

DEADWEIGHT CATTLE TRADE

NI FACTORY BASE QUOTES FOR CATTLE

(P/KG DW)	This Week 15/07/24	Next Week 22/07/24
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	346 - 368p	346 - 370p

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.

Figure 1: Average Carcase Weight of prime cattle slaughtered in NI by category to w/e 13th July 2024 vs 2023 (Kg).

Source: DAERA.

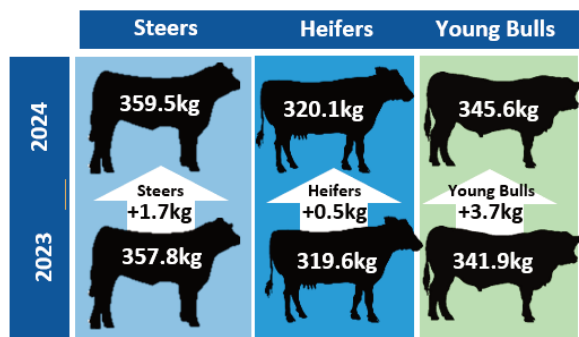
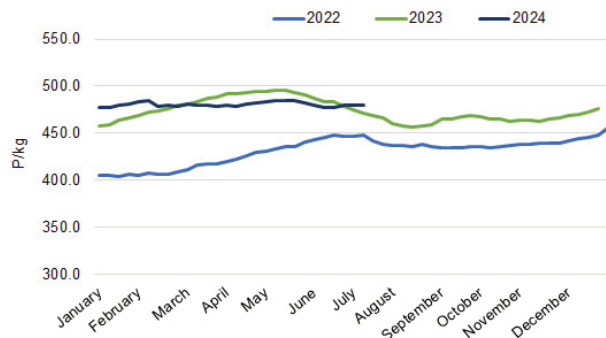


Figure 2: Average weekly deadweight price paid for an R3 steer in NI 2022 - 2024 YTD. Source: LMC.



REPORTED NI CATTLE PRICES - P/KG

W/E 13/07/24	Steers	Heifers	Young Bulls
U3	482.5	486.1	474.6
R3	477.0	479.5	473.2
O+3	470.7	469.3	452.9

*Prices exclude AA, HER, WAG & Organic cattle

REPORTED COW PRICES NI - P/KG

W/E 13/07/24	Weight Bands			
	<220kg	220-250kg	250-280kg	>280kg
P1	242.4	260.2	273.3	294.1
P2	265.7	294.2	312.8	331.3
P3	-	322.0	329.9	340.9
O3	-	325.7	349.7	355.5
O4	307.3	326.9	347.5	356.4
R3	-	-	-	372.8

Deadweight Cattle Trade

Base quotes for in-spec U-3 steers and heifers ended this week ranging from 454 - 460p/kg, with quotes for heifers easing back 2p/kg. Quotes for O+3 grading cows are expected to increase to a range of 346 - 370p/kg early next week.

Last week in NI the July bank holiday saw a shorter working week in local plants. 5,929 prime cattle were slaughtered locally while direct slaughter imports from ROI totalled 294 head, and accounted for 5 per cent of the local prime cattle kill. Prime cattle imports for direct slaughter last week were up 175 head on the previous weeks levels, with steers accounting for this increase in numbers. Cow imports to local plants also increased last week, up by 69 head to total 191 head. ROI origin cows accounted for 9 per cent of total cow slaughterings locally.

Last week the average price paid across all deadweight cattle categories reported an increase in NI. The average steer price increased 1.6p/kg to 471.7p/kg, despite the R3 average remaining steady on the previous week at 479.5p/kg. In GB last week the deadweight trade for all types of cattle also reported a recovery.

In ROI the deadweight cattle trade reported declines in both euro and sterling terms last week. Declines in sterling terms ranged from 5.8 - 8.9p/kg across all grades and categories. The R3 steer price was back 5.8p/kg from the previous week to 434.3p/kg while the R3 heifer price came back 7.4p/kg to 438p/kg.

