

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	£1.40	£1.00	90p	
English Wholesaler	Colony	£1.44	£1.24	£1.05	75p
	F/R	£1.90	£1.70	£1.50	80p
	Colony	£1.56	£1.31	£1.21	81p
	F/R	£1.70	£1.65	£1.55	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	£1.93	£1.05
Free-Range to Farm Shop	Prices	£1.75/£2.25	£1.31/£1.91	£1.15/£1.45	95p
Central Egg Agency	Colony	£1.15	£1.03	93p	70p
	F/R	£1.70	£1.60	£1.45	£1.05
Imported Continental Prices in Bulk					
Dutch Eggs	Barn	98p(-2p)	84p	78p(+1p)	60p

Demand is a bit quieter, as is expected as all the pennies are being spent on Christmas goodies, there is possibly a bit of resistance on the wholesale markets to the higher prices.

There is also slightly more eggs available the spike in chick placing's June/July are now coming into lay. There will probably be another 2 weeks of quieter demand, as long as nobody panics prices should hold up, but we don't expect to see the big price drops as happened last year.

Avian Influenza, a lot of producers on the East coast are hoping that there are no further outbreaks as that should be the incubation period of any links over, but nobody should be complacent, tight Bio-Security.

We have included the piece from Wageningen University as it covers in greater detail what we were saying last week and that anybody with wet land areas nearby should be extra vigilant.

At the end of this report should be the details and speakers at Victoria Sandilands Perth conference on Injurious Feather pecking, this could be very important with potential legislation on nonbeak trimming.

WUR examines HPAI spread through wild birds

Birds that spent the summer in Siberia might have been the source of the new bird flu outbreaks in the Netherlands and other parts of Europe, according to Wageningen University researchers.



The water bird Eurasian teal - spotted in the western part of The Netherlands, where Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N8 was first diagnosed - uses the same breeding grounds in Siberia as birds that migrate to Japan and South Korea. Those Asian countries had outbreaks of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N8 earlier this year.

During the HPAI H5N8 outbreaks in South Korea earlier this year (2014) HPAI H5N8 virus was isolated in poultry, but also in wild birds originating from the Donglim Reservoir that is situated in the outbreak area with poultry farms (Jeong et al., 2014).

Donglim Reservoir is one of the most important resting sites for migratory Baikal teal, which overwinter in South Korea, Japan, and northern and Eastern China. HPAI H5N8 viruses were isolated from carcasses of wild birds but also from faeces, originating from the Baikal teal (*Anas formosa*), mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), coot (*Fulica atra*) and the bean goose (*Anser fabalis*).

Mid April 2014 the virus popped-up on a poultry farm in Japan. In the frame work of wild life monitoring in Japan, faecal samples of Bewick tundra swans (*Cygnus columbianus bewickii*) were taken and tested positive for HPAI H5N8 virus (ProMEDmail, 2014).

The German Ministry of Agriculture announced on 22 November 2014 that a common teal (*Anas crecca*) tested positive for the HPAI H5N8 virus. The teal was shot outside a risk area installed in Germany around the HPAI H5N8 outbreak on a turkey farm in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (risk area with a radius of 50km).

The above mentioned wild water birds use, among others, breeding grounds in Siberia. The common breeding grounds facilitate the exchange and development of avian influenza viruses among the birds present. After the breeding season, the above mentioned water birds migrate to Europe and to Asia for overwintering. In the countries of destination of the migratory birds avian influenza viruses can be swapped with the resident wild bird populations. The common teal has been spotted this year at several sites in the western part of the Netherlands, the area of the first outbreaks of HPAI H5N8 among commercial poultry.

Source: [Wageningen University](#)

CVI researchers Armin Elbers, Ruth Bouwstra en Guus Koch

Germany calls for EU fund against avian influenza

The German Agricultural Minister Christian Schmidt has asked the European Commission to create funds to be used for preventive measures against the spreading of avian influenza.

He did this by writing in an official letter to Brussels. Because the suspicion that wild birds can transmit the virus H5N8 to commercial poultry is confirmed, an EU-wide monitoring is necessary says Schmidt. On Monday , the German government comes together in Berlin for a crisis meeting, Deutschland Radio reports.

Last Saturday, H5N8 was detected in a wild duck at the island of Rügen in the area Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. The duck was shot.

Meanwhile, the Netherlands is taking severe preventive measures after a [third case of H5N8](#) was confirmed. Also [Belgium has taken precautions](#) to prevent spreading of H5N8 in this country.

Wim Verseput and Emmy Koeleman



Workshop on feather pecking in laying hens:
Why does it happen, how does it differ with housing types, and
what can be done to prevent it?

New County Hotel, Perth
Fri 23 January 2015

All Scottish egg producers are invited to this free workshop, to hear the latest information on feather pecking and how to control it in laying hens. Feather pecking continues to be one of the most severe welfare problems for hens, because it is likely to be painful, can cause wounding, cannibalism and even death. It is also detrimental to the producer, due to hens' increased feed intake to compensate for poor feather cover and loss of egg revenue. Invited speakers include research scientists studying feather pecking and ways to mitigate it, plus practical perspectives from industry.

Timetable

Time	Event	Who
09:00-09:25	Delegate arrival, sign in, collect questionnaire. Tea/coffee on arrival	
09:25-09:30	Welcome	Victoria Sandilands, SRUC
09:30-10:00	Background to feather pecking, effects of housing	Bas Rodenburg, Wageningen University, The Netherlands
10:00-10:30	Feather pecking: the industry perspective	Robert Thompson, NFUS
10:30-11:00	Feather pecking: the veterinary perspective	Barry Thorp, St David's Poultry Veterinary Group
11:30-12:00	Feather pecking: the inspectorate's perspective	Joe Kirk, Scottish Government
12:00-13:00	- lunch -	
13:00-13:30	Management strategies to prevent injurious pecking in laying hens in free-range systems	Sarah Lambton, University of Bristol
13:30-14:00	Management of non-beak trimmed hens in furnished cages	Krysta Morrissey, SRUC
14:00-15:00	Gallery Walk: 6 x 10 min sessions discussing 6 key pecking issues and what can be done about them	All participants
15:00-15:45	Summarise gallery walk, final discussion. What needs to happen next? Suggestions for further work.	Victoria Sandilands, SRUC
15:45	Close	

Book your place:

Space is limited at the workshop, so you must register for this event by Mon 5th January 2015. Please email us at margaret.fagan@sruc.ac.uk, with 'feather pecking workshop' in the title of your email.

Venue details

The New County Hotel
22-30 County Place
Perth
PH2 8EE

Accommodation: If you wish to stay overnight, then the hotel is offering a preferential rate of £85.00 for a double, £70.00 for a single. Overnight accommodation costs are incurred at your own expense. Mention SRUC when booking.

Why was the hen sick?

Because it had people pox! -----BIO SECURITY

