

DEADWEIGHT CATTLE TRADE

NI FACTORY BASE QUOTES FOR CATTLE

(P/KG DW)	This Week 20/05/24	Next Week 27/05/24
Prime		
U-3	460 - 468p	460 - 466p
R-3	454 - 462p	454 - 460p
O+3	448 - 456p	448 - 454p
P+3	392 - 400p	392 - 398p
Cows		
O+3	330 - 356p	335 - 356p

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.

REPORTED NI CATTLE PRICES - P/KG

W/E 18/05/24	Steers	Heifers	Young Bulls
U3	487.1	488.3	483.8
R3	483.2	483.9	478.8
O+3	474.8	473.5	471.1

*Prices exclude AA, HER, WAG and Organic cattle

REPORTED COW PRICES NI - P/KG

W/E 18/05/24	Weight Bands			
	<220kg	220-250kg	250-280kg	>280kg
P1	234.4	251.8	264.0	279.6
P2	258.1	286.1	307.4	320.7
P3	249.2	295.5	319.1	333.6
O3	-	317.8	337.9	350.3
O4	286.0	338.0	339.6	352.5
R3	-	-	-	370.5

Deadweight Cattle Trade

Prime cattle throughput in NI plants last week totalled 8,073 head, an increase of 1,419 head from the previous week when 6,654 prime cattle were slaughtered locally. Increased levels of local cattle coming forward for slaughter accounted for this increased production last week, up by 1,381 head week on week. Meanwhile, imports of prime cattle from ROI for direct slaughter increased 38 head last week to total 363 prime cattle. Cow throughput locally also increased by 28 head last week to total 1,926 head, while ROI cow imports declined 14 head on the previous week to total 136 head.

Last week in NI the deadweight cattle trade improved overall with steers being the only category to report a softening. The plants have indicated the increased availability of all types of prime cattle as a key factor behind the softer trade for steers. The trade for clean beef is expected to be back early next week.

The R3 steer price in NI last week was back half a penny to 484.2p/kg. Meanwhile the average steer price in NI last week was back by a penny to 475.5p/kg. The R3 heifer price in NI last week was unchanged from the previous week at 484.6p/kg while the average heifer price was up just over half a penny to 477.6p/kg. The deadweight trade for young bulls firmed in NI last week with the R3 price up by 4.1p/kg to 473.2p/kg while the average young bull price was up by 1.1p/kg to 461.3p/kg.

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

W/E 18/05/24	Northern Ireland	Rep of Ireland	Scotland	Northern England	Midlands & Wales	Southern England	GB
Steers	U3	487.3	453.3	493.8	498.7	494.2	496.2
	R3	484.2	446.0	491.5	497.6	489.6	488.4
	R4	486.4	446.3	493.6	498.2	488.9	490.0
	O3	473.5	438.5	479.6	477.4	475.5	474.8
AVG	475.5	-	490.2	489.9	482.3	480.5	485.8
Heifers	U3	488.8	463.5	501.5	495.9	501.3	496.2
	R3	484.6	450.9	492.8	489.5	491.0	485.9
	R4	484.6	453.3	493.9	495.6	491.0	490.1
	O3	474.1	442.5	475.6	472.9	470.8	472.9
AVG	477.6	-	491.7	485.2	482.0	477.1	483.8
Young Bulls	U3	480.1	447.9	482.4	485.5	492.1	490.2
	R3	473.2	436.0	476.8	478.7	481.2	478.8
	O3	456.9	421.3	458.3	460.7	452.7	449.0
	AVG	461.3	-	473.2	472.7	470.7	466.9
Prime Cattle Price Reported	6,651	-	5,680	7,330	8,151	5,418	26,579
Cows	O3	348.5	364.9	391.0	388.9	388.0	388.7
	O4	351.2	364.9	393.4	393.3	392.7	384.7
	P2	308.0	329.4	349.5	351.0	341.6	341.9
	P3	329.2	351.3	349.6	371.0	362.1	361.8
AVG	316.3	-	384.7	371.0	358.5	346.4	

