

THIRSK: Thursday 6 March 2008

Forward 3246 head of stock comprising 436 cattle inc 119 young bulls & 39 cows & OTM's. 2636 sheep inc 155 ewes & 10 goats & 174 pigs inc 111 sows & boars.

Very similar numbers of cattle on offer met an exceptional trade resulting in an overall average of 148.15 for 278 cattle with 66 making prices of 160p and above. Top price of the day was 174.5 for a belgian blue x heifer shown by D&J Bailes, Elwick and purchased by J Robertshaw, Bradford who also purchased the top price steer, a belgian blue x at 170.5 from CR & CL Donaldson, Huby. Young bulls were also the dearest since 1996 with black & white bulls showing the largest rise on the week. Top price was 167.5 twice for limousin x from WE Swales & Sons, Bagby and IM Cook & Son, Newby Wiske purchased by Cleveland Meat Company, Stockton and Bowland Foods, Preston respectively. Cows & OTMs were a similar trade to last week with OTMs selling to 133p & cows to 118p. Older bulls sold to 110p (1109.90)

Smaller number of sheep on offer were an improved trade for all weights selling to £76 for Beltex x from A Lancaster, Easingwold. These hoggs realising 181ppkg over 300 hoggs sold at £70 and above. Mule hoggs sold to £63. Ewes were a better trade making up to £56.

Pigs were easier to sell with a top price of 100ppkg from DR & BL Houston, Kirby Wiske. Sows were a much better trade selling to 53.5ppkg.

Averages steers med to 166.5 (894.88 per head) 146.3 ave, heavy to 170.5 (1199.85 per head) 146.7 ave, hfrs med to 169.5 (774.66 per head) 143.4 ave, heavy to 174.5 (1170.83 per head) 149.3 ave, bulls med to 163.5 (837.12 per head) 132.6 ave, heavy to 167.5 (1085.85 per head) 140.1 ave, OTMs to 133 (842.70 per head) 120.7 ave, cows & bulls to 118 (1109.90 per head) 91.3 ave, hoggs std to 145.9 (55.20 per head) 127.3 ave, med to 181 (76.00 per head) 136.2 ave, heavy to 156.3 (75.00 per head) 131 ave, overweight to 135.2 (75.50 per head) 128.5 ave, ewes light to 36, 26.88 ave, heavy to 56, 40.05 ave. Pigs porkers to 83 (62.32 per head) 77.2 ave, cutters 90 (73.67 per head) 84.3 ave, bacon to 100 (86.33 per head) ave 84.5, sows to 53.5 (155.48 per head) 49.7 ave, boars to 40 (108.40 per head).