

BRIDGNORTH PRIMESTOCK MARKET REPORT 19TH JANUARY 2010 (RED MARKET)

301 Prime Cattle

A very busy market with the snow melted away and farmers able to travel on the back roads. As more cattle flood into the market place nationally, trade is likely to slip short term. Cattle sold cheaper today as expected, with averages towards 10p/kg back on last week's 'flier'. It was interesting that not all buyers took advantage of the reduced values, complaining of meat 'sticking' in fridges and suffering reduced sales. However, there were extra orders for supermarket cattle today which for once, could face the music.

Quality clean cattle tended to hold values where second string types saw a marked decrease in returns. Steers sold to 187p/kg or £1,088.96. Best butchers cattle only a little less and still sold to 204p/kg or £1,136.96 per head.

A very mixed bull trade with many of the well finished bulls plenty heavy enough for most buyers. Handy-weight Continental bulls sold to 170p/kg, with heavy bulls to £1,241.24. There were also several bulls requiring more finish.

29 Cows/Stock Bulls

Cow trade down following last week's better trade. Best Continental cows sold to 98p/kg. There were limited numbers of meat cows available, with many small boners reducing averages dramatically, around the 50p/kg mark. Limousin stock bulls sold to 100p/kg.

47 Steers	sold to 187p/kg	(av 148p/kg)
157 Heifers	sold to 204p/kg	(av 147p/kg)
97 Young Bulls	sold to 170p/kg	(av 144p/kg)
29 Cows	sold to 100p/kg	(av 75p/kg)

700 Lambs

An easier lamb trade following on from Monday's trade, although the best lambs still reached £2/kg twice. Export/Supermarket specification lambs traded around 175p/kg to 185p/kg, with over fat sheep harder to sell and customers very aware of price and quality. Heavier sheep realised £80 to £85 with price per kilo falling away over 50kg. Lightweight lambs sold to 185p/kg for 35kg and poor 29kg lambs at 170p/kg.

240 Ewes

Texel ewes sold to £126, although generally trade was easier than the exceptional trade experienced last week. That said, several pens realised £100+ and large lean Suffolks £80+. North Country Mules sold to £78 and very lean Suffolks at £60. Welsh ewes sold to £58 Beulahs and Welsh Mountain at £47. Five rams sold to £65.