Notes: (i) Prices are p/kg Sterling-ROI prices converted at 1 euro=85.88p 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 18/05/24	1st QUALITY			2nd QUALITY		
	From	To	Avg	From	To	Avg
Finished Cattle (p/kg)						
Steers	280	308	292	235	279	258
Friesians	-	-	-	-	-	-
Heifers	274	305	286	220	273	245
Beef Cows	228	270	244	150	227	185
Dairy Cows	154	206	166	65	153	110
Store Cattle (p/kg)						
Steers up to 400kg	350	415	370	250	349	280
Steers 400kg - 500kg	310	372	335	210	309	255
Steers over 500kg	271	320	287	225	270	245
Heifers up to 450kg	280	365	325	200	279	238
Heifers over 450kg	240	298	260	200	239	220
Dropped Calves (£/head)						
Continental Bulls	400	560	440	300	395	340
Continental Heifers	375	540	400	225	370	290
Friesian Bulls	140	210	175	50	135	95
Holstein Bulls	80	150	110	3	75	35

DEADWEIGHT SHEEP TRADE

NI SHEEP BASE QUOTES

(P/Kg DW)	This Week 20/05/24	Next Week 27/05/24
R3 Spring Lambs up to 21kg	810 - 830p	800 - 810p

REPORTED NI SHEEP PRICES

(P/KG)	W/E 04/05/24	W/E 11/05/24	W/E 18/05/24
D/W R3 Hoggets	775.8	745.1	751.1
D/W Hoggets	779.4	747.0	751.0
L/W Hoggets	640.6	619.3	664.9
D/W R3 Spring Lambs	819.8	796.6	806.6
D/W Spring Lambs	815.4	791.3	801.7
L/W Spring Lambs	740.6	754.5	797.7

REGIONAL SHEEP PRICES (GB / ROI)

GB D/W Hoggets	824.9	822.9	827.5
GB D/W Lambs	915.1	908.6	927.0
ROI D/W	785.1	777.7	786.9

Sheep Trade

The deadweight sheep trade firmed this week with quotes for R3 grade lambs ranging from 810 - 830p/kg and plants paying up to 21kg. This week saw local processors calling on producers to present outstanding fat hoggets for slaughter with spring lambs accounting for 50 per cent of the local prime sheep kill last week. Throughput of hoggets/lambs in NI plants last week totalled 5,808 head, up 899 head from the previous week. Meanwhile, this was a 33 per cent or 2,858 head decline compared to 8,666 head processed during the corresponding week last year.

Exports of hoggets/lambs to ROI for direct slaughter increased 868 head last week however direct slaughter exports to ROI remain at low levels in line with seasonal trends with 3,224 head exported in total. Demand from the GB market continues with last week being the second consecutive week a GB buyer sourced spring lambs for direct slaughter locally, exporting a consignment of 362 head last week compared to 575 head the week previous. Tight supplies continue to drive a record sheep trade across NI, GB and ROI with this seasons spring lambs being slow to reach slaughter weights. The average deadweight lamb price in NI last week was up 10.4p/kg to 801.7p/kg while in ROI the average deadweight lamb price last week was up 9.2p/kg to 786.9p/kg.

LIVEWEIGHT SHEEP TRADE

LATEST SHEEP MARTS (P/KG LW)

From: 18/05/24		Lambs			
To: 23/05/24		No	From	To	Avg
Saturday	Omagh	28	696	803	-
	Swatragh	270	730	824	-
Monday	Kilrea	700	784	856	-
	Markethill	400	770	827	-
Tuesday	Saintfield	555	780	860	-
	Rathfriland	387	765	812	797
Wednesday	Ballymena	1621	760	917	798
	Enniskillen	198	735	800	-
	Armooy	124	805	850	-