

THAME FARMERS AUCTION MART LTD

Deadweight – November 2024

Stock sold: 854 Cattle & 1217 Sheep

Blue Tongue Update

Load planning and stock collections have been impacted with the Blue Tongue Restriction zones. Stock from the restricted zone cannot be collected with stock from any area outside of the zone. Please be aware of what zone you are in particularly with some of Oxfordshire in and some outside of the restricted zone.

Please bear with us while we do our upmost to make sure things work to your best advantage. Movements to designated abattoirs outside the restriction zone from inside the restriction zone must be accompanied by a licence. We attach these with the food chain forms when sent if required.

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

- Please order replacement ear tags allowing plenty of time for them to arrive before your stock goes.
- Please check breed & sex on passports before the day cattle go!
- 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 restrictions should make sure they are issued with an AMENDED TB24C LICENCE authorizing general movement of bovines directly to a licensed slaughterhouse or via an approved TB slaughter gathering (Tuesday collection center)

Clean Cattle (542)

WOW! Never seen before – A lift in trade by amount and speed! – Beef now at levels never witnessed before with R grades finishing the month at 545 P/KG. Numbers of cattle extremely tight and huge processor demand to fulfil Christmas orders, leading to a perfect storm for producers with finished cattle to sell. Processors kept upping their bid price to secure supplies with a fear of shorting supermarkets Xmas requirements. Reports of processors spreading their orders amongst numerous processors and this is fuelling the fire and increasing the competition - It's nice for the producers to benefit for once!

The low numbers of clean cattle placed this month shows the shortage of cattle at present. More cattle should come available in the later half of January, once autumn housed cattle become ready.

November has been a month like never experienced before not only the speed of price increase, but also the pressure from processors to find suppliers has been relentless - Showing the demand for beef!

Let's hope Christmas retail sales are good and processors are fit to re-fill shelves for the new year!

- Commercial R grades to 545 P/KG.
- Aberdeen Angus R grades to 555 P/KG.
- Young Bulls to 540 P/KG.
- Beef Shorthorns to 555P/KG.

****Producers should just be mindful of dirty cattle with the constant wet + chaffy straw several cattle are laying dirty and may require clipping. ****

Some tremendous runs of cattle placed throughout the month, with large runs of cattle now averaging £1900-2000 AND FOR BEST CATTLE OVER £2350. A run of continentals averaged £2264 topping at £2352 for U+ Limousins. With U- Charolais to £2310.

- Saller steers to £2182.
- South Devon steers to £2130.
- Charolais heifers to £2120.
- Angus Bulls to £2070.
- Hereford steers to £2264, £2234.
- Limousin steers to £2259, £2171, £2290, £2242, £2220, £2127.
- Limousin heifers to £2186.
- Angus heifers to £2180.

	Commercial Steers/Heifers	Young Bulls U16M	Aberdeen Angus	Beef Shorthorn
E to	570p	565p		
U+ to	565p	560p		
-U to	555p	550p	565p	
R to	545p	540p	555p	555p
O+ to	535p		545p	
-O to	515p			

OTM Clean, Mature Bulls, Barren Cows (312)

A good number placed as expected for November. Cows finish the month at 415 P/KG an increase in the month, however not the price increase or the level of demand seen for prime cattle. Cow beef not fulfilling Christmas orders. However, with a differential reaching 140P/KG processors have looked to close the gap as demand for manufacturing meat will increase once Christmas orders are fulfilled.

Again, a large number of non-assured or VAN accompanied cows placed as more store breeders drop out of assurance schemes.

- R grade cows finish the month at 415P/KG.
- Mature bulls to 320P/KG.

- OTM clean to 540P/KG.
- OTM Angus to 550P/KG.

****Producers are urged to keep an eye on cattle ages with a 10P/KG deduction now implemented. ****

If cattle are fit under 30 Months don't let them slip over. £30-40/Head takes a fair bit of weight gain to compensate.

Cows wanted – Good, best, bad or ugly – Why not give us a try!! NON-UK tagged non fable (subject to VAN number) catered for.

	Best Beef Cows	Dairy Cows	OTM Clean	M. Bull	Angus
U+	435p				
U-	425p				560p
R	415p	415p	540p	320p	550p
O+		410p	530p		540p
O-		400p			
P		385p			

New Season Lambs (1217)

A few loads placed this month with lambs starting to perform a bit better and especially if fed.

Trade remained level through the month with R grades to 680 p/kg. Unless lambs are well fleshed, they don't weigh heavy and producers are finding they need heavier liveweights to achieve a 20kg carcass. A number of producers have sold as stores.