

## MEAT MARKET REPORT OCT-2011

### **BEEF**

Beef continues to increase in price particularly forequarter cuts due to a number of factors including lack of cattle, high fuel and feed prices, strong domestic market for cheaper cuts, and the continued decrease of imported beef. Exports carry on increasing due to favourable foreign exchange rates, and a willingness to pay higher prices. The record market prices continue and there is little sign of the market stabilising in the near future, on the other hand due to the current favourable returns there are some sign of future investment in stock, however this will take some time to come through to the markets.

### **LAMB**

Lamb has fallen from its record highs during the summer months, although it is still 10% higher than this time last year, Imported lamb volumes are down due to lack of supply as emerging markets take additional volumes, and a shortfall of exports from New Zealand due to reduced stock levels, Australia is now shipping more volume although this is not making up the shortfall. At present the price of imported lamb is at parity with UK on most cuts and forward pricing for the New Zealand new season is high.

### **PORK**

Pork is reasonably stable even though prices are still ahead of last year; however there has been an increase in exports to emerging markets, with price pressure on other sectors and the move into the colder months prices could increase further.

### **POULTRY**

Prices have risen due to increased production costs, Fuel, and feed being the main issues also less poultry farms adding to a stock tightening which in turn increases prices. Turkey prices have risen steadily over the summer again with less UK production the turkey market may become quite volatile closer to Christmas.

### **BACON**

Seasonal increases in bacon, coupled with fluctuating euro exchange rates have moved prices up slightly recently.

