



Agriculture & Horticulture
DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Pig Pocketbook

2015





Agriculture & Horticulture
DEVELOPMENT BOARD



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Chapter 1 – Marketing chain

Table 1.1 UK pig meat supply balance

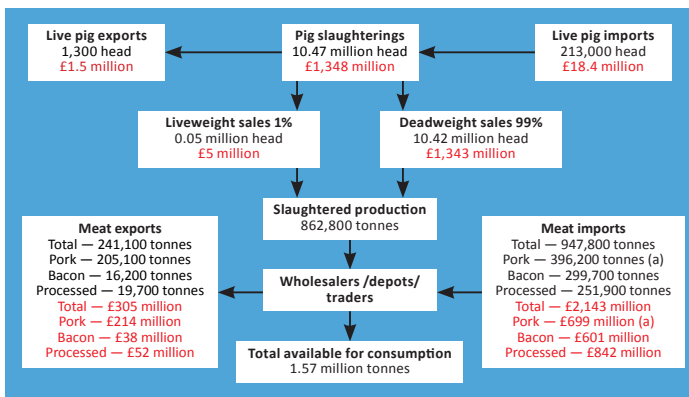
'000 tonnes	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 (f)
Production	806	825	833	863	887
Imports	960	942	928	948	947
(Fresh/frozen)	(410)	(387)	(392)	(396)	(382)
(Bacon)	(328)	(302)	(292)	(300)	(313)
(Processed)	(223)	(254)	(244)	(252)	(252)
Exports	206	203	229	241	245
Total consumption	1,559	1,564	1,532	1,570	1,589
Self-sufficiency (%)	51.7	52.7	54.4	55.0	55.8

All data is carcase weight equivalent.

(f) forecast

Source: Defra, GTIS/HMRC, AHDB Market Intelligence

Figure 1.1 UK product flows in the pig meat marketing chain in 2014



(a) Includes pork imports which are subsequently cured in the United Kingdom.

Volumes are carcase weight equivalent.

Source: Defra, GTIS/HMRC, AHDB Market Intelligence

Table 1.2 EU pig meat supply balance

'000 tonnes	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 (e)
Net production	22,133	22,437	21,990	21,997	22,335
Imports	22	15	16	15	13
Exports	1,839	2,175	2,182	2,172	1,896
Consumption	20,316	20,278	19,824	19,840	20,452
Self-sufficiency (%)	109	111	111	111	109

All data is carcase weight equivalent.

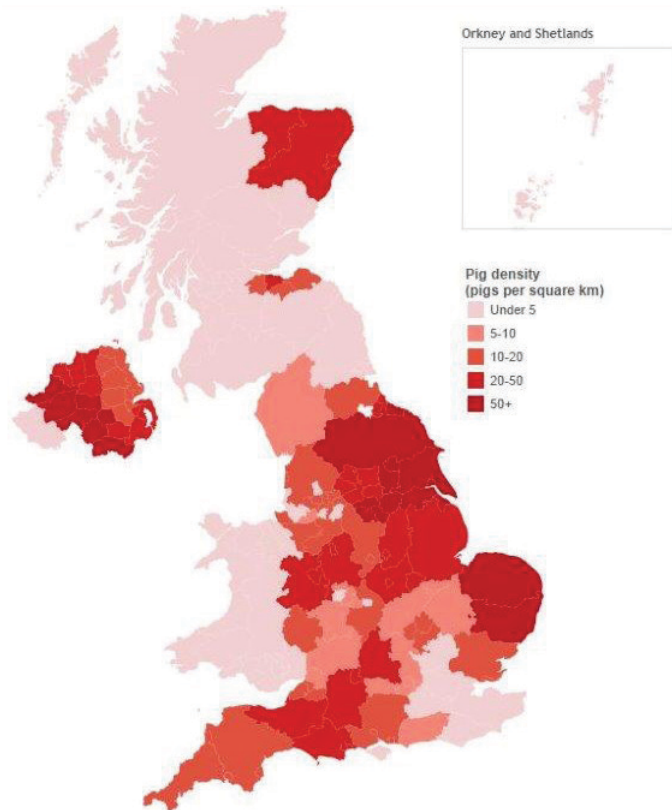
(e) estimate

2010 to 2012 data is based on EU-27 countries, 2013 to 2014 data is based on EU-28 countries.

Source: EU Commission

Chapter 2 – Pig numbers

Figure 2.1 Density of pigs, June 2013



Data covers commercial holdings only.

