

DEADWEIGHT CATTLE TRADE

AVERAGE DEADWEIGHT CATTLE PRICES (P/KG)

Week Ending 15/02/25	Northern Ireland	Rep of Ireland	Scotland	Northern England	Midlands & Wales	Southern England	GB
Steers	U3	597.2	532.0	650.8	648.5	643.7	648.1
	R3	591.9	527.8	647.3	645.2	638.9	642.0
	R4	593.6	531.3	646.9	649.3	636.9	645.3
	O3	582.3	524.1	630.4	625.2	617.1	620.2
	AVG	585.8	-	644.5	639.6	627.3	628.4
Heifers	U3	597.3	536.6	656.6	647.4	648.6	649.8
	R3	591.0	529.3	644.7	641.1	636.7	639.1
	R4	591.9	533.0	647.7	644.2	634.6	639.4
	O3	580.3	528.0	621.3	614.6	612.3	615.9
	AVG	584.3	-	644.8	634.0	624.0	626.6
Young Bulls	U3	580.5	529.2	608.3	625.1	631.3	644.2
	R3	574.3	521.4	636.4	626.7	629.4	634.8
	O3	561.1	507.6	605.3	590.3	607.8	612.9
	AVG	565.3	-	611.3	609.9	610.1	609.5
	Prime Cattle Price Reported	6,107	-	6,284	7,222	7,613	5,160	26,279
Cows	O3	476.6	459.9	502.6	499.3	498.3	499.1
	O4	477.0	459.9	504.0	503.4	496.7	495.9
	P2	434.8	438.6	459.7	457.0	450.1	455.6
	P3	450.3	447.3	472.2	470.9	470.5	473.0
	AVG	442.8	-	500.8	478.8	465.9	461.8

NI AVERAGE NON-PREMIUM CATTLE PRICES (P/KG)

Week Ending 15/02/25	Steers	Change	Heifers	Change	Young Bulls	Change
U-3	595.2	↑ +19.6	595.8	↑ +17.4	578.8	↑ +14.5
R-3	589.7	↑ +19.8	588.3	↑ +17.9	573.3	↑ +18.8
O+3	584.5	↑ +21.2	582.5	↑ +19.5	568.1	↑ +15.9
P+3	541.8	↑ +14.7	541.6	↑ +17.8		

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 DEADWEIGHT CATTLE BASE QUOTES (P/KG)

	19/02/25	24/02/25
Steers & Heifers		
U-3	570 - 588	570 - 588
R-3	564 - 582	564 - 582
O+3	558 - 576	558 - 576
P+3	502 - 520	502 - 520
Cows		
O+3	455 - 470	455 - 470

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

NI AVERAGE COW PRICES (P/KG)

Week Ending 15/02/25	<220kg	Change	220-250kg	Change	250-280kg	Change	>280kg	Change
P1	345.9	↑ +14.5	366.9	↑ +16.7	384.0	↑ +17.8	407.5	↑ +15.7
P2	396.1	↑ +45.0	402.3	↑ +14.5	431.5	↑ +21.3	444.3	↑ +17.5
P3	385.9	↑ +6.9	433.2	↑ +29.0	440.0	↑ +20.4	453.0	↑ +14.0
O3	450.0	↑ +48.0	435.0	↑ +6.0	465.1	↑ +11.0	478.2	↑ +24.5
O4	.	.	.	.	472.6	↑ +41.1	477.2	↑ +20.5
R3	.	.	.	.	.	.	510.7	↑ +25.7

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

Prices listed are for deadweight price reported animals only.

Prices are p/kg. Sterling to ROI prices are converted at 1 euro = 83.3p Stg. AVG is the average price of all grades in the category (not just those listed).

CATTLE EXPORTS FOR DIRECT SLAUGHTER

	2024	2025 (15/02/25)
Exports to ROI Prime	158	9
Exports to ROI Cows	713	138
Exports to GB Prime	39	311
Exports to GB Cows	0	44

CATTLE IMPORTS FOR DIRECT SLAUGHTER

	2024	2025 (15/02/25)
Imports from ROI Prime	17,033	1,332
Imports from ROI Cows	9,081	1,078

CATTLE SLAUGHTERING

	2024	2025 (15/02/25)
Prime Cattle	385,013	49,402
Cows	118,734	16,325

CATTLE AVERAGE CARCASE WEIGHTS (KG)

	2024	2025 (15/02/25)
Prime Cattle	339.5	338.0
Cows	295.9	300.8

Sustainable Agriculture Programme

DAERA are hosting presentations on the new farm support programme during February and March. Presentations will commence at 11:00am, 2:00pm and 7:30pm at the following venues: Monday 24th February Loughry Campus Cookstown; Tuesday 25 February Greenmount Campus, Antrim; Thursday 27 February Enniskillen Campus Enniskillen.

