

# Scottish Egg Producer Retailers Association

## MARKET REPORT

[www.scottisheggs.co.uk](http://www.scottisheggs.co.uk)

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	Size	V. Large	Large	Medium	Small
<b>Farm to Shop</b>	Prices	£1.49	£1.25	£1.15	80p
<b>Scottish Wholesaler</b>	Prices	£1.40	£1.00	90p	
<b>English Wholesaler</b>	Colony	£1.40	£1.20	£1.00	70p
	F/R	£1.90	£1.70	£1.50	80p
	Colony	£1.50	£1.25	£1.05	75p
	F/R	£1.70	£1.65	£1.55	85p
<b>Packer / Producer Contracted average Price</b>					
		<b>Organic</b>	<b>FreeRange</b>	<b>Barn</b>	<b>Colony</b>
		£1.20/£1.45	85p/£1.05	75p/95p	65p/85p
<b>Producer / Consumer</b>		V. Large	Large	Medium	Small
<b>- Colony</b>	Prices	£2.00	£1.85	£1.45	90p
<b>- Free Range</b>	Prices	£3.00	£2.35	£1.93	£1.05
<b>Free-Range to Farm Shop</b>	Prices	£1.75/£2.25	£1.31/£1.91	£1.15/£1.45	95p
<b>Central Egg Agency</b>	Colony	£1.13(+3p)	£1.01(+3p)	91p(+3p)	68p(+3p)
	F/R	£1.70	£1.60	£1.45	£1.05
<b>Imported Continental Prices in Bulk</b>					
<b>Dutch Eggs</b>	Barn	£1.00(+4p)	83p(+6p)	76p(+6p)	60p(+3p)

The market is almost empty and that is before the Christmas demand really kicks in, marketeers whether mega or small are scouring the country for eggs, particularly Free Range.

As an example note Central Egg showing no change for Free Range, answer they have none.

On the Continent they are moving into a fairly severe shortage, producers over there have been losing money for a while, the banks and financial organisations are not allowing finance for new pullets. This is a dangerous situation over there and potentially here, if banks are red lining finance for next year's stock and modernisation, only the big and efficient can survive, but in the short time it creates shortage.

This cold wet and windy weather does give encouragement for comfort food; eggs come into this category and with all the special offers in the supermarkets demand is picking up.

# Call for action on rising poultry feed costs

Recently released Government figures show that the cost of chicken feed has risen significantly, more than any other livestock feed.

According to those figures, average compound feed prices for livestock in Great Britain rose by 85.8% for cattle feed, 75.7% for pig feed, 101.4% for poultry feed and 92.7% for sheep feed. The statistics from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and the Office of National Statistics show the latest figures on the production of animal feed and the raw materials used in the process.

In response to the statistics, the British Poultry Council (BPC) has called for more feed to be made available to chicken farmers, including the use of insects as feed, which is being researched in the pig industry.

The British Poultry Council is the voice of the poultry industry and acts as a key link between members and the Government, regulators and other stakeholders.

Commenting on the data Andrew Large, BPC Chief Executive, said: "Poultry producers have seen the highest rise in feed since 2006 compared to other major livestock types.

The statistics also show for the month of August this year that British production of animal feed was down by 3.8%, compared with figures from August 2013.

World Poultry

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## The Juncker reign begins...

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The phrase the 'King is dead, long live the King' is often assumed to apply to the seamless transition of the British monarchy. However its origins were in France in the 1400s, and in Brussels such a transition took place on 1st November. Much as some there might like it to be, a new European Commission is not

a monarchy, but the officials who will rule the EU for the next five years slipped seamlessly into power, just before a public holiday for All Saints Day.

The change is a case of goodbye Jose Manuel Barroso and hello Jean-Claude Juncker. Before he finished his term Mr Barroso dropped a few bombshells in the UK, querying whether David Cameron could change immigration policy, and then landing the UK with a £1.7 billion top-up bill. It is doubtful if Mr Barroso, a former prime minister of Portugal, will be greatly missed. The best that can be said is that his Commission did not collapse over scandals, as others have. But it did preside over the collapse of the euro, which this year delivered the lowest growth of any global economy.