Source: AHDB Market Intelligence, Defra, Welsh Government, DARD, Scottish Government

Table 2.1 Pig numbers in the UK, June survey

'000 head	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Sows in pig	281	279	293	284	282
Gilts in pig	67	70	69	66	57
Other sows	79	83	64	70	67
Total breeding sows	427	432	425	421	406
Gilts for breeding	75	75	82	86	80
Boars for service	17	16	16	15	14
Fattening pigs	3,942	3,917	3,958	4,363	4,315
Total pigs	4,460	4,441	4,481	4,885	4,815

Source: Defra June Agricultural Survey

Table 2.2 UK female breeding pig herd and holding numbers, June survey

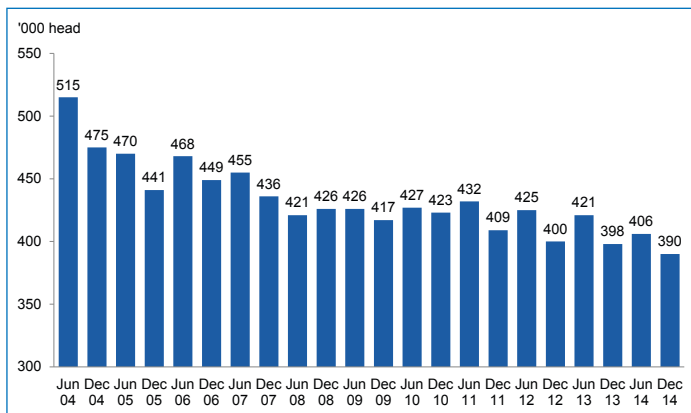
	Breeding pigs ('000 head)	Number of holdings ('000)	Average breeding herd size (head)
2000	610	7.2	85
2001	598	6.6	91
2002	558	6.1	92
2003	516	5.8	90
2004	515	6.0	85
2005	470	6.8	69
2006	468	6.2	76
2007	455	6.1	74
2008	421	6.1	75
2009	426	5.8	78
2010	427	6.0	71
2011	432	6.0	72
2012	425	6.1	70
2013	421	6.0	70
2014	406	n/a	n/a

Census methodology changed from June 2010 and, as a result, smaller units were omitted from the survey.

n/a = Not available

Source: Defra June Agricultural Survey

Figure 2.2 Breeding sow numbers in the UK



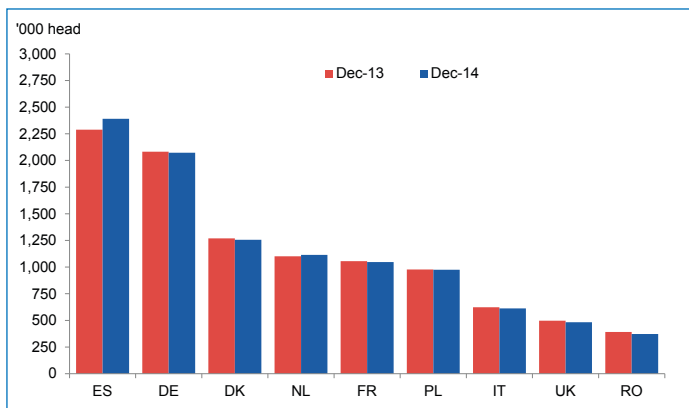
Source: Defra June Agricultural Survey, December census

Table 2.3 Breeding pig numbers by region, June

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
England	81%	83%	84%	83%	82%
Wales	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Scotland	9%	8%	7%	7%	7%
N Ireland	9%	8%	8%	9%	10%

Source: Defra June Agricultural Survey

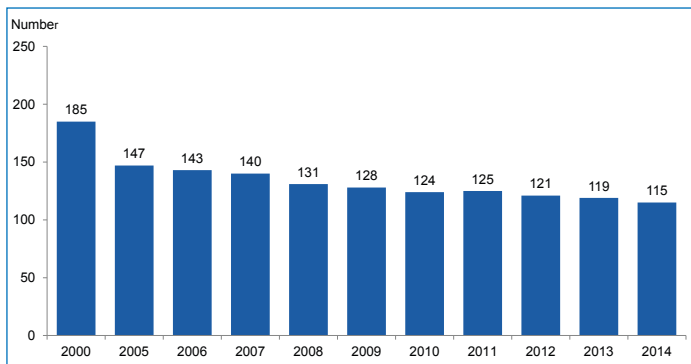
Figure 2.3 Breeding pig numbers in the EU



