WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT COMMISSION Livestock & Meat Commission Saturday 17 May 2025 Issue No. 2871

CATTLE TRADE

| AVERAGE DEADWEIGHT CATTLE PRICES (P/KG) | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------|--|
| | Ending 15/25 | Northern Ireland | Rep of Ireland | Scotland | Northern England | Midlands & Wales | Southern England | GB | |
| | U3 | 686.1 | 649.8 | 717.9 | 709.2 | 703.0 | 699.4 | 709.5 | |
| Steers | R3 | 680.3 | 644.6 | 721.8 | 706.3 | 695.7 | 697.8 | 703.7 | |
| | R4 | 679.7 | 648.9 | 718.7 | 706.7 | 695.5 | 701.2 | 709.8 | |
| | O3 | 673.8 | 638.6 | 701.0 | 685.7 | 674.8 | 678.0 | 681.3 | |
| | AVG | 675.8 | - | 715.1 | 699.5 | 687.0 | 688.9 | 698.0 | |
| | U3 | 684.5 | 658.1 | 723.9 | 713.4 | 710.7 | 705.5 | 713.4 | |
| Heifers | R3 | 678.4 | 647.5 | 716.8 | 704.0 | 697.6 | 696.8 | 700.8 | |
| | R4 | 679.6 | 650.0 | 716.9 | 710.0 | 698.1 | 698.8 | 708.5 | |
| | O3 | 670.8 | 640.1 | 686.1 | 686.6 | 672.5 | 674.3 | 677.2 | |
| | AVG | 674.6 | - | 712.8 | 699.8 | 688.4 | 682.8 | 695.6 | |
| | U3 | 671.7 | 642.1 | 712.8 | 697.4 | 702.0 | 704.8 | 707.1 | |
| oung | R3 | 669.5 | 627.6 | 704.0 | 687.2 | 692.2 | 692.1 | 695.3 | |
| Bulls | O3 | 653.4 | 613.0 | 672.7 | 649.2 | 674.3 | 671.3 | 670.2 | |
| | AVG | 660.0 | - | 706.2 | 684.0 | 680.9 | 686.6 | 689.5 | |
| | Cattle eported | 6,427 | - | 5705 | 6698 | 6937 | 4684 | 21024 | |
| | O3 | 562.0 | 562.8 | 575.1 | 567.5 | 565.8 | 568.5 | 567.9 | |
| | 04 | 563.5 | 559.1 | 579.8 | 569.0 | 566.3 | 569.5 | 569.8 | |
| Cows | P2 | 519.9 | 527.5 | 527.4 | 524.3 | 522.8 | 529.2 | 525.2 | |
| | P3 | 537.8 | 548.8 | 553.5 | 542.4 | 537.5 | 545.8 | 541.9 | |
| | AVG | 526.6 | - | 573.4 | 547.4 | 532.6 | 531.0 | 540.7 | |

Prices listed are for deadweight price reported animals only. Prices are p/kg. Sterling to ROI prices are converted at 1 euro = 84.90p Stg. AVG is the average price of all grades in the category (not just those listed).

AVERAGE DEADWEIGHT CATTLE PRICES EUROPE (P/KG) STG

| Position 13.04.25 | Position 11.05.25 | | Price 13.04.25 £ STG | Price 11.05.25 £ STG | Monthly Change STG | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|
| 1 | 1 | Great Britain | 702.2 | 700.8 | -1.4 | | |
| 2 | 2 | Northern Ireland | 680.6 | 678.4 | -2.2 | | |
| 3 | 3 | Ireland | 671.2 | 647.4 | -23.8 | | |
| 4 | 4 | Netherlands | 616.1 | 614.1 | -2.1 | | |
| 5 | 5 | Italy | 612.1 | 580.6 | -31.4 | | |
| 7 | 6 | Belgium | 568.5 | 579.3 | 10.7 | | |
| 6 | 7 | Spain | 588.7 | 579.2 | -9.5 | | |
| 10 | 8 | Germany | 536.8 | 553.2 | 16.4 | | |
| 9 | 9 | Portugal | 541.5 | 548.2 | 6.7 | | |
| 11 | 10 | France | 524.4 | 534.6 | 10.2 | | |
| | | EU Average | 553.5 | 557.0 | 3.6 | | |
| | | Exchange €1=f | 0.8602 | 0.8490 | -0.01 | | |

