Scotlean Pigs Ltd
Unit 3C Wavell Drive, Rosehill Industrial Estate, Carlisle, CA1 2ST
Tel: 01228 541566 Fax: 01228 546500
Email: admin.office@scotlean.co.uk
www.scotlean.co.uk

SCOTLEAN
CO-OPERATING FOR PROFITABLE PIG PRODUCTION

Market Report
2021 Week 16

Seasonally shortages of numbers are now starting come into play with some plants short of contracted numbers. Six weeks ago, pig numbers rolled over were in the region of 25-30%, we would not have envisaged in just such a short period of time a major shift in supply and looking likely numbers will be down for quite a few weeks to come. Demand was a little mixed on a regional basis despite some food service facilities reopening.

Clean pig slaughter was up by 12% at 1.06 million head in March compared to 2020 but numbers in 2021 did include 1 extra working day. This equates to a 7% increase, indicating that the industry has been working through the backlog that developed towards the end of last year according to AHDB.

The slaughter pace was up in all countries, highest in England and Wales, where 14% more pigs were killed compared to March 2020. Growth in Scotland stood at 7% while Northern Ireland recorded a 5% increase.

The EU-spec SPP gained a disappointing 0.77p on the previous week to average 142.51p/kg in the week ending April 10, APP averaged 145.62p/kg, up only marginally by 0.13p on the week. This narrowed the gap between the SPP and the APP to 3.88p, which is the smallest difference since February. Processor input prices saw 2-4p gains with an average of just under 2p increases on matrix prices. Cutters also saw a 2p increase.

No industry prices were quoted for either 7kg or 30kg pigs. Demand for spotted traded weaners and stores still remains a little subdued due to high feed and straw prices. With lambing season nearly over, we may see a few more yards become available in the next few weeks to encourage a little demand especially with clean pig prices on the rise.

Surprisingly sows prices saw a 6p drop in prices due it issues in Germany caused by Covid 19 in some processing plants, poor demand and higher numbers of sows entered due to producers exiting the industry in Germany. UK Sow slaughter was elevated in March. Throughput during the month totalled 27,000 head, 27% (or 5,700 head) more than last March. So far this year, about 3,600 more sows have been slaughtered than in the first three months of 2020.

UK Carcase weights averaged 87.91kg, 370g lighter than the previous week – however, they are still 2.93kg heavier than this time last year. This is the first-time carcase weights have dropped below the 88kg mark this year. As weights have dropped the number of overweight pigs out of contract spec' has returned to normality with the odd exceptions!

Clean pig prices in Europe saw an average increase of 2.78p last week across the EU with France leading the way with just under 5.8p rise.

	This week	Change on week	*This wk 2020*	*Change on Year*
GB(SPP)EU	1.4251	0.0077	*1.6363*	*-0.2112*
GB(SPP)UK	1.4003	0.0075	*1.6074*	*-0.2071*

Tribune	GB Spot Bacon		GB Spot Cutter	
12/04/21	1.4260	0.0072	1.5138	0.0088
05/04/21	1.4188		1.5050	

Pork	1.5450	0.0125	*1.7375*	*-0.1925*
Cutter	1.5553	0.0137	*1.7528*	*-0.1975*

GB(SPP) Sample	This wk	Last wk	Chg
Number	82,694	84,162	-1,468
Ave Weight kg	87.91	88.28	-0.37
Ave Probe mm	11.1	11.2	-0.1

EU Pig Prices P/KG	18/04/21	Change on week	11/04/21	Diff UK
Denmark	130.30	-2.10	132.40	-11.11
Germany	133.77	1.02	132.75	-7.64
France	123.47	-1.86	125.33	-17.94
Holland	127.05	0.60	126.45	-14.36
Spain	141.45	-10.28	151.73	0.04
EU27	133.07	-0.45	133.52	-8.34
UK	141.41	-1.06	142.47	0.00

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