7	700.9
Young Bulls	U3	679.2	641.5	720.0	696.5	707.0	706.7	709.3
	R3	671.2	626.7	710.4	690.3	699.5	699.3	698.5
	O3	660.6	606.1	685.4	672.3	669.6	682.7	675.7
	AVG	663.2	-	709.8	684.6	685.1	689.4	690.6
Prime Cattle Price Reported		7,289	-	6,130	7,241	8,702	5,840	27,913
	O3	557.9	560.4	565.3	564.1	565.5	567.5	565.2
	O4	560.6	557.7	576.6	569.3	566.0	569.8	568.9
	P2	519.2	525.3	527.4	514.6	520.7	528.1	521.7
	P3	538.1	545.4	533.8	538.5	541.9	547.0	542.3
	AVG	521.0	-	565.3	539.9	534.0	529.2	537.9

NI AVERAGE NON-PREMIUM CATTLE PRICES (P/KG)							
Week Ending 03/05/25	Steers	Change	Heifers	Change	Young Bulls	Change	
U-3	687.7	↓ -2.2	687.0	↓ -2.3	675.6	↓ -1.2	
R-3	678.5	↓ -3.2	679.0	↓ -3.2	668.5	↑ +1.7	
O+3	671.0	↓ -4.4	673.1	↓ -1.8	665.2	→ -0.1	
P+3	635.7	↓ -4.7	624.6	↓ -5.4	614.0	↓ -6.0	

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 AVERAGE COW PRICES (P/KG)									
Week Ending 03/05/25	<220kg	Change	220-250kg	Change	250-280kg	Change	>280kg	Change	
P1	435.3	↓ -5.9	456.7	↑ +0.4	475.5	↑ +4.1	488.3	↑ +7.7	
P2	457.2	↓ -23.6	499.4	↑ +15.4	512.3	↓ -12.9	530.3	↓ -8.0	
P3	480.6	↑ +30.6	506.6	↓ -4.0	531.2	↓ -5.6	542.5	↓ -0.3	
O3	512.2	-	-	-	565.6	↑ +14.6	557.5	↓ -8.9	
O4	500.0				541.1	↓ -32.9	561.2	→ +0.0	
R3					612.4		576.3	↓ -17.0	

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 CATTLE MART LIVEWEIGHT PRICES (P/KG)							
Week Ending 03/05/25	1st QUALITY			2nd QUALITY			
	FROM	TO	AVG	FROM	TO	AVG	
Finished Cattle							
Steers	386	412	400	300	385	340	
Friesians	312	348	321	272	310	295	
Heifers	378	426	398	305	377	335	
Beef Cows	342	374	357	240	341	280	
Dairy Cows	244	278	258	120	243	165	
Store Cattle							
Steers up to 400kg	420	521	450	320	419	365	
Steers 400kg - 500kg	400	517	445	315	399	350	
Steers over 500kg	395	422	408	330	394	350	
Heifers up to 450kg	405	516	460	300	404	350	
Heifers over 450kg	385	548	440	300	384	340	
Dropped Calves (£/head)							
Continental Bulls	435	810	535	330	430	380	
Continental Heifers	410	735	465	310	405	380	
Friesian Bulls	305	400	322	165	165	165	
Holstein Bulls	250	320	270	95	170	146	

Prices listed are for deadweight price reported animals only.  
Prices are p/kg. Sterling to ROI prices are converted at 1 euro = 85.16p Stg.  
AVG is the average price of all grades in the category (not just those listed).

CATTLE EXPORTS FOR DIRECT SLAUGHTER			
	2024	YTD 04/05/24	YTD 03/05/25
Exports to ROI Prime	158	46	54
Exports to ROI Cows	713	207	409
Exports to GB Prime	39	0	709
Exports to GB Cows	1	0	89

CATTLE IMPORTS FOR DIRECT SLAUGHTER			
	2024	YTD 04/05/24	YTD 03/05/25
Imports from ROI Prime	17,033	3,743	4,488
Imports from ROI Cows	9,082	2,255	2,670

CATTLE SLAUGHTERINGS			
	2024	YTD 04/05/24	YTD 03/05/25
Prime Cattle	385,013	131,911	133,333
Cows	118,734	39,550	39,781

CATTLE AVERAGE CARCASE WEIGHTS (KG)			
	2024	YTD 04/05/24	YTD 03/05/25
Prime Cattle	339.5	342.0	338.3
Cows	299.2	297.0	299.2

2024 and 2025 year to date figures are based on the same number of weeks in each year. Source: DAERA.

