

DEADWEIGHT CATTLE TRADE

NI FACTORY BASE QUOTES FOR CATTLE

(P/KG DW)	This Week 18/03/24	Next Week 25/03/24
Prime		
U-3	454 - 460p	454 - 460p
R-3	448 - 454p	448 - 454p
O+3	442 - 448p	442 - 448p
P+3	386 - 392p	386 - 392p
Cows		
O+3	322 - 340p	322 - 340p

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.

BEEF CARBON REDUCTION SCHEME

A series of BCR scheme information meetings have been organised by the CAFRE Knowledge Advisory Service to make farmers aware of the details of the scheme, the eligibility criteria and how to apply.

WEDNESDAY 27 MARCH
7.30PM
CAFRE Greenmount campus,
Antrim

THURSDAY 28 MARCH
7.30PM
Silver Birch Hotel, Omagh

TUESDAY 09 APRIL
7.30PM
CAFRE Enniskillen campus

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL
7.30PM
Mourne Country Hotel, Newry

THURSDAY 11 APRIL
7.30PM
The Lodge Hotel, Coleraine

WEDNESDAY 17 APRIL
7.30PM
Armagh City Hotel, Armagh

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DIRECT LINK:
[TINYURL.COM/9U5K7MJF](https://tinyurl.com/9U5K7MJF)



REPORTED NI CATTLE PRICES - P/KG

W/E 16/03/24	Steers	Heifers	Young Bulls
U3	480.4	482.8	463.9
R3	474.9	471.1	461.7
O+3	465.5	465.5	454.4

*Prices exclude AA, HER, WAG and Organic cattle

REPORTED COW PRICES NI - P/KG

W/E 16/03/24	Weight Bands			
	<220kg	220-250kg	250-280kg	>280kg
P1	217.6	233.8	250.5	256.4
P2	248.9	263.2	286.6	307.9
P3	230.8	289.2	307.6	315.3
O3	268.1	309.1	336.3	334.7
O4	-	-	324.0	339.9
R3	-	-	370.0	361.4

Deadweight Cattle Trade

Prime cattle slaughterings in local plants last week totalled 7,800 head back by 137 head from the previous week with the local cow kill back by a similar level to total 2,109 head.

Cattle imports from ROI for direct slaughter last week reported a decline in numbers with 137 prime cattle and 115 cows imported. A tightening in the availability of cattle for slaughter in ROI has been reported with total prime cattle throughout in ROI last week back 603 head from the previous week. This has driven an improved trade in ROI for the second consecutive week with all types of cattle reporting improved prices.

The deadweight trade for prime cattle in NI continued to come under pressure last week. The average steer price was 468.8p/kg, back 2p/kg from the previous week while the R3 steer price was back by 1.8p/kg to 479.4p/kg. Heifers did report an improved trade last week with the average heifer price in NI last week at 470.4p/kg, up 1.3p/kg from the previous week. The R3 heifer price was up by half a penny to 479.6p/kg. Meanwhile, last week the average price paid for young bulls in NI decreased by 5p/kg to 449.8p/kg with the R3 young bull price back 0.6p/kg from the previous week to an average of 460.9p/kg. The trade for cows was mixed last week with the average price paid up by a marginal 0.3p/kg to 301.6p/kg.

In GB last week overall declines were reported in all regions for all types of prime cattle. On average steers, heifers and young bulls declined by 1.8p/kg, 1.4p/kg and 3.3p/kg respectively from the previous week. As was the case in NI the overall cow trade did improve in GB last week with the average cow price up 1.2p/kg to 349.3p/kg.

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

W/E 16/03/24	Northern Ireland	Rep of Ireland	Scotland	Northern England	Midlands & Wales	Southern England	GB
Steers	U3	481.9	449.8	505.9	506.4	509.8	504.2
	R3	479.4	442.0	505.7	504.8	500.9	497.8
	R4	475.8	444.1	506.4	506.9	500.3	498.5
	O3	465.4	433.4	493.8	486.3	484.3	478.7
	AVG	468.8	-	503.2	499.8	491.0	488.0
Heifers	U3	483.8	457.9	511.0	508.3	513.6	508.7
	R3	479.6	447.7	502.0	502.5	501.4	496.9
	R4	476.6	451.4	505.9	507.9	499.8	496.8
	AVG	470.4	-	501.6	496.7	489.2	485.1
Young Bulls	U3	467.3	439.6	482.0	497.2	495.8	500.0
	R3	460.9	431.7	480.1	485.9	490.9	490.9
	AVG	449.8	-	472.5	468.7	473.6	452.2
Prime Cattle Price Reported	6,367	-	6,062	6,847	8,346	5,488	26,743
Cows	O3	333.9	353.7	371.4	373.7	376.5	372.6
	O4	339.3	353.0	370.9	377.6	377.1	371.4
	P2	292.3	321.1	332.7	337.4	327.9	327.7
	P3	312.0	339.1	340.0	350.4	348.0	347.6
AVG	301.6	-	369.5	358.4	344.9	337.2	349.3