For the incoming Jean-Claude Juncker this really has to be a case of ‘things can only get better’, as Tony Blair promised in 2007, since they cannot get any worse on the financial front. This is why he has made jobs and growth his priority, and for the CAP this is linked to reducing red tape and getting some policy implementation and decision-making back to Member States from Brussels.

It would be wrong to let the outgoing farm commissioner, Dacian Ciolos, slip into political obscurity without commenting on his time in the job. He was the first farm commissioner from a new Member State and came from one of the poorest, Romania. He went having delivered a CAP reform deal that will change the shape of farm support for years to come. The deal is far from perfect, and that will be tested when the policy is reviewed in 2017. The number of issues on the table then will be the measure of success or failure, not least over greening.

Even after five years in Brussels Mr Ciolos remained politically naïve. His background was as a civil servant, rather than someone used to the cut and thrust of politics. It was ultimately politics back home in Romania that sank his chances of a second term, reflecting his inability to play politics in Brussels or Bucharest. He lacked the natural humour of many of his predecessors, and he never seemed fully at home when meeting farmers or politicians. From start to finish he was more of a technocrat than a politician and that is how he will be remembered.

If Mr Ciolos lacked political experience the same certainly cannot be said of his successor, Phil Hogan. The new farm commissioner, nominated by Fine Gael – the main party in Ireland’s coalition government – is well used to the often nasty cut and thrust of Irish politics. He comes from a farming area and represented it in the Irish parliament. He was involved with an auctioneering business, and with a brother farming he will not be short of advice from him or the influential Irish Farmers Association about the things he should be doing.

Like other commissioners, he has been told that jobs, growth and cutting red tape are his priorities. Time will tell whether he can deliver on these. But if he does that, produces a workable mid-term review of the Ciolos reforms and prepares the ground well for the post 2020 CAP reforms, he will certainly be judged at home in Ireland and elsewhere to have been a good farm commissioner.

Farm Business---- Chris Lyddon



## **Press Release**

**Lochem, 12th November 2014**

### **The total feed business is central theme in ForFarmers refocused strategy**

**ForFarmers wants to contribute to better returns for customers by offering optimal animal nutrition solutions. This remains the basis for ForFarmers strategy, which has recently been refocused and implemented. Important themes in this strategy are (1) identifying and reacting to individual customer needs in a more targeted fashion, (2) the further development of the ‘total feed’ concept and (3) international expansion primarily in Europe. ForFarmers also remains completely focused on the on-going delivery of its ‘One ForFarmers’ approach. This approach stands for a very clear way of working, making optimal use of the economies of scale and the further professionalisation of the organisation.**

An increase in scale and the level of complexity in the agricultural sector will continue over the forthcoming years. This will result in a structural change to customer demands. The demand for nutritionally optimal feed solutions at farm level will become greater and will result in an increasing requirement for customised solutions. ForFarmers has responded to this development with its ‘total feed’ concept: supplying complete nutritional solutions which meet the individual customer’s objectives and business situation. ForFarmers will be fine-tuning and expanding its product and services portfolio for these customer specific solutions, as and when required. This therefore doesn’t only mean compound feed, but also includes products like specialities for young animals, single raw materials, co-products, grass and maize seeds and fertilisers. Extensive and specialist knowledge in these areas is essential in order to provide customers with advice which is most appropriate to their individual situation.

ForFarmers will also enter into strategic alliances with suppliers, in order to arrive at a complete package of feed solutions at the farm. “We want to join forces with strategic partners wherever possible, in order to strengthen each other where knowledge and innovation are concerned, for example in relation to speciality feeds. In line with this approach, we have recently renewed our existing strategic partnership with Nutreco for the purchase of premixes, additives and specialities. We will also be working closer with Nutreco in relation to research, innovation and the marketing of high quality nutritional solutions, for example within the young animal feed sector. The main purpose is to deliver high quality products and advice that result in better returns for our customers”, according to Yoram Knoop, ForFarmers CEO.



