



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Note of the meeting of the UK Agricultural Market Monitoring Group, 9 June 2026

The UK Agricultural Market Monitoring Group comprises representatives from Defra, DAERA, Scottish Government and Welsh Government.



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

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Introduction

This note records the key points discussed at the meeting of the UK Agricultural Market Monitoring Group (UK AMMG) held on 9 June 2026. Present were representatives of Defra, Scottish Government, Welsh Government and DAERA (Northern Ireland). The meeting assessed current and on-going issues impacting on the agricultural sector and reviewed the market situation across a range of UK agricultural commodities.

The publication of these notes aims to provide transparency and accountability. The accompanying data reports will be published on the same GOV.UK landing page.

Key points: Market situation

The UK agriculture market is broadly stable but with some differences by sector. Beef prices continue to show slight easing but remain above long-term averages, while sheep prices continue to strengthen. Pig prices remain under pressure with ongoing declines due to oversupply. Poultry and eggs continue to be stable. The dairy sector continues to face downward pressure, with falling farmgate prices and strong milk supply. The horticulture market remains stable with a good supply of fruit during early summer. The arable market has seen some price increases over the month, largely reflecting seasonal patterns.

The Group agreed to continue to closely monitor input costs, particularly in the light of the current situation in Iran. Prolonged disruptions through key shipping routes could add pressure to supply chains, including fertiliser and feed ingredients.

Intervention scheme announcements

No new market intervention schemes have been announced.

Market inputs overview

In May 2026, the Pound Sterling strengthened modestly against the Euro (+0.4%) and US dollar (0.1%) on a month-on-month (MoM) basis, while weakening against both the Australian (-1%) and New Zealand dollars (-0.7%). On an annual basis, the pound recorded gains against the US dollar (+1%) and the New Zealand dollar (+1.4%), though it is down against both the Euro (-2.5%) and the Australian dollar (-9.6%).

Energy markets in April 2026 remain volatile as the war in the Middle East continues. Brent crude oil price increased 0.8% MoM to reach US\$118.26 per barrel and is up 84% Year on Year (YoY). The red diesel price decreased 4.4% MoM but remains 53.7% higher YoY, to 112.4 pence per litre. The natural gas price at the European Title Transfer Facility (TTF) price was up 2.2% MoM and is 31.4% higher YoY. The natural gas price at the American Henry Hub increased 4.9% MoM but remains down 10.3% YoY.

Sector discussions

Dairy

The UK Farmgate Milk Price (FGMP) for April 2026 fell to 34 pence per litre (ppl), down 2.2% MoM, 22% YoY, and 10% on the 5-year average. Monthly average UK milk volume was 1400 million litres, down 0.1% MoM, up 0.14% YoY and up 3.4% on the 5-year average. UK daily milk deliveries (7-day average) reached 47 million litres on 23 May 2026, down 0.62% YoY.

The Actual Milk Price Equivalent (AMPE) for May 2026 stands at 36 ppl, up 0.80% MoM and down 20% YoY. The Milk for Cheese Value Equivalent (MCVE) sits at 35 ppl, down 0.86% MoM, and 23% lower YoY. In May 2026 bulk cream is at £1,220/t, down 1.5% MoM, down 52% YoY and down 39% on the 5-year average.

Beef

In April 2026, the Monthly Prime Cattle Deadweight price was down 0.77% MoM, down 9.8% YoY but up 25% on the 5-year average. The Monthly Cow Deadweight price was down -0.13% MoM, 0.63% YoY and up 37% on the 5-year average.

In April 2026, Weekly Average Beef and Veal production was down 2.8% MoM, 1.5% YoY, and 1.6% on the 5-year average. In April 2026, Weekly Average Prime Cattle slaughter was down 3.0% MoM, 4.0% YoY, and 3.6% on the 5-year average.

Sheep

In April 2026, the Monthly Standard Quality Quotation (SQQ) Clean Lamb GB price was up 3.9% MoM, 21% YoY, and 23% on the 5-year average.

In April 2026, Weekly Average Mutton and Lamb production was down 16% MoM, 9.8% YoY, and 5.7% against the five-year average. Weekly Average Clean Sheep slaughter for April 2026 was down 19% MoM, 12% YoY and 8.0% against the 5-year average.

Horticulture

In May 2026, key summer fruit and vegetable prices moved as follows:

- Apple prices were up 1.4% MoM and down 1.1% YoY
- Strawberry prices were up 27% MoM and 30% YoY
- Raspberries prices were down 0.76% MoM and up 53% YoY
- Onion prices were down 2.9% MoM and 8.0% YoY
- Carrot prices were up 26% MoM and 53% YoY
- Lettuce prices were down 6.4% MoM and 8.6% YoY
- Tomato prices were down 26% MoM and up 73% YoY

Arable

For the week ending 24 May 2026:

- The price of Bread Milling Wheat was down 2.2% week on week (WoW), up 1.8% MoM and 5.7% YoY.
- The price of Feed Wheat was down 0.18% WoW, up 3.9% MoM, and 13% YoY.
- The price of Feed Barley was up 0.30% WoW, 0.96% MoM, and 3.5% YoY.

For the week ending 17 May 2026:

- The price of Premium Malting Barley was £164 per tonne but weekly, monthly, and annual comparisons were not available.

In March 2026 the price of Northern Ireland Potato Washing was up 2.8% MoM and down 0.83% YoY. For the same month Northern Ireland Potato Processing prices were down 4.3% MoM and down 25% YoY.

In May 2026 the price of Oilseed Rape was up 9.4% MoM and 15% YoY.

Pigs

In April 2026, the Monthly EU-Spec Standard Pig Price (SPP) Deadweight GB price was down 1.4% MoM, 12% YoY and 4.0% on the 5-year average. The Weekly EU-Spec SPP Deadweight GB price on 23 May 2026 was down 0.63% WoW.

In April 2026, Weekly Average Clean Pig Slaughter was down 0.61% MoM, up 3.3% YoY, and 2.1% on the 5-year average. Weekly Average Pigmear Production was down 0.08% MoM, up 7.5% YoY and 6.7% on the 5-year average.

Poultry

In April 2026:

- Weekly Average Poultry Meat Production was up 4.0% MoM, down 0.73% YoY, and up 1.3% on the 5-year average.
- Weekly Average Broiler Slaughter was up 1.7% MoM, down 0.99% YoY and up 2.7% on the 5-year average.
- Weekly Average Boiling Fowl Slaughter was up 19% MoM, down 3.7% YoY and 21% on the 5-year average.
- Weekly Average Turkey Slaughter was up 12% MoM, 31% YoY, and 1.9% on the 5-year average.

Eggs

The Average Egg price in Quarter 1 2026 was up 0.3% on the previous quarter and 6.0% YoY. Free Range Egg prices were up 1.2% on the previous quarter and 0.9% YoY.

The Total Egg Production for Human Consumption was up 0.3% on the previous quarter and 6% YoY.

Weekly Average Commercial Layer Eggs set in April 2026 was down 9.0% MoM, 3.0% YoY and 0.85% on the 5-year average. Weekly Average Commercial Layer Chicks placed in April 2026 was down 21% MoM, 11% YoY and 6.8% on the 5-year average.

Data from the sector indicates continued growth.

Any other business

No other issues were raised.

Date of next meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the UKAMMG will take place on Wednesday 15 July 2026. This is a change to the usual meeting date to accommodate public holidays in Northern Ireland.



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