Source: Eurostat

Chapter 3 – Abattoirs

Figure 3.1 English pig abattoir numbers



Source: AHDB/BPEX

Table 3.1 Abattoirs slaughtering pigs in England

	Abattoir numbers	Of which specialist pig abattoir numbers	Average annual throughput (head)
2000	185	24	53,003
2005	147	15	48,620
2006	143	16	50,505
2007	140	16	52,754
2008	131	16	56,234
2009	128	14	55,738
2010	124	15	59,237
2011	125	16	62,152
2012	121	14	67,967
2013	119	15	69,965
2014	115	14	74,057

Source: AHDB/BPEX data based on abattoirs operating in the calendar year

Table 3.2 Size profile of all abattoirs slaughtering pigs in England, 2014

Size group (head)	Number of abattoirs	Total throughput (head)	Average throughput (head)	Share of throughput (%)
1-10,000	74	204,424	2,762	2.4
10,001-30,000	21	356,492	16,976	4.2
30,001-100,000	7	318,803	45,543	3.7
100,001-500,000	5	1,001,002	200,200	11.8
> 500,001	8	6,635,884	829,486	77.9
Total	115	8,516,605	74,057	100.0

Source: AHDB/BPEX data based on abattoirs operating in the calendar year

Table 3.3 Size profile of specialist pig abattoirs in England, 2014

Size group (head)	Number of abattoirs	Total throughput (head)	Average throughput (head)	Share of throughput (%)
1-100,000	5	65,495	13,099	1.1
100,001-500,000	3	718,423	239,474	12.1
> 500,001	6	5,142,820	857,137	86.8
Total	14	5,926,738	423,338	100.0

Note: Specialist pig abattoirs are defined as plants where 95 per cent of slaughtering are pigs.

Source: AHDB/BPEX data based on abattoirs operating in the calendar year

Chapter 4 – Slaughterings and production

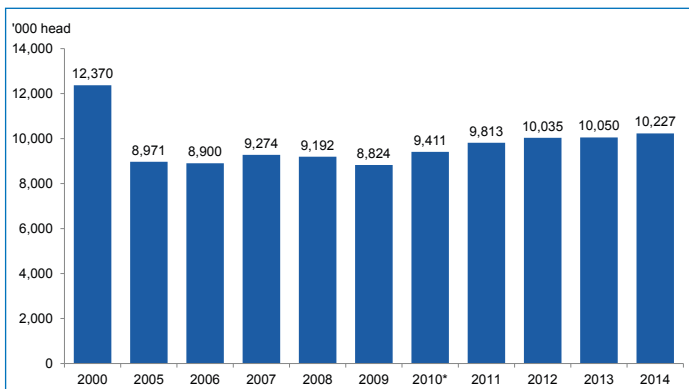
Table 4.1 UK pig slaughterings

'000 head	Sows and boars	Clean pigs	Total pigs
2000	321	12,370	12,692
2005	202	8,971	9,173
2006	196	8,900	9,097
2007	210	9,274	9,484
2008	235	9,192	9,427
2009	207	8,824	9,031
2010*	225	9,411	9,635
2011	250	9,813	10,063
2012	265	10,035	10,299
2013	252	10,050	10,302
2014	243	10,227	10,470

* 53-week year

Source: Defra, AHDB Market Intelligence

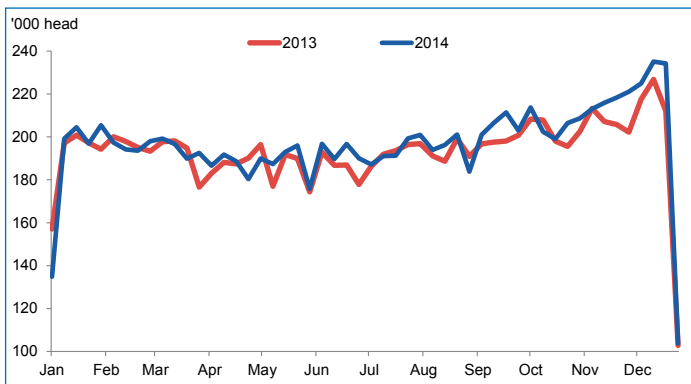
Figure 4.1 Trends in UK clean pig slaughterings



