

Scottish Egg Producer Retailers Association

MARKET REPORT

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	Size	V. Large	Large	Medium	Small
Farm to Shop	Prices	£1.49	£1.25	£1.15	80p
Scottish Wholesaler	Prices	£1.30	90p	80p	
English Wholesaler	Colony	£1.10	90p	£1.10	55p
	F/R	£1.60	£1.40	£1.00	85p
	Colony	£1.30	£1.10	£1.00	80p
	F/R	£1.70	£1.65	£1.40	85p
Packer / Producer Contracted average Price					
		Organic	FreeRange	Barn	Colony
		£1.20/£1.45	85p/£1.05	75p/95p	65p/85p
Producer / Consumer		V. Large	Large	Medium	Small
- Colony	Prices	£2.00	£1.85	£1.40	90p
- Free Range	Prices	£3.00	£2.35	£1.40	90p
Free-Range to Farm Shop	Prices	£1.75/£2.25	£1.31/£1.91	£1.15/£1.45	95p
Central Egg Agency	Colony	£1.00	85p	75p	60p
	F/R	£1.45	£1.35	£1.20	85p
Imported Continental Prices in Bulk					
Dutch Eggs	Barn	83p(+1p)	74p	70p(+1p)	58p

The market and demand appears to be starting to improve with reports of demand starting to increase but its early days yet and it is that credit card bill which will dictate what happens next.

But eggs are now the good guys and possibly too cheap in the supermarkets as often shoppers walk by the special offers or products that are too cheap as they are weary with all the propaganda promoting products.

It's nice to see the NFU saying that there is great confidence in our poultry industry, yes there is a bit of confidence about and it does look like 2015 will be a better year financially and supply and demand will be better balanced.

But there is also problems ahead as the big supermarkets price wars with one another is forcing down prices it seems every time margins start to improve prices are forced down to compensate and right now at this point in time Britain has the cheapest eggs in Europe-----but that also means no imports.

Economics, logistics and business politics

The article by Anne Marie Foley for Poultry World is more than interesting as it shows that the Irish chicken industry to be doing reasonably well and expanding both production and market wise.

They have to use ferries to get to Britain and Europe which we imagine would be fairly expensive but for various reasons they are doing well and good for them.

Now look at our Scottish chicken industry, decimated on the grounds of economics and logistics and we only have the A1 and M6 to get to the major markets in England, on top of this the demand for Scottish produced chicken is steadily increasing.

What little production is left is being shipped down to England for processing then brought back to Scotland to be marketed, any sane person would wonder at the economics of this, so how much is business politics????????????????????????????

Our problem is we are starting to see the same change of events happening in our egg industry with production from Southern England appearing all over supermarket shelves where is the economics in this? as it certainly must be a logistics nightmare.

Survey reveals confidence in British poultry sector

An NFU survey has revealed that the British poultry sector overall reported the highest short term confidence for all sectors and mid-term confidence is also one of the highest.

Those with a meat focus are slightly more confident in both the short and medium term than those with an egg focus. However, confidence in the egg sector is still higher than some of the other sectors. The level of confidence for both sectors and both periods has changed little since 2013

NFU Economist Anand Dossa said: "It is good to see that there is such confidence in the poultry industry which is equal across both the meat and egg sectors.

"The short term confidence is certainly being helped by the lower feed and fuel prices being experienced in the second half of this year."

86% of the respondents in the meat sector reported that profits are either increasing or being maintained. Similarly for eggs, equal proportion reported that profits are either increasing or being maintained.

Egg producers overall will be increasing investment over the next three years, mainly in bird numbers and energy efficiency primarily but also in machinery to some extent. Investments in diversification and buildings will be lower over the next three years compared to the last three. The level of investment in skills and training will be the equivalent to that of the previous three years.

The meat sector is most likely to be increasing investment over the next three years, in skills and training, buildings and energy efficiency when compared to the last three years.

Helen Hunt, NFU Poultry Adviser said "It is good to see the poultry industry recognises the need to encourage the next generation and retain them through skills and training."

World Poultry

Irish poultry exports up 20%

Irish poultry exports increased by 20% in 2014, with much of it heading to the UK for transfer to other markets, according to latest figures from the Irish Food Board (Bord Bia).

Total shipments from Ireland grew from €259m (£200m) in 2013 to €310m (£240m) in 2014, with more than 80% destined for the UK. Some was processed product, but the bulk of it was chicken feet and similar low-value products for further export to Asian markets.

"The price of chicken feet and that type of product has increased quite strongly recently, and the volume we export has also increased. So that boosted the overall value of poultry exports," explained Padraig Brennan, senior business analyst at Bord Bia. "It shows there is potential to increase the value of the trade, which is positive," he said, pointing out that exports of poultry meat have been nearly static in recent years.

Latest figures show exports continuing to rise, so prospects are good for 2015, Brennan added. "Internationally it looks as if demand is going to be strong, so we hope that, with feed costs coming back, the sector will do well."

Poultry shipments to the UK grew by about 28% during the period in volume terms, and 20% in value terms to an estimated €255m (£197m), or some 82% of the total. Other markets showing strong growth included South Africa and Germany, albeit from a lower base. Overall Irish exports increased by 22% to 85,000t during the first nine months of 2014.

Looking at the rest of Europe, Bord Bia estimates that EU poultry meat production increased by just under 2% in 2014. Imports were about 4% higher, with larger shipments from Brazil and Thailand. Exports increased by a similar amount, driven by stronger trade to Africa and Asia. Broiler prices across Europe fell by 2% in 2014.

By Anne Marie Foley for [Poultry World](#)

It is coming to that time of the year again and if you have pride in the quality of your eggs then you should be entering this competition, if successful it is an extremely good marketing tool to promote your business and we are indebted to ForFarmers and in particular John Cessford and Ian Campbell for sponsoring and organising, the date for collection has not been fixed yet but it will be April/May as the presentation is booked for 18th June at Murrayshall House Hotel Perth.

Entries were up again last year how about giving Nick Sparks and the team at Auchencruve a real challenge numbers wise as they already have a challenge separating the winners as every year the quality and presentation improves, be proud of your product and enter.

Entry forms will be sent out in February

Scottish Egg Quality Awards 2015

Sixty eggs (size 63g-72g) on 2 trays will be collected for judging from your premises by arrangement on the day prior to judging. Eggs will be selected at random by the SRUC judging panel from the sixty eggs entered and these sample eggs shall be inspected and scored as per the judging criteria. The organisers' decision is final.

Competition Rules

1. Large (63-72g) eggs from domestic fowl only will be accepted
2. Entries will be only accepted from Scottish registered sites. Entries will be collected by Iain Campbell (or can be delivered direct to SRUC Auchincruive) on the day prior to judging, between the hours of 9am to 5pm. Entries delivered to SRUC on judging day will not be accepted
3. Sixty eggs should be supplied on keyes trays within a box which is clearly labelled with the name of the entrant
4. Eggs must be taken from a flock of 300 birds or more that has been, or is intended to be, in lay for 40 weeks or more.
5. Competitors may enter only one category. Either; A. Producer, B. Producer/Retailer or C. Organic
6. The eggs will become the property of the organisers on delivery to SRUC
7. In the event of a tie, a joint prize will be awarded
8. The decision of the judges is final

A suitable joke for the injurious feather pecking conference in Perth

What do you get if you cross a nun and a hen?

A pecking order!



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