Sustainable Agriculture Programme Awareness Events - CAFRE

Last week in local plants 7,362 prime cattle and 2,272 cows were slaughtered. During the year to date the average carcass weight of prime cattle slaughtered locally was 338kg, 5.7kg (1.7 per cent) lighter than the average reported during the corresponding period of 2024. During the same period, the average cow carcass weight has been 0.9kg heavier year on year. There were 281 prime cattle imported from ROI for direct slaughter locally last week. The largest weekly cow import level was recorded for the year to date, totalling 225 head. A notable 141 prime cattle, comprising 93 steers, 46 heifers and two young bulls travelled from NI to GB plants for direct slaughter. October 2017 was the last time a similar consignment of prime cattle travelled to GB from NI. During 2024, a total of 39 prime cattle were exported to GB for direct slaughter.

The deadweight cattle trade across NI, GB and ROI continued to strengthen last week. In NI the average price paid for U-3 steers excluding premiums reached 595.2p/kg, with 595.8p/kg paid on average for heifers, and 578.8p/kg for commercial U-3 young bulls. All types of cattle remain in high demand and producers are encouraged to consider various outlets when selling stock.

NI CATTLE MART LIVELWEIGHT PRICES (P/KG)

Week Ending 15/02/25	1st QUALITY			2nd QUALITY		
	FROM	TO	AVG	FROM	TO	AVG
Finished Cattle						
Steers	330	374	350	270	329	300
Friesians	252	298	279	-	-	-
Heifers	325	378	350	265	324	285
Beef Cows	290	343	310	175	289	215
Dairy Cows	180	238	200	132	197	150
Store Cattle						
Steers up to 400kg	400	490	425	300	399	335
Steers 400kg - 500kg	350	440	385	250	349	300
Steers over 500kg	400	454	420	315	399	340
Heifers up to 450kg	380	480	425	290	379	330
Heifers over 450kg	300	393	335	220	299	250
Dropped Calves (£/head)						
Continental Bulls	500	820	550	400	495	440
Continental Heifers	450	810	500	300	445	370
Friesian Bulls	235	440	270	125	230	175
Holstein Bulls	175	420	200	115	170	140

DEADWEIGHT SHEEP TRADE

NI DEADWEIGHT SHEEP BASE QUOTES

(P/KG)	19/02/2025	24/02/2025
R3 Hoggets (to 23kg)	705	705

Quotes from the 2 major NI sheep plants.

NI AVERAGE SHEEP PRICES

(P/KG)	08/02/2025	Change	15/02/2025	Change
D/W R3 Hoggets	686.1	↑ +7.7	693.2	↑ +7.1
D/W Hoggets	687.8	↑ +5.3	695.6	↑ +7.8
L/W Hoggets	654.4	↓ -2.3	669.9	↑ +15.5

GB/ROI AVERAGE SHEEP PRICES

		Change		Change
GB D/W Hoggets	729.4	↑ +19.4	736.9	↑ +7.5
ROI D/W Hoggets	720.1	↓ -4.2	734.3	↑ +14.2

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

Total hogget throughput in NI last week totalled 6,256 head, a decline of 168 head from the previous week. During the same week last year 7,357 hoggets were killed locally. During 2025 to date the average hogget carcass weighed 23kg, up 0.8kg from the corresponding period of 2024.

In NI the deadweight hogget trade last week increased 7.8p/kg to 695.6p/kg, while the liveweight trade reported a 15.5p/kg increase to 669.9p/kg.

Hogget exports to ROI for direct slaughter totalled 5,689 head last week, an increase of 361 head from the previous week. In ROI last week the deadweight hogget price increased by the equivalent of 14.2p/kg from the previous week to 734.3p/kg.

This week in local marts, increased numbers passed through local sales rings with a softer trade reported. Base quotes for R3 hoggets this week were 705p/kg up to 23kg, with similar quotes received from two of the three major processors for early next week.

NI SHEEP MART LIVELWEIGHT PRICES (P/KG) HOGGETS

15/02/2025 - 20/02/25	No	From	To	Avg
Saturday	Omagh	768	649	759
	Swatragh	900	663	716
Monday	Kilrea	1400	670	721
	Markethill	910	640	683
Tuesday	Saintfield	555	655	736
	Rathfriland	407	640	717
Wednesday	Ballymena	2014	630	720
	Enniskillen	795	610	700
	Armoy	490	615	700

HOGGET OUTPUT NI SHEEP SECTOR (HEAD)

	2022	2023	2024	2025 (15/02/25)
ROI DS Exports	287,303	290,688	256,612	35,302
NI Slaughtering	448,166	476,091	431,461	43,871

Exports to approved ROI meat plants. Source: DAERA.