* 53-week year

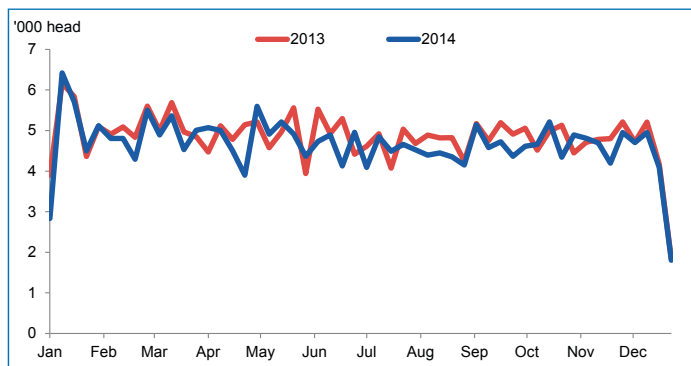
Source: Defra

Figure 4.2 Weekly clean pig slaughter, UK



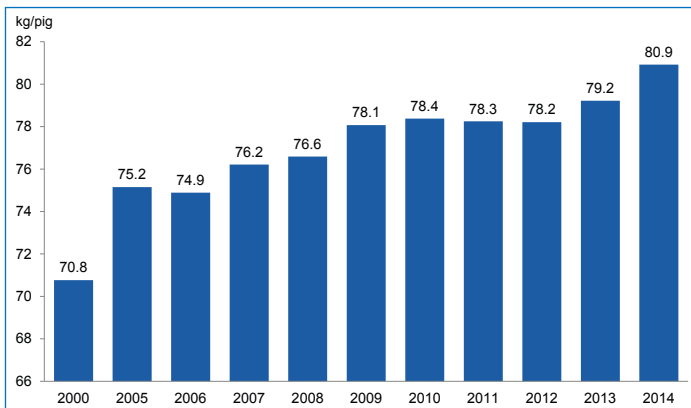
Source: AHDB Market Intelligence, Defra

Figure 4.3 Weekly sow culling, UK



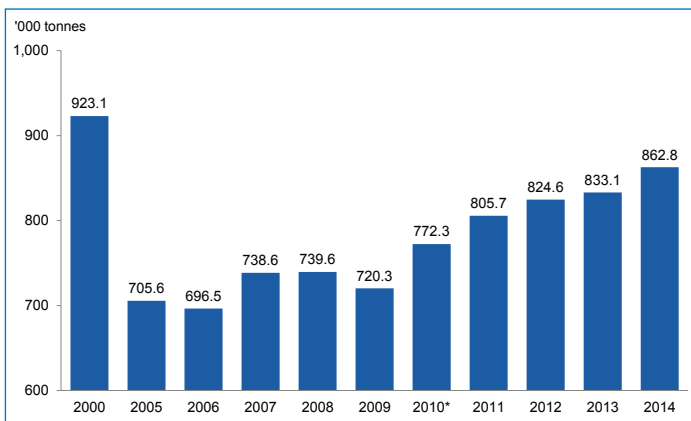
Source: AHDB Market Intelligence, Defra

Figure 4.4 Average clean pig carcase weights, UK



Source: Defra

Figure 4.5 Pig meat production trends, UK



* 53-week year

Source: Defra

Table 4.2 Industry trends (productivity and production)

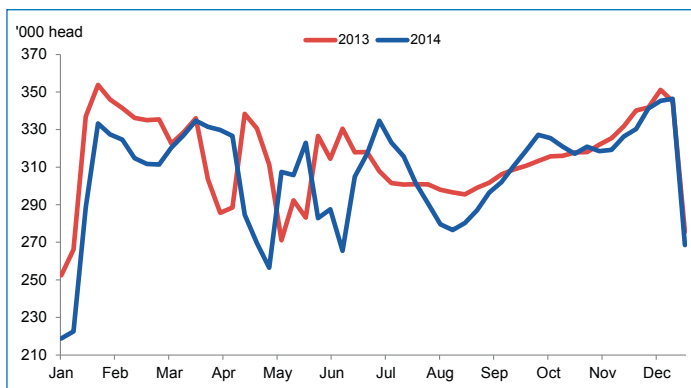
	2000	2005	2009	2010**	2011	2012	2013	2014
UK ave sow productivity (a)								
Pigs per sow	19.0	17.7	19.5	20.2	21.6	22.5	23.0	23.7
Pig meat per sow (kg)	1,345	1,331	1,525	1,587	1,692	1,761	1,824	1,919
Slaughterings and production								
Clean pig slaughter ('000 head)	12,370	8,971	8,824	9,411	9,813	10,035	10,050	10,227
* ACW (kg)	70.8	75.2	78.1	78.4	78.3	78.2	79.2	80.9
= clean pig prod ('000 tonnes)	875	674	689	738	768	785	796	828
Sow slaughter ('000 head)	321	202	207	225	250	265	252	243
* ACW (kg)	148.4	155.5	151.7	154.5	151.3	150.3	146.6	144.8
= sow meat prod ('000 tonnes)	48	31	31	35	38	40	37	35
Total pig meat production ('000 tonnes)	923	706	720	772	806	825	833	863

* ACW = Average carcass weight ** 53-week year

(a) **NOT** survey results. Based on relationship between clean pig slaughter and lagged breeding herd.

