

# Scottish Egg Producer Retailers Association

## MARKET REPORT

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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>	Colony F/R	£1.15 £1.50	90p £1.40	80p £1.30	
<b>English Wholesaler</b>	Colony F/R Colony F/R	£1.30 £1.60 £1.45 £1.40	£1.00 £1.50 £1.15 £1.40	90p £1.30 £1.15 £1.20	70p 80p 80p 75p
<b>Packer / Producer Contracted average Price</b>					
		<b>Organic</b> £1.20/£1.45	<b>FreeRange</b> 85p/£1.05	<b>Barn</b> 75p/95p	<b>Colony</b> 65p/85p
<b>Producer / Consumer</b>		<b>V. Large</b>	<b>Large</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Small</b>
<b>- Colony</b>	Prices	£2.00	£1.85	£1.40	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 F/R	£1.05 £1.30	90p £1.20	80p £1.10	60p 85p
<b>Imported Continental Prices in Bulk</b>					
<b>Dutch Eggs</b>	Barn	86p(-4p)	72p(-5p)	66p(-4p)	60p
<b>German</b>	Colony		74p(-7p)	68p(-6p)	

The market a bit shell shocked after last week's AI news but settling down again, there are not a lot of large about, in fact getting tight with Ex Large close behind, but sufficient Mediums for demand.

Our schools are down with England and Wales about to follow which does affect the demand for Medium.

German prices are well back which has pulled Dutch prices back, Germany with its usual efficiency have gone on holiday on mass, but not to Greece.

The announcement that Germany would commence a ban on beak trimming starting in August 2016 gives us that feeling in the back of the neck, especially the statement that they do not wish their industry to be disadvantaged and want a standardisation of welfare throughout the EU, with Westminster talking of

renegotiating our position in the EU, we wonder if our industry will be one of the pawns with the German negotiations as they appear to be the political power house of Europe.

AI the initial panic has settled a bit but it is not over yet, DEFRA appear to have curtailed the outbreak, but with our highly integrated industry and feed wagons now running 24 hours a day it is still worrying times and will be for the next few weeks.

DEFRA will be desperate to try and find the source as there is no logical connection, it was the Free Range production which had the 20% mortality, but DEFRA decided to cull the entire site, 170,000 hens.

It is your own Bio-Security that is the most important factor in disease/viral infection, if you have a sudden increase in mortality or hear of one, get straight on to your egg inspector, they are the first contact and know exactly what action to take.

The USA is holding a conference/post mortem on the effects AI has had on their industry and how to try and prevent a reoccurrence, we will hopefully hear the details after the event so that we can learn from their problems, as AI is a world problem.

Should we in this country be thinking of organising a similar conference, as prevention is better than cure?

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## German poultry industry agrees to beak trimming ban

Beak trimming in the German poultry industry is going to become a thing of the past following the signing of a voluntary agreement which will ban the practice as of 1 January 2017.

The move is a key component of an animal welfare initiative "A question of attitude". Signatories of the pioneering agreement are the Central Association of German Poultry Industry Association, the German Egg Association and the Association of German Turkey Producers and the country's Federal Agriculture Minister Christian Schmidt.

In signing the agreement, the poultry industry has committed to stop beak trimming of layers from 1 August 2016, and to stop stocking pullets with trimmed beaks from 1 January 2017.

### **"Timely as well as ambitious"**

"We are in Germany on the right track to become the EU trendsetter in animal welfare," Schmidt commented on the signing. "The agreement is timely as well as ambitious in comparison to other known initiatives. This is not only a success on the road to more animal welfare, but it also shows that we can achieve a lot with the principle of voluntary commitment."

"Animal welfare is key for guiding of our daily work" said Leo Graf von Drechsel, president of the Central Association of the German poultry industry. "We see ourselves as a constructive partner, we hear very clearly what society thinks and we are proud to have implemented this agreement on a voluntary basis".

## **Calls for EU-wide harmonisation**

Graf Drechsel also made it clear that the waiver of beak trimming needs an enormous effort from the industry, also in financial terms. In order that this 'tour de force' doesn't start a competitive disadvantage for the German egg producers, the industry and government need to support the policy: "We have to promote this topic at European level", said Graf Drechsel calling for EU-wide harmonisation."