Notes: (i) Prices are p/kg Sterling-ROI prices converted at 1 euro=85.39p 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 16/03/24	1st QUALITY			2nd QUALITY		
		From	To	Avg	From	To	Avg
Finished Cattle (p/kg)							
Steers		275	320	290	225	274	245
Friesians		209	226	215	-	-	-
Heifers		270	325	285	220	269	245
Beef Cows		216	278	237	145	215	180
Dairy Cows		147	211	160	56	146	110
Store Cattle (p/kg)							
Bullocks up to 400kg		325	430	355	250	324	275
Bullocks 400kg - 500kg		300	364	320	200	299	245
Bullocks over 500kg		270	311	285	205	269	235
Heifers up to 450kg		305	417	330	230	304	260
Heifers over 450kg		260	324	285	190	259	225
Dropped Calves (£/head)							
Continental Bulls		450	630	470	325	445	385
Continental Heifers		400	525	440	280	395	330
Friesian Bulls		140	245	170	4	135	70
Holstein Bulls		100	215	140	1	95	50

DEADWEIGHT SHEEP TRADE

NI SHEEP BASE QUOTES

(P/Kg DW)	This Week 18/03/24	Next Week 25/03/24
R3 Hoggets up to 22kg	690p	700p
R3 Hoggets up to 22.5kg	690p	690p

REPORTED NI SHEEP PRICES

(P/KG)	W/E 02/03/24	W/E 09/03/24	W/E 16/03/24
D/W R3 Hoggets	642.1	659.9	692.4
D/W Hoggets	643.9	665.1	697.0
L/W Hoggets	575.0	597.5	620.8

REGIONAL SHEEP PRICES (GB / ROI)

GB D/W Hoggets	721.7	743.7	789.8
ROI D/W Hoggets	647.2	675.6	696.2

Deadweight Sheep Trade

The deadweight sheep trade in NI continues at record levels. Last week the average price paid for hoggets was 697p/kg up by 31.9p/kg from the previous week. During the same week last year, the deadweight hogget price in NI was 545.4p/kg. In GB last week the deadweight hogget price reached 789.8p/kg, also well ahead of the 522.5p/kg paid during the same week of 2023. Meanwhile the average deadweight hogget price in ROI was the equivalent of 696.2p/kg, up 20.6p/kg from the previous week. Base quotes for R3 grading hoggets strengthened further this week with all plants quoting in the region of 690p/kg. Similar quotes are expected for early next week with two plants quoting to 22.5kg. Hogget throughput in local plants last week totalled 8,839 head which is 843 head more than the same week last year when 7,996 hoggets were killed locally.

In line with high demand the live trade in local marts continues to improve with 620.8p/kg paid on average for fat hoggets last week with a further strengthening reported by local marts this week. Spring lambs have begun to enter the market in time for Easter, with 40 lambs sold in Rathfriland on Tuesday to a price range of 666-754p/kg. In Ballymena on Wednesday this years spring lamb show and sale saw 177 lambs selling to an average of 781p/kg. The liveweight ewe trade remains strong.

LIVEWEIGHT SHEEP TRADE

LATEST SHEEP MARTS (P/KG LW)

From: 16/03/24		Hoggets				Spring Lambs			
To: 21/03/24	No	From	To	Avg	No	From	To	Avg	
Saturday	Omagh	495	642	760	-	-	-	-	
	Swatragh	900	650	765	-	-	-	-	
Monday	Kilrea	1200	628	807	-	-	-	-	
	Markethill	1010	620	690	-	-	-	-	
Tuesday	Saintfield	560	630	760	-	-	-	-	
	Rathfriland	560	600	755	630	40	666	754	
Wednes- day	Ballymena	2111	620	725	650	177	750	1087	
	Armoyle	704	650	710	-	-	-	-	