SHEEP TRADE

NI DEADWEIGHT SHEEP BASE QUOTES (P/KG)		
	07/05/2025	09/05/2025
R3 Hoggets (to 23kg)	670	660 - 670
R3 Lambs (to 21kg)	720 - 730	720 - 740

Hogget quotes from 3 and lamb quotes from 2 NI sheep plants.

LAMB/HOGGET OUTPUT NI SHEEP SECTOR (HEAD)				
	2022	2023	2024	2025 (03/05/25)
ROI DS Exports	287,303	290,688	252,130	96,711
NI Slaughtering	448,166	476,091	425,783	112,703

Exports to approved ROI meat plants. Source: DAERA.

GB/ROI AVERAGE SHEEP PRICES (P/KG)				
	26/04/2025	Change	03/05/2025	Change
GB D/W Hoggets	686.1	↓ -16.8	686.2	↑ +0.1
ROI D/W Hoggets	735.1	↓ -41.5	741.2	↑ +6.1

Source: AHDB & DAFM.

Prime cattle throughput in local plants last week totalled 8,587 head, the largest weekly kill during the year to date. There was a decline in the proportion of ROI imports in the slaughter mix with 189 prime cattle imported to local plants, the lowest weekly level since week ending 11 January 2025. The local cow kill increased to 1,997 head, with 61 head imported to local plants from ROI.

The latest weekly deadweight cattle price report saw the trade across NI come under pressure with the overall trade for steers and heifers in NI softening 2.8p/kg and by one penny, respectively. An R3 steer was paid 684.1p/kg on average last week with 683.5p/kg paid on average for an R3 heifer. The trade for young bulls did strengthen overall by half a penny with all base grades remaining relatively steady. Cows saw a 5.7p/kg decline on average.

In GB a steady trade was reported across all regions with the average R3 steer price up 0.9p/kg to 709.8p/kg. In ROI the trade softened last week for all types of cattle. In sterling terms declines in reported prime cattle base grades ranged from 7p/kg for a U3 steer to 14.9p/kg for an R4 steer.

Live exports of hoggets/lambs for direct slaughter in ROI last week totalled 5,486 head, an 879 head increase on the previous week's levels. Local plants processed 6,064 head week as hoggets come forward for slaughter before the season ends.

In GB, demand for lambs remains subdued with the deadweight hogget price remaining steady at 686.2p/kg. In ROI the trade for hoggets strengthened by the equivalent of 6.1p/kg to 741.2p/kg.

This week local marts saw a strong increase in lamb availability. A buyer for the GB market pushed on the trade for lambs in local marts with Armoy reporting a 30p/kg strengthening in the trade week on week. In Ballymena on Wednesday lambs sold to an average price of 638p/kg, up 8p/kg week on week.

Mid-week base quotes received from local plants for R3 lambs were 720-730p/kg up to 21kg. Early next week a stronger trade is expected with quotes of 720-740p/kg received for lambs.

		HOGGETS			LAMBS		
03/05/2025 - 08/05/25		No	From	To	No	From	To
Saturday	Omagh	213	589	644	86	641	719
	Swatragh	600	689	770	-	-	-
Monday	Markethill	290	560	613	400	670	760
Tuesday	Saintfield	-	-	-	240	700	770
	Rathfriland	-	-	-	286	625	719
Wednesday	Ballymena	406	500	609 (AVE 580)	1084	700	790 (AVE 738)
	Enniskillen	105	600	660	225	650	747
	Armoy	103	580	650	140	730	767

Average prices, where shown, are supplied by individual marts.

UPCOMING MART DATE FQAS

LMC Farm Liaison Officer Terry White will be present at **Kilrea Livestock Mart on Wednesday 21st May** to assist with scheme queries and offer advice.  
FQAS Helpline: **028 9263 3024.**