Source: Defra, AHDB Market Intelligence

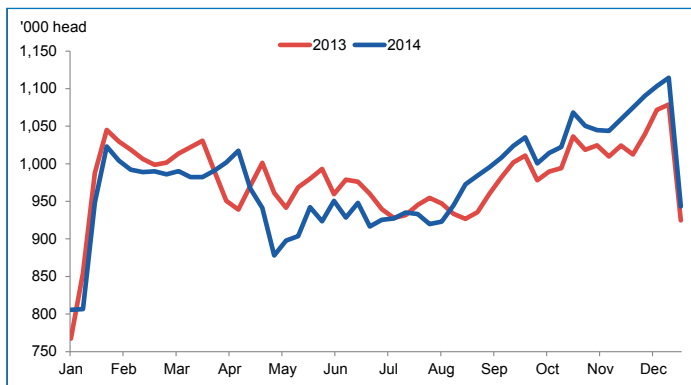
Figure 4.6 Clean pig slaughterings: three-week rolling average, Denmark



Source: Danish Agriculture & Food Council

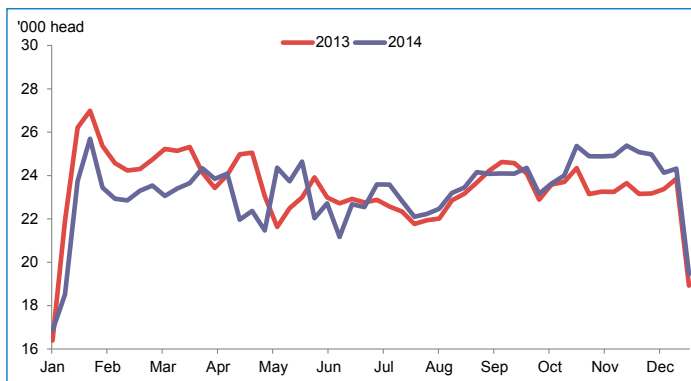
Slaughterings and production

Figure 4.7 Clean pig slaughterings: three-week rolling average, Germany



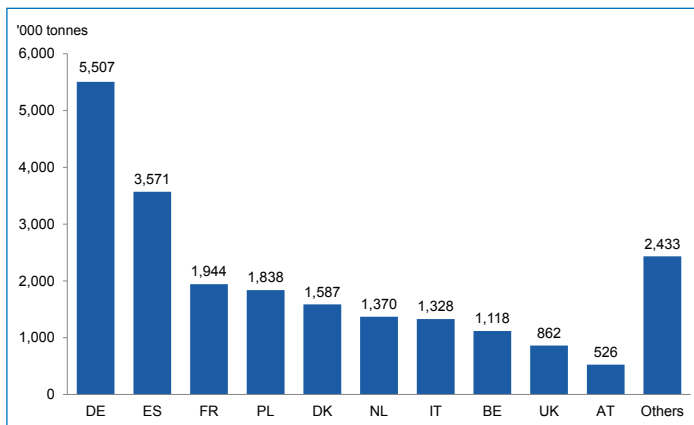
Source: AMI

Figure 4.8 Weekly sow slaughterings, Denmark/Germany



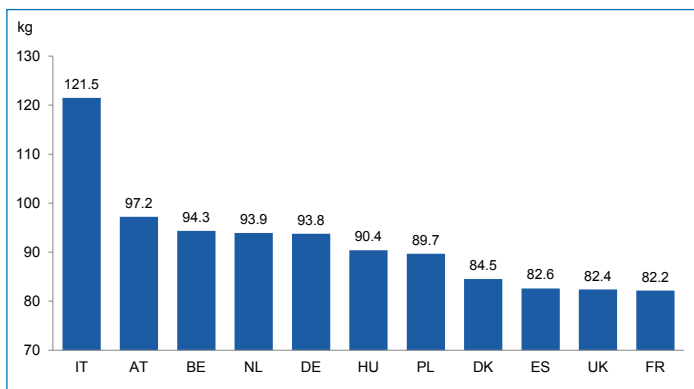
Source: Danish Agriculture & Food Council, AMI