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

W/E 13/07/24	Northern Ireland	Rep of Ireland	Scotland	Northern England	Midlands & Wales	Southern England	GB
Steers	U3	482.9	441.8	491.5	497.8	488.4	487.7
	R3	479.5	434.3	489.2	490.6	485.3	483.3
	R4	480.2	435.3	489.3	491.6	484.0	483.9
	O3	471.1	423.5	475.4	475.5	470.5	474.1
	AVG	471.7	-	484.8	484.7	476.8	476.7
Heifers	U3	485.9	451.9	494.7	495.7	496.4	490.6
	R3	481.2	438.0	489.2	488.1	484.1	482.6
	R4	479.4	440.0	490.6	492.5	486.4	484.5
	O3	470.7	431.2	471.4	475.8	466.9	471.9
	AVG	473.5	-	486.2	482.9	474.7	473.9
Young Bulls	U3	476.2	440.6	480.1	488.2	485.2	484.8
	R3	470.1	428.8	475.7	478.5	473.8	478.8
	O3	450.6	413.4	455.7	451.1	445.7	466.3
	AVG	459.6	-	474.2	475.2	468.1	477.4
	Prime Cattle Price Reported	5,068	-	5,698	6,824	8,193	4,731
Cows	O3	354.5	362.8	388.7	390.8	392.0	388.7
	O4	354.4	363.7	389.5	396.3	392.8	393.1
	P2	319.8	336.5	338.3	355.3	348.0	344.9
	P3	339.2	352.2	357.3	369.0	368.7	362.6
	AVG	323.0	-	377.8	370.6	361.2	346.1

Notes: (i) Prices are p/kg Sterling-ROI prices converted at 1 euro=84.35p 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

Table 1: Average weekly price paid for store cattle in NI marts to w/e 13 July 2024 and the corresponding period of 2022 & 2023.

Source: DAERA.

YTD AVERAGE TO W/E 13/07/24	Average (£/head)			Change (£/head)	
	2022	2023	2024	22/24	23/24
Store Cattle (p/kg)					
Steers 300 - 400kg	882.2	966.6	1006.0	+123.8	+39.5
Heifers 300 - 400kg	824.0	897.6	986.0	+162.0	+88.4
Steers 150 - 300kg	779.8	803.8	868.0	+88.2	+64.2
Heifers 150 - 300kg	694.2	726.1	796.7	+102.5	+70.6

During the year to date the liveweight cattle trade in NI marts has remained stronger than during recent years with reduced cattle availability driving an improved trade. Forward store heifers have reported the largest increase in return year on year (+£88.40/ head) with prices paid for all types of lighter cattle tracking well ahead of previous years.

DEADWEIGHT SHEEP TRADE

NI SHEEP BASE QUOTES

(P/Kg DW)	This Week 15/07/24	Next Week 22/07/24
R3 Lambs up to 21kg	550 - 560p	540 - 560p

REPORTED NI SHEEP PRICES

(P/KG)	W/E 29/06/24	W/E 06/07/24	W/E 13/07/24
D/W R3 Lambs	671.5	615.7	567.6
D/W Lambs	669.1	612.3	568.0
L/W Lambs	591.8	555.8	507.4

REGIONAL SHEEP PRICES (GB / ROI)

GB D/W Lambs	746.7	678.7	645.6
ROI D/W Lambs	679.9	650.9	607.1

Sheep Trade

Following a slow trade for fat lambs over the July bank holiday weekend the lamb trade has improved as the week progressed. GB buyers were in attendance at a local mart on Wednesday which saw lambs selling to an average of 545p/kg. Softer base quotes were received by LMC on Wednesday morning for R3 grade lambs however the improved live trade on Wednesday afternoon saw prices improve for Thursday's kill with reports from industry of 580p/kg being widely available. Base quotes in the region of 540-560p/kg are expected early next week with one plant quoting at the lower end of 540p/kg, producers are encouraged to seek the most suitable sales outlet for their stock.

Last week NI lamb exports to ROI for direct slaughter totalled 4,358 head, an uplift of 1,456 head on the previous week. In ROI the deadweight lamb price last week remained ahead of year earlier levels in euro terms (+8.7c/kg) however in sterling terms fell 0.6p/kg behind the price paid during the corresponding week of 2023. The sterling rate for lambs in ROI had tracked ahead of year earlier levels from the w/c 08 January 2024. This weakening trade is explained by a depressed demand from key markets for Irish lamb.

LIVEWEIGHT SHEEP TRADE

LATEST SHEEP MARTS (P/KG LW)

From: 13/07/24	To: 18/07/24	Lambs			
		No	From	To	Avg
	Swatragh	280	512	534	-
Monday	Kilrea	1150	538	642	-
	Markethill	580	510	591	-
Tuesday	Saintfield	1005	525	650	-
	Rathfriland	654	510	570	537
Wednesday	Ballymena	1606	510	598	545
	Enniskillen	489	520	574	-
	Armoy	603	520	581	-