

# Dawn top league at €1.27



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relative to Glanbia who are somewhat down the field. Also performing very well are McCarrons, marginally behind Dawn at €1.26.

Northern Prices are strong. The range is wide, going from €1.37 to €1.44 including VAT. A great deal appears to depend on whether or not there is strong or weak selling by producers.

For the purpose of league comparison I have taken the average price paid in the North and deducted the VAT.

On this basis the Northern price is very attractive at €1.33 to Northern producers.

Another factor in Northern prices is the payout for quality assurance which I am told can amount to 20c/kg. This is tied into the British Red Tractor

## APRIL 2007 PIGMEAT PRICE LEAGUE TABLE

Factory	April 07 per kg DW	March 07 per kg DW	Jan 98 per kg DW	April 07 price as % of Jan.98	Est. share of national kill in each factory
<b>Division No. 1 €1.26 and over</b>					
Dawn	1.27	1.30	1.17	109%	16%
McCarron	1.26	1.28			8%
<b>Division No. 2 - under €1.26</b>					
Roscrea	1.24	1.29	1.13	110%	30%
Edenderry	1.24	1.30	1.13	110%	15%
Weighted Avge	1.26	1.29			
● All prices quoted excl VAT refund.					
<b>Northern Prices</b>					
Cookstown	1.33	1.32			
Cullybackey	1.33	1.32			
Grants	1.33	1.32			
<b>Pork Price</b>					
Coyle	1.29	1.31			
Salter	1.29	1.31			
Garbally	1.27	1.30			

logo which ensures high quality. Pork, bacon and ham displaying the Red Tractor logo is produced to a set standard under the Assured British Pig science.

Farmers must care for their animals by following five freedoms: welfare code, freedom from hunger, discomfort, pain, injury or disease, fear or distress, freedom to express normal pattern of behaviour. This scheme is monitored with visits to farms, processors and hauliers.

The weighted average April league price is €1.26. This compares to the March figure of €1.29 and the February return of €1.30. Falling prices are obviously bad news for Irish producers.

The top performer in the April league is Dawn. They are paying a league price of €1.27. This is a good price



## Ireland €500,000 below EU average

APRIL prices result in Ireland paying under the EU average for the month. The difference is 3.53c/kg which amounts to

€2.47 per pig. Overall for the slaughterings in the month of April this is a penalty of €500,000 for Irish producers

because we are under the EU average. This is a significant amount of money from the Irish producers bottom line.

## Irish performance reasonable relative to EU

WHILE April has seen Irish prices drop below the EU average, our overall performance for 2007 relative to other EU members was not bad.

The specialist pig magazine "Whole Hog" has set out an interesting bar chart comparing prices for February, March and April 2007 with 2006 for a number of EU coun-

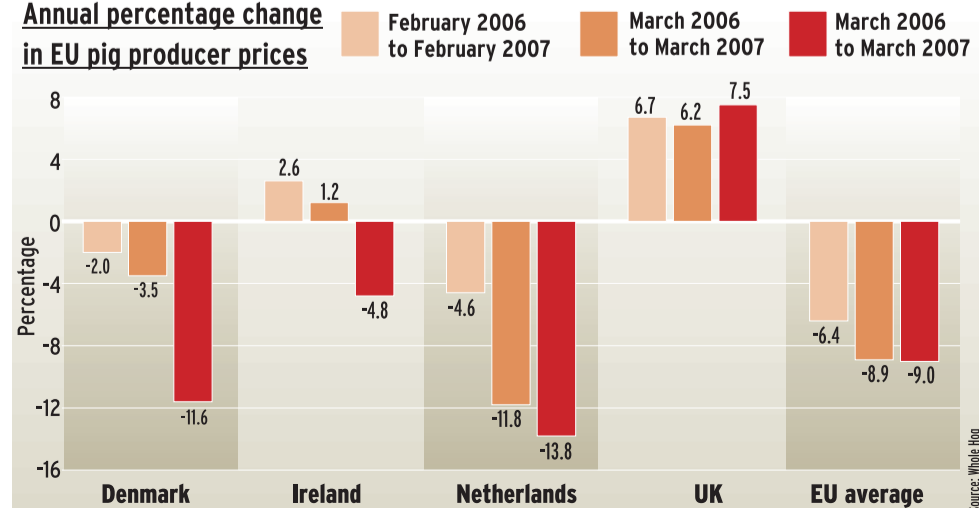
tries. This chart is reproduced below. In this context the top performers are Ireland, Britain and Northern Ireland.