Figure 4.9 EU pig meat production, 2014



Source: Eurostat

Figure 4.10 Average pig carcase weights in the EU, 2014



Source: Eurostat

Chapter 5 – Livestock and meat prices

Table 5.1 GB deadweight pig prices

	GB DAPP (EU Specification)				GB SPP (EU Spec)	GB APP (EU Spec)
	2012	2013	2014	2013-14	2014	2014
	p per kg dw				p per kg dw	
	% change					
January	143.46	159.32	167.91	+5.4	-	-
February	139.66	156.21	164.17	+5.1	-	-
March	141.85	156.96	162.78	+3.7	-	-
April	146.17	160.94	163.47	+1.6	163.26	165.25
May	148.97	164.06	164.25	+0.1	163.98	166.12
June	149.79	166.79	164.07	-1.6	163.81	165.51
July	150.45	168.55	161.50	-4.2	161.48	163.67
August	150.40	167.90	158.31	-5.7	158.13	160.63
September	152.91	170.07	156.19	-8.2	156.07	158.75
October	157.74	171.87	na	na	152.61	156.14
November	160.25	171.56	na	na	146.64	150.35
December	160.95	171.31	na	na	143.98	147.63

Source: AHDB Market Intelligence

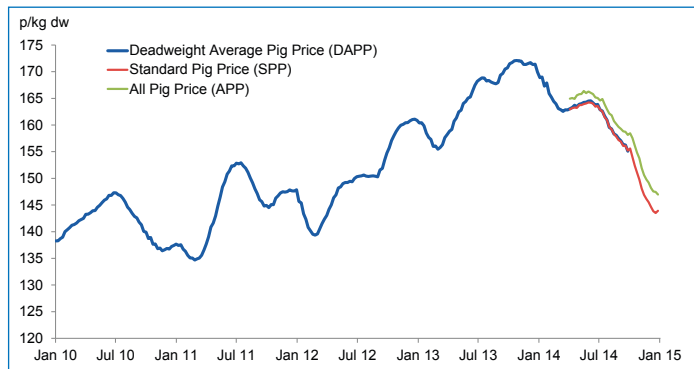
Table 5.2 GB weaner prices

	30kg weaners				7kg weaners		
	2012	2013	2014	2013-14	2013	2014	2013-14
	£ per head				£ per head		
	% change				% change		
January	44.76	46.34	55.73	+20.3	na	42.48	na
February	44.59	46.38	56.20	+21.2	na	41.33	na
March	45.62	47.55	55.93	+17.6	na	40.54	na
April	45.71	49.06	56.71	+15.6	na	40.49	na
May	44.45	49.84	56.13	+12.6	na	40.87	na
June	42.95	51.77	56.39	+8.9	na	41.32	na
July	40.93	53.55	56.02	+4.6	39.14	40.19	+2.7
August	39.31	53.77	53.38	-0.7	42.66	39.24	-8.0
September	39.02	53.99	52.34	-3.1	40.07	38.33	-4.3
October	41.27	54.26	48.99	-9.7	42.18	37.16	-11.9
November	44.99	56.60	49.07	-13.3	42.93	34.84	-18.8
December	46.14	56.32	47.00	-16.5	42.93	34.69	-19.2

Note: The methodology for collecting 30kg weaner prices changed from November 2013. Figures after that date are not directly comparable with earlier months.

Source: AHDB Market Intelligence

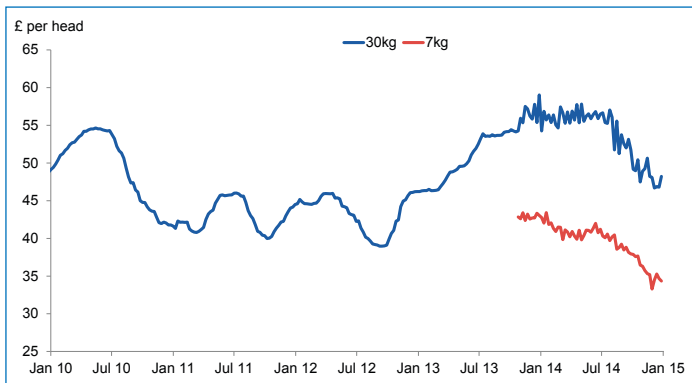
Figure 5.1 GB average producer pig prices



Note: DAPP series ended in September 2014. APP and SPP series commenced in April 2014.

Source: AHDB Market Intelligence

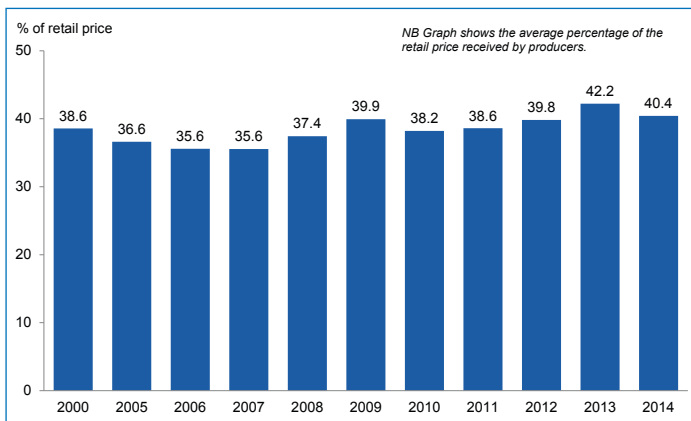
Figure 5.2 GB average weaner prices



Note: The methodology for collecting 30kg weaner prices changed from November 2013. Figures after that date are not directly comparable with earlier months.

