



Market Report

2020 Week 33

If the market was described as “sticky” a few weeks ago it is now “stickier/getting stuck”. Plentiful supply of pigs with producers having more seasonal pigs available – we usually see numbers increase from early July to coincide with school holidays but with a few extra sows and very good performance in the spring of the year has seen more pigs come on to the market than what is currently required. As expressed in recent weeks demand remains very poor with the majority of outlets killing the minimum number of pigs they require. Excess numbers in recent weeks have only exacerbated the problem leaving a larger number of pigs having an extended stay on farm. Together with a glut of cheap European meat on offer the market does not look as though things will improve shortly unless we see demand increase – a few hot sunny weekends would certainly be of help to stimulate BBQ trade.

Prices in main were back 1p across the board, although factory input prices were saw up to 2p falls. In the week ending August 1, the GB EU-spec SPP fell again, by half a penny on the week to average 164.68p/kg. The price is still 11.89p above last year’s price for the same week, also in the week ending July 25, the GB EU-spec APP fell by 0.38p on the week to average 168.07p. The price is now 12.32p above last year’s price for the same week.

Estimated slaughter at GB abattoirs rose 2,600 head on the week to total 159,400 head. This is 11,000 head lower than the same week last year. Throughputs of heavier pigs were relatively unchanged on the week, suggesting a ‘real’ price fall, which affected most weight bands in the sample. Carcase weights averaged 85.78kg, a rise of 70g on the week suggesting that good growth rates and some rolling of pigs over weeks are contributing to heavier weights.

In the week ending August 1, 30kg weaners averaged £59.43/head, down 65p on the week. Industry reports suggest that supplies continue to improve, but demand is not rising to match it.

Good news: - After initial declines at the start of lockdown the takeaway market has returned to, and in the first 2 weeks of July exceeded, its pre-COVID high. The reopening of most fast food brands has brought good news, with volumes for all sectors rising at pace, for most sectors this meant volumes in the past 20 weeks increased significantly when compared to this time last year.

Pork has returned to year-on-year growth, with increases (+900 tonnes) coming from a variety of sources. Ham and pepperoni pizzas are a core part of this, and Chinese takeaways have provided further growth. While breakfasts at many fast food outlets have been limited, the presence of bacon on popular beef and chicken burgers has also aided volumes.

	This week	Change on week	This wk 2019	Change on Year
GB(SPP)EU	1.6468	-0.0050	1.5279	0.1189
GB(SPP)UK	1.6178	-0.0049	1.5005	0.1173
Tribune	GB Spot Bacon		GB Spot Cutter	
03/08/20	1.6581	-0.0100	1.7563	0.0000
27/07/20	1.6681		1.7563	
Pork	1.7525	-0.0050	1.6025	0.1500
Cutter	1.7629	-0.0060	1.6217	0.1412



GB(SPP) Sample	This wk	Last wk	Chg
Number	78,717	77,433	1,284
Ave Weight kg	85.78	85.71	0.07
Ave Probe mm	11.1	11.2	-0.1

EU Pig Prices

P/KG	09/08/20	Change on week	02/08/20	Diff UK
Denmark	143.11	-0.78	143.89	-22.03
Germany	137.72	-0.18	137.90	-27.42
France	129.53	-1.30	130.83	-35.61
Holland	116.77	-0.75	117.52	-48.37
Spain	139.32	-5.40	144.72	-25.82
EU28	136.53	0.34	136.19	-28.61
UK	165.14	-0.16	165.30	0.00

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