By Rosie Burgin

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## **AI conference to prepare for future HPAI outbreaks**

To assist the poultry industry in preparing for potential future exposure to high pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), an "Avian Influenza Outbreak...Lessons Learned" Conference has been scheduled for July 28-29, 2015, at the Des Moines Marriott Downtown in Des Moines, Iowa.

How can poultry farmers better protect themselves from AI outbreaks? The conference focuses on lessons learned and how to apply them. - Photo: Bart Nijs

Registration for the conference is free to qualified stakeholders of the poultry industry and will be closed to media. To maximise broad industry participation, the number of registrations will be limited per company or organisation. The conference agenda was developed through the collaboration of the National Chicken Council, National Turkey Federation, United Egg Producers, USA Poultry & Egg Export Council, US Department of Agriculture, and US Poultry & Egg Association.

### **The conference will address the following topics:**

- H5N2 Outbreak: Where Are We... Where Are We Going?
- HPAI Epidemiological Investigations: Biosecurity's Role in Disease Prevention
- Industry Biosecurity Challenges
- Accountability for Biosecurity
- Indemnity Process and Procedures
- Communication: Effective Customer Communications, State Agencies, and Federal Agency Stakeholder Communication
- Producer Panel: Lessons Learned
- Research Update Panel: Vaccination, Epidemiology of the Virus, and Disease Transmission
- Biosecurity for Feed
- After the Outbreak: Disposal and Depopulation Methods, Cleaning and Disinfecting, and RePopulation
- Gaps and Opportunities – Open Discussion
- Actions Items for the Fall Season

- Impact on Trade: Implication of Response Activities on Trade, Interstate Poultry Movement, and International

To register to attend the "Avian Influenza Outbreak...Lessons Learned" Conference, click [here](#).

By World Poultry

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## Avangard to increase export of eggs

Ukrainian agricultural holding Avangard plans to increase its export of eggs to between 50-60% of the company's total sales. This growth in export is to be realised in the coming 3 to 5 years, says Avangard.

"Previously we delivered 80% of our production to the domestic market and exported 20% to countries abroad. Right now, we are devising a strategy which is to increase our exports to at least 50-60% of our total production," said majority shareholder of Avangard Oleg Bakhmatyuk at the investment conference "New Ukraine".

### **Avangard reduced its egg production**

According to Bakhmatyuk, the unstable situation in the Donbass significantly influenced the egg business last year, which resulted in the company losing 37% of the domestic market and facing strong inflation. Avangard reduced its egg production in 2014 by 10% in comparison with 2013, producing a total of 6.306 billion eggs. This drop in production was due to the reduction of the total number of birds by 28% to 23.3 million heads and a reduction of the number of layers by 31% to 18.6 million heads.

This decrease in the number of birds is partly explained by the closure of poultry farms in Donetsk and Lugansk Oblasts and the Crimea, the total capacity of which was calculated at about 3.7 million layers.

by [Vladislav Vorotnikov](#)

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For years we have been desperate to keep insects out of our poultry houses, now there might be advantages in reintroducing the correct type, because of the high protein and the more natural behaviour of the hens.

# Dutch experiment: Feeding live insects to chickens

Dutch feed producer ForFarmers and the Department of Entomology at Wageningen UR, the Netherlands have together launched a trial in which broiler chickens are being fed live insects.

Insects are rich in protein. With this trial, both parties want to investigate whether the broiler chicks grow healthy and at the right pace when they receive live insects as an addition to the feed.

The trial is being carried out at the ForFarmers pilot plant in Nijkerk, the Netherlands with 1,000 chicks. The animals are divided in to 4 different groups, allocated 4 different diets.

## **Watch the video of feeding live insects to chicks here**

The parties involved hope to make a positive step forward regarding sustainability by encouraging chickens in their natural behaviour. The first results are expected at the end of September. Even if the results are positive, it will take some time before this feeding regime will be implemented in practice, because its application is fairly costly.

By Kirsten Graumans



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