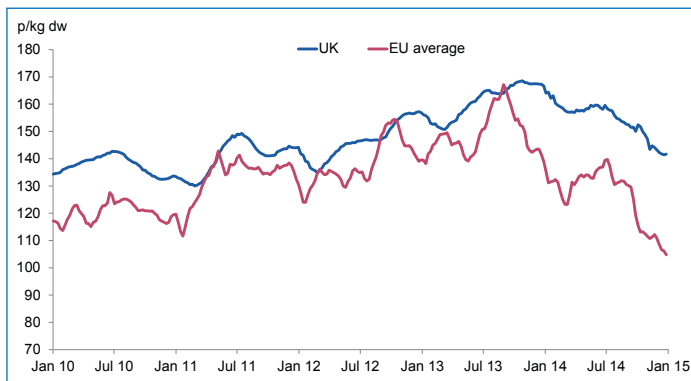
Source: AHDB Market Intelligence

Figure 5.3 GB retail: producer price spreads



Source: AHDB Market Intelligence

Figure 5.4 UK and EU pig meat reference prices



Source: EU Commission

Chapter 6 – Imports and exports

Table 6.1 Volume of total UK pig meat imports

tonnes, product weight	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Fresh/frozen meat	363,158	372,768	349,198	351,723	358,092
Bacon/ham	312,597	279,955	257,814	249,847	256,155
Sausages	81,580	99,137	107,537	105,836	109,124
Processed hams, shoulders and pieces *	91,687	121,607	141,251	134,513	138,950
Total	849,022	873,467	855,800	841,919	862,321
Live pigs (head)	652,799	696,282	684,918	339,558	212,961

* Including canned

Source: GTIS, HM Revenue and Customs

Table 6.2 Value of total UK pig meat imports

£'000	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Fresh/frozen meat	656,215	723,830	690,174	739,834	699,276
Bacon/ham	718,475	676,902	648,610	644,871	601,343
Sausages	258,263	299,019	330,206	344,987	352,482
Processed hams, shoulders and pieces *	265,416	374,041	419,114	464,513	489,484
Total	1,898,369	2,073,792	2,088,104	2,194,205	2,142,585
Live pigs	62,023	69,452	72,569	36,726	18,426

* Including canned

Source: GTIS, HM Revenue and Customs

Imports and exports

Table 6.3 UK fresh/frozen pork imports by source

tonnes, product weight	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	363,158	372,768	349,198	351,723	358,092
of which from:					
Denmark	99,759	117,567	99,561	88,835	89,675
Germany	48,386	53,438	66,731	77,651	74,579
Netherlands	64,489	58,864	49,038	56,347	55,774
Belgium	48,616	36,474	28,043	32,098	35,502
Ireland	46,687	44,641	37,652	31,864	31,922
France	30,075	31,746	33,655	30,079	31,879
Spain	16,275	17,666	23,357	24,413	27,089
Poland	748	2,870	2,395	2,193	4,493
Portugal	1,366	2,794	3,227	1,548	2,771
Italy	1,428	2,967	2,779	3,627	2,567

Source: GTIS, HM Revenue and Customs

Table 6.4 UK bacon imports by source

tonnes, product weight	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	312,597	279,955	257,814	249,847	256,155
of which from:					
Denmark	136,659	116,261	105,942	103,680	115,150
Netherlands	116,303	106,216	104,466	92,790	88,093
Germany	38,973	39,837	32,170	34,126	35,640

Source: GTIS, HM Revenue and Customs

Table 6.5 Volume of total UK pig meat exports

tonnes, product weight	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Fresh/frozen meat	131,344	144,427	154,300	180,749	189,534
Bacon/ham	24,492	34,082	15,509	13,549	13,874
Sausages	7,183	6,402	9,702	10,866	10,595
Processed hams, shoulders and pieces *	14,343	9,963	12,268	12,024	13,802
Pig offal	27,653	34,852	48,534	41,648	38,391
Total	205,015	229,726	240,313	258,836	266,196
Live pigs (head)	8,623	11,875	3,810	2,079	1,295