They are the only countries to show increases over the period 2007 compared to 2006. Ireland was up 2.4% for February, plus 1.4% for March. Disappointingly prices declined in April by 4%.

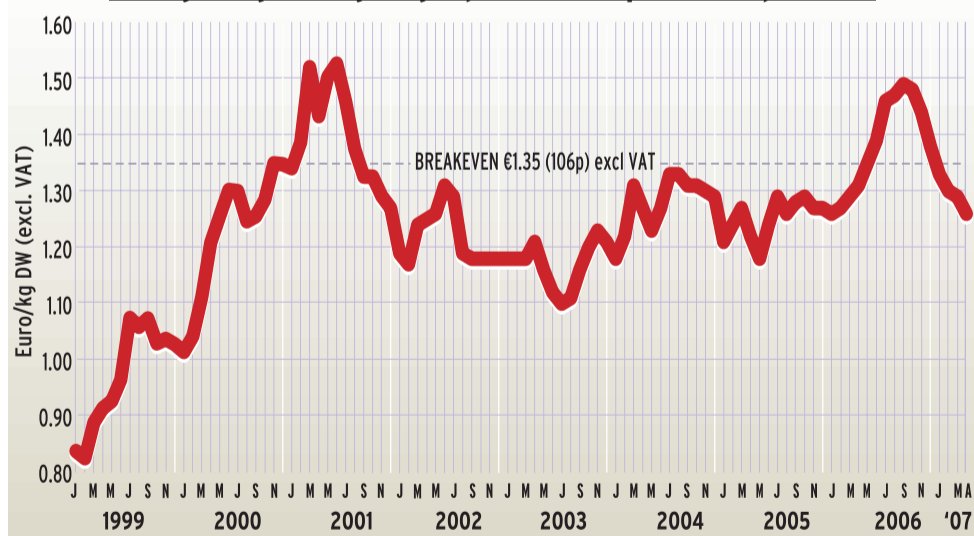
British and NI prices in-

creased by more than 6% for all three months. Major exporters Denmark and the Netherlands returned major price reductions, dropping for every month over the period. For example the Dutch were down over 13% for April. However European prices have started to stage a recovery in May. This is expected to continue into the summer.

### Annual percentage change in EU pig producer prices

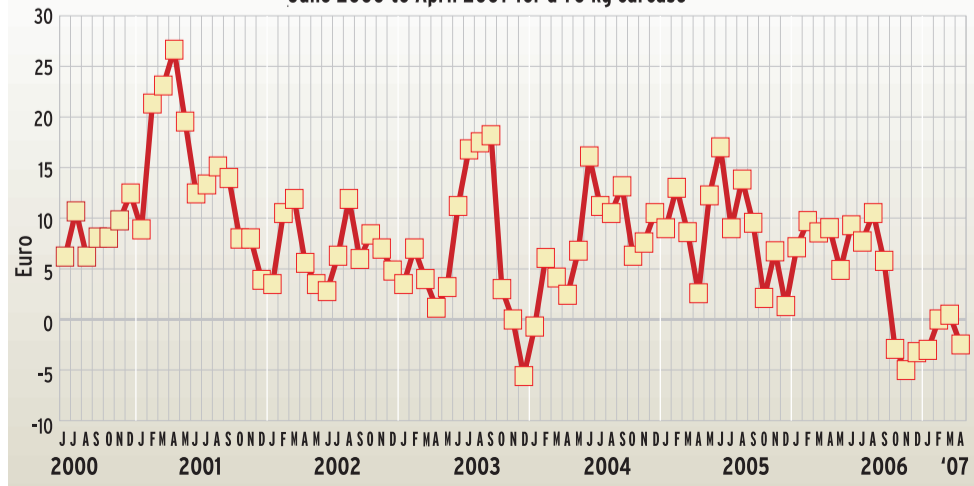


Average weighted Pig League price, January 1999 to April 2007



Irish pig price gap compared to EU average

June 2000 to April 2007 for a 70 kg carcass



Based on data from Bord Bia Monitor for April 2007

Source: Whole Hog