

Deadweight Report – September – October 2025

Stock sold: 1965 Cattle & 2771 Sheep

Please book in stock by Thursday tea time so we can ensure with our best endeavours that they move the following week

A tale of two halves on the pricing front through the period with processor demand lacking through September despite tighter cattle numbers forward. October saw an upturn in demand and prices rising 23p/kg through the month from 645p to finish at 668p and further rises as we entered November.

Supplies increased through October as early housed cattle came fit, but these have soon come and gone leaving numbers looking tight for November.

Processors have been killing for Christmas orders but mixed signals given with some firms very fit cattle & killing six days a week. Others going with the flow but not worried whether they have them or not and curious of why so much strength is shown by competitor firms.

Irish prices are reported very strong at present & cow prices above UK levels, all helping our trade. Brazilian Beef is available on wholesale markets, apparently diverted to the EU as Trumps Tariffs have affected access to the US market. Reports of a US deal with Argentina to buy their beef may keep supplies of Brazilian Beef coming into the EU. Interestingly US & Canadian beef is trading at record highs as well as in Australia. High world prices should hold UK trade at good levels for the foreseeable. But processors are nervous of consumers spending power now price inflation has been passed on at retail counters. Muttering in the press on how much a 500g pack of mince has gone up. What will consumer demand be like post-Christmas?

Aberdeen Angus in strong demand with good premiums available for under 24 months, however premiums are available right up to 36 months and over 400kg.

More producers, particularly if they have home grown cereals available are considering ad-lib cereal feeding systems. Producers should be encouraged not to skimp on a quality protein source to feed with it to get the best out of the feed. Done well fantastic levels of performance can be achievement. Ensure plenty of roughage and don't let the hopper run out!

OTM Clean, Mature Bulls, Barren Cows

£3000 achieved on multiple occasions for the best fed cows, topping at £3250. Best R grade cows to 595p/kg achieving good premiums on O grade type cows. With the milk price drop this could put more cows onto the market. However, with the dry summer large numbers of dairy cows were culled as producers made feed savings and this should prevent a glut of cows in this area.

Still good numbers of stock bulls placed as they come out of work, with £3123 achieved for a Charolais. The lift in cow prices has helped lift the over 16-month bull prices with 650p/kg now achievable for these. If young bulls are not fit under 16 months there is now not the pressure to sell before they are ready now deductions are less severe! Demand for cow beef should remain strong as processors increase demand for cheaper cuts after Christmas and as mentioned earlier the Irish cow price is above our price.

Cows wanted – Good, best, bad or ugly why not give us a try! Non-UK tagged and non-FABBL (subject to VAN) catered for.

New Season Lambs (2771)

Trade bottomed out at 665 p/kg after holding up remarkably well through July & August with trade not dropping below 700 p/kg until the last week of August. Through this period trade fluctuated around 665-685 p/kg level. Interestingly when the rain came and the grass started to grow lambs stopped performing quite as well. The fall in price from above 700 p/kg to below it also encouraged producers to stop feeding and this caused numbers to tighten and hence the lift in prices. Historically its very unusual for prices to rise in September/ October. That being said lambs have performed well this Summer with good levels of finish & weight. Numbers placed from June-October are up on previous levels, will this mean a strong trade in the new year on the back of shorter numbers?

- Please order replacement ear tags allowing plenty of time for them to arrive before your stock goes.
- Please check breed & sex on passports
- All stock must have two ear tags on leaving the farm - if they only have one and they lose one that equals none and that equals the bin
- Please ensure stock is ready to load before lorries arrive it is not fair to have drivers waiting making them late for next collections.
- To comply with the Welfare of Animals in Transport Act any unsound stock will require a vet certificate before loading.
- Young bulls must be 12 months + one day of age.
- Producers under TB Restriction should make sure they are issued with the AMENDED TB24C LICENCE authorizing general movement of bovines directly to a licensed slaughter house or via an approved TB slaughter gathering (Tuesday collection Centre)
- All Non-Assured cattle must have a valid Vet Attestation Number (VAN) before coming to a collection Centre or going to an abattoir.

If you have stock, you would like us to view or for up-to-date professional advice, please call 07815495210. We would like to thank our customers for their continued support as we endeavour to achieve the best returns for you from the abattoirs we supply