

The UK beef trade now seems to have an annual pattern with peak prices in the autumn and run up to Christmas followed by a Spring trough. So our autumn sales do offer members opportunity to market calves on a rising market ahead of higher winter rearing costs.

Sale Summary 2015 :-

2015

Sennybridge		Weight kg	£/head	p/kg	2014 p/kg	2013 p/kg
20/10/15	Steers	223	934	238	237	259
	Heifers	144	825	229	231	236
Number sold	367					
Knighton						
10/11/15	Steers	164	825	279	260	259
	Heifers	164	678	231	223	227
Number sold	328					

Total numbers sold in 2015 were 695 and up on the low of 630 in 2014. Sennybridge numbers were disrupted by TB affecting a number of vendors. While Knighton sale was the second as a combined sale, which with additional numbers it was an attractive offering for buyers who travelled from further afield as a result.

We can be proud of the great quality of suckled calves offered for sale while growing the number of cattle on offer is still important to ensure continued support from all areas. While at the same time our sales present members with a real business alternative to market quality suckled calves at a premium rather than rear for another 6 months. Well presented and even large lots are sort after by buyers and realise a premium over small and single lots.

I would also like to thank our management committee, field officer and secretary for their help and support, plus our sponsors for their continued support of our shows sections.

Looking forward to the 2016 sales I am sure we will have well grown calves forward and I hope you will be able to support our sales with entries this year, at a time when cattle finishers will have additional confidence with prices on an upward trend.

Many thanks

David Thomas