Prices converted from Euro at the exchange rate shown above with adjustment for European specification. Prices for week ending date shown

| for European specification. Pr | ices for week end | ing date shown. | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| CATTLE SLAUGHTERINGS | | | | | | | | |
| | 2024 | YTD 11/05/24 | YTD 10/05/25 | | | | | |
| Prime Cattle | 385,013 | 138,565 | 140,706 | | | | | |
| Cows | 118,734 | 41,448 | 41,706 | | | | | |
| CATTLE AVERAGE CARCASE WEIGHTS (KG) | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | 2024 | YTD 11/05/24 | YTD 10/05/25 | | | | | |
| Prime Cattle | 2024 339.5 | YTD 11/05/24 342.1 | YTD 10/05/25 338.6 | | | | | |
| Prime Cattle Cows | | | | | | | | |

SHEEP TRADE

| NI DEADWEIGHT SHEEP BASE QUOTES | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| (P/KG) 14/05/2025 16/05/2025 | | | | | | | | | |
| R3 Hoggets (to 23kg) | 660 - 670 | 660 | | | | | | | |
| R3 Lambs (to 21kg) | 740 | 740 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

Hogget quotes from 1 and lamb quotes from 1 NI sheep plant.

| LAMB/HOGGET OUTPUT NI SHEEP SECTOR (HEAD) | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------|---------|---------|----------------|--|--|--|--|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 (03/05/25 | | | | |
| ROI DS Exports | 287,303 | 290,688 | 252,130 | 99,987 | | | | |
| NI Slaughterings 448,166 476,091 425,783 118,299 | | | | | | | | |
| Exports to approved ROI meat plants. Source: DAERA. | | | | | | | | |

| | GB/ROI AVERAGE SHEEP PRICES | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|------------|--------|------------|--------------|--|--|--|--|
| | (P/KG) | 03/05/2025 | Change | 10/05/2025 | Change | | | | |
| | GB D/W Hoggets | 686.2 | +0.1 | 673.9 | 👆 -12.3 | | | | |
| | ROI D/W Hoggets | 737.7 | +2.6 | 734.1 | - 3.6 | | | | |
| - | Source: AHDB & DAFM. | | | | | | | | |

Information supplied by LMC / DAERA/ AHDB/ DAFM

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| NI AVERAGE NON-PREMIUM CATTLE PRICES (P/KG) | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------|--------|---------|--------|----------------|--------|--|--|
| Week Ending 10/05/25 | Steers | Change | Heifers | Change | Young Bulls | Change | | |
| U-3 | 683.8 | 🖖 -4.0 | 682.2 | 🖕 -4.8 | 672.5 | 🖕 -3.2 | | |
| R-3 | 673.4 | 👆 -5.1 | 674.4 | 🔶 -4.5 | 666.8 | 🖖 -1.7 | | |
| O+3 | 669.6 | 🖖 -1.4 | 666.7 | 🔶 -6.3 | 658.7 | 🖖 -6.4 | | |
| P+3 | 642.2 | 🕈 +6.5 | 626.5 | 🕈 +1.9 | 623.1 | 🕈 +9.1 | | |

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 DEADWI | NI DEADWEIGHT CATTLE BASE QUOTES | | | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| (P/KG) | 14/05/2025 | 16/05/2025 | | | | | |
| Steers & Heifers | | | | | | | |
| U-3 | 650 - 660 | 644 - 660 | | | | | |
| R-3 | 644 - 654 | 638 - 654 | | | | | |
| O+3 | 638 - 648 | 632 - 648 | | | | | |
| P+3 | 582 - 592 | 576 - 592 | | | | | |
| Cows | | | | | | | |
| O+3 | 534 - 544 | 540 - 544 | | | | | |

Base quotes for in-spec U-3 steers and heifers, and O+3 cows received from 3 major NI plants. Base guotes vary depending on age, weight and grade. Pricing policies vary between plants. Producers are advised to check pricing policies before presenting animals for slaughter.

| NI AVERAGE COW PRICES (P/KG) | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|---------|-----------|--------|------------------|--------|--------|
| Week Ending 10/05/25 | <220kg | Change | 220-250kg | Change | 250-280kg Change | >280kg | Change |
| P1 | 445.8 | 🛉 +10.6 | 461.4 | +4.7 | 475.7 🛉 +0.1 | 504.8 | +16.5 |
| P2 | 467.4 | +10.3 | 492.0 | 🖕 -7.4 | 515.9 🛉 +3.6 | 532.3 | +2.0 |
| P3 | 474.9 | 🖕 -5.7 | 504.7 | 🖕 -1.9 | 528.1 🖕 -3.1 | 540.5 | -2.0 |
| O3 | 492.0 | -20.2 | 611.8 | | 553.8 🖕 -11.7 | 562.4 | +4.9 |
| 04 | | | 540.0 | | | 563.7 | +2.5 |
| R3 | | | | | 670.0 🕈 +57.6 | 588.4 | +12.0 |

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

Total slaughter figures have increased year on year with 140,706 prime cattle slaughtered this year to date and 41,706 cows. Average carcase weights have fallen slightly for prime cattle to 338.6 kg but have remained similar to 2024 overall. The average slaughter weight of cows has also remained similar to 2024.

