

Wexford Farmers' Co-Operative (Enniscorthy Mart)

Sheep Sale Report 23/09/2020

The sheep sales have been consistently big over the last couple of months, with sheep numbers up on previous years figures and the sale was no different this week. The trade was improved by 1 or 2 euro a head on last week with factory buyers and butchers eager for suitable lambs as finished lambs aren't overly plentiful.

For the last month there has been an increased competition for suitable butcher lambs as it seems farmers are selling lambs at lighter weights. Prices yesterday ranged from (€110 for 22, 48kg lambs) up to (€118 for 6, 55kg lambs).

Some sample butchers lamb prices:

- 6, 55kg lambs making €118.
- 10, 48kg lambs making €115. One of the best prices of the day
- 13, 48kg lambs making €112.
- 10, 50kg lambs making €115.
- 22, 48kg lambs making €110.
- 17, 49kg lambs making €111.

Factory finished lambs were a stronger trade by €1 or €2 per head, buyers seem eager for lambs and fleshed lambs weren't that plentiful. Factory lambs sold from (€104 for 6, 46kg lambs) and up to (€110 for 16, 48kg lambs).

Some sample factory lamb prices:

- 16, 48kg lambs making €110.
- 10, 46kg lambs making €107.
- 12, 48kg lambs making €108.
- 13, 48kg lambs making €107.
- 12, 45kg lambs making €105.
- 6, 46kg lambs making €104.

Store lambs continue to sell very well and every week there are plenty of buyers for stores. Like the finished lambs maybe more of the stores have moved earlier than previous years which might will make stores increasingly scarce as the year goes on. Light stores ranged from (€70 for 12, 32kg lambs) up to (€90 for 18, 37kg lambs).

Some lighter store prices:

- 29, 28kg lambs making €76.
- 13, 32kg lambs making €78.
- 17, 27kg lambs making €79.
- 10, 37kg lambs making €87.
- 20, 34kg lambs making €87.
- 16, 35kg lambs making €88.
- 8, 31kg lambs making €81.

- 14, 36kg lambs making €83.

Forward stores like the lighter stores were plentiful on the day and seem to offer more value than the lighter stores ranging from (€89 for 6, 41kg lambs) up to (€97 for 26, 41kg).

Some forward store prices:

- 26, 41kg lambs making €97.
- 17, 39kg lambs making €95.
- 20, 38kg lambs making €95.
- 10, 42kg lambs making €94.
- 11, 40kg lambs making €93.
- 6, 38kg lambs making €91.
- 25, 40kg lambs making €92.
- 25, 41kg lambs making €92.

Heavy cast ewes remain very scarce and are a weaker trade for the last two weeks back €10 a head over the period.

Some Heavy Ewe prices:

- 5, 89kg making €127.
- 1, 110kg making €120.
- 2, 88kg making €115.
- 7, 81kg making €105.

There was a big entry of store ewes on offer again this week. Store cull ewes haven't seen the same drop as their heavier counterparts as some farmers are opting to buy store cull ewes instead of store lambs.

Some store Ewe prices:

- 6, 79kg making €94.
- 10, 62kg making €75.
- 11, 71kg making €98.
- 5, 68kg making €86.
- 7, 80kg making €96.
- 7, 53kg making €69.

Brood Trade

Ewe lambs sold from €106 for the lighter lambs up to €132 for strong ewe lambs, and ranged from 63 to 80 over their weight.

- 11, 49kg lambs making €132.
- 8, 43kg lambs making €121.
- 10, 40kg lambs making €113.
- 10, 39kg lambs making €106.

We had a good entry of hogget ewes on offer, the quality has been dropping over the previous weeks as many farmers specialising in dry hoggets have already drafted their better quality

brood stock, but prices remain very strong as hoggets ranged from €160 up to a top price of €212 and averaged €178 a head.