Prices have continued to fall this week with a 4p/kg decline in U-3 steers and a 4.8p/kg decline in U-3 heifers. It looks like the market will continue to see reducing prices into the week ahead. The average price of cows has shown a mixed change with some grades seeing an increase.

Looking to Europe, both GB and NI prices have held steadily against the 27 member states with Ireland at 647.4p/kg and the Netherlands at 614.1p/kg being closest in terms of prices per kg on conversion to STG (see table). Although there has been some increase in throughput in Ireland specifically there is an expectation of falling production across Europe overall.

NI liveweight prices for finished cattle averaging 405 for steers and 397 for heifers. Store cattle at the marts are averaging 445p/kg up to 400kg.

Lamb and hogget output in NI continues to be lower than previous years with 118,299 lambs slaughtered this year compared to 140,784 in the same period last year. Prices have fallen again in both GB (-12.3p/kg) and ROI (-3.6p/kg) in the past week having seen a small

Sheep quotes were down at the end of this week with R3 hoggets paid at 660p/kg up to 23kg and lambs at 740 p/kg to 21kg. Reports from the marts give an average price of 700p/kg at Ballymena on Wednesday with prices overall ranging from 719 in Omagh to 820 in Swatragh both on Saturday 10 May. LMC would like to thank everyone who has

called to see us at the LMC stand at Balmoral

rises week ending 3 May.

Show this year.

| NI CATTLE | MART | LIVEW | /EIGHT | PRICES | 6 (P/KG | i) | | |
|----------------------|------|----------|--------|--------|-------------|-----|--|--|
| Week Ending | | st QUALI | | | 2nd QUALITY | | | |
| 10/05/25 | FROM | то | AVG | FROM | то | AVG | | |
| Finished Cattle | | | | | | | | |
| Steers | 394 | 422 | 405 | 305 | 390 | 345 | | |
| Friesians | 300 | 336 | 318 | 258 | 278 | 268 | | |
| Heifers | 380 | 430 | 397 | 300 | 379 | 335 | | |
| Beef Cows | 348 | 416 | 365 | 245 | 347 | 285 | | |
| Dairy Cows | 232 | 266 | 250 | 110 | 231 | 160 | | |
| Store Cattle | | | | | | | | |
| Steers up to 400kg | 415 | 515 | 445 | 310 | 414 | 360 | | |
| Steers 400kg - 500kg | 380 | 488 | 425 | 300 | 379 | 335 | | |
| Steers over 500kg | 390 | 481 | 407 | 304 | 389 | 345 | | |
| Heifers up to 450kg | 400 | 500 | 450 | 300 | 399 | 340 | | |
| Heifers over 450kg | 350 | 434 | 395 | 275 | 349 | 310 | | |
| Dropped Calves (£/he | ad) | | | | | | | |
| Continental Bulls | 450 | 860 | 550 | 345 | 445 | 395 | | |
| Continental Heifers | 420 | 810 | 475 | 320 | 415 | 360 | | |
| Friesian Bulls | 300 | 390 | 315 | 200 | 200 | 200 | | |
| Holstein Bulls | 245 | 375 | 310 | 190 | 190 | 190 | | |

Prices supplied by Ballymena Mart.

| | | | HOGG | ETS | | LAMBS | | | |
|-----------|--------------|-----|------|-----|------|-------|-----------------|--|--|
| 10/05/202 | 5 - 15/05/25 | No | From | То | No | From | То | | |
| Saturday | Omagh | 173 | 539 | 643 | 42 | 653 | 719 | | |
| | Swatragh | - | - | - | 570 | 730 | 820 | | |
| Monday | Kilrea | - | - | - | 700 | 732 | 768 | | |
| | Markethill | 235 | 550 | 602 | 550 | 680 | 757 | | |
| Tuesday | Saintfield | - | - | - | 555 | 690 | 755 | | |
| | Rathfriland | - | - | - | 250 | 670 | 735 | | |
| Wednesday | Ballymena | - | | - | 1166 | 680 | 777 (AVE 700 | | |
| | Enniskillen | 95 | 550 | 617 | 215 | 680 | 725 | | |
| | Armoy | - | - | - | 169 | 730 | 775 | | |

FQAS Mart Date

Kilrea Livestock Market – Wednesday 21st May LMC Farm Liaison Officer Terry White will be in attendance to provide guidance and address any gueries related to the scheme. FQAS Helpline: 028 9263 3024.

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

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