* Including canned

Source: GTIS, HM Revenue and Customs

Table 6.6 Value of total UK pig meat exports

£'000	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Fresh/frozen meat	148,938	171,274	189,342	218,136	214,253
Bacon/ham	44,499	59,440	36,977	39,139	38,226
Sausages	14,910	13,951	17,204	17,204	18,242
Processed hams, shoulders and pieces *	35,564	27,267	32,906	29,002	34,241
Pig offal	16,534	25,001	30,249	26,091	30,449
Total	260,445	296,933	306,678	329,572	335,411
Live pigs	2,504	5,950	1,863	1,631	1,481

* Including canned

Source: GTIS, HM Revenue and Customs

Table 6.7 Volume of UK fresh/frozen pork exports by destination

tonnes, product weight	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	131,344	144,427	154,300	180,749	189,534
of which to:					
(EU-28)	(107,150)	(106,015)	(112,333)	(127,625)	(128,472)
Germany	31,826	31,739	32,529	30,940	30,977
China	1,969	4,003	11,458	25,006	28,244
Ireland	27,461	25,381	26,148	29,110	27,950
Denmark	6,763	6,452	12,255	20,397	23,727
Netherlands	26,372	19,611	18,835	21,467	19,861
Hong Kong	17,311	26,610	19,025	15,842	16,968
Sweden	21	1,891	8,374	7,660	7,342
Belgium	3,800	6,146	5,648	5,931	7,213
Italy	3,710	2,927	1,945	3,196	4,082

Source: GTIS, HM Revenue and Customs

Table 6.8 Value of UK fresh/frozen pork exports by destination

£'000	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	148,938	171,274	189,342	218,136	214,253
of which to:					
(EU-28)	(128,882)	(133,350)	(143,005)	(166,454)	(157,671)
Ireland	56,799	52,897	49,961	61,606	65,509
Germany	32,876	37,812	44,985	41,394	35,872
Denmark	10,268	9,418	15,481	22,274	24,886
China	1,123	2,805	10,645	20,441	21,807
Netherlands	17,237	13,923	13,101	19,180	16,384
Hong Kong	9,973	22,324	18,081	13,457	14,018
United States	6,619	7,421	9,589	10,932	10,289
Belgium	1,434	4,308	4,499	4,455	4,219
Philippines	54	767	664	1,264	2,731

Source: GTIS, HM Revenue and Customs

Table 6.9 Volume of UK pig offal exports by destination

tonnes, product weight	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	27,653	34,852	48,534	41,648	38,391
of which to:					
(EU-28)	(15,354)	(16,766)	(35,061)	(22,373)	(11,073)
China	686	3,664	4,049	7,263	13,583
Hong Kong	11,230	12,643	6,975	8,335	9,846
Netherlands	5,048	7,893	11,441	7,103	5,064
Ireland	4,017	4,584	5,981	3,951	2,644
Denmark	87	230	782	1,824	2,335
Philippines	-	584	719	652	1,038
Japan	24	301	573	700	753
South Korea	-	229	226	321	619
South Africa	-	25	267	619	452

Source: GTIS, HM Revenue and Customs

Table 6.10 Value of UK pig offal exports by destination

£'000	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total	16,534	25,001	30,249	26,091	30,449
of which to:					
(EU-28)	(9,029)	(11,296)	(17,821)	(10,111)	(5,458)
Hong Kong	6,858	10,075	7,255	8,104	12,793
China	347	2,460	3,310	5,555	9,434
Ireland	1,330	3,339	4,282	2,607	2,186
Netherlands	3,716	5,415	6,583	2,825	1,576
Denmark	53	235	564	1,309	1,045
Philippines	-	362	454	462	825
South Africa	-	24	509	576	590
South Korea	-	190	199	194	384
Japan	16	114	192	254	326

Source: GTIS, HM Revenue and Customs

Table 6.11 EU fresh/frozen pig meat exports to non-EU countries

'000 tonnes	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Live animals	97.2	84.9	40.4	30.1	43.6
Fresh and frozen pork	1,162.8	1,432.8	1,392.1	1,448.1	1,361.1
Salted, dried, smoked pig meat	30.6	34.2	32.6	31.5	32.1
Offals	839.8	1,045.1	1,009.5	1,005.4	1,081.8
Sausages	105.5	125.7	129.0	131.2	121.6
Prepared and preserved	60.3	75.0	77.4	80.4	73.4
Pig fat	11.8	14.0	11.3	10.2	14.5
Lard	377.2	379.9	380.2	359.4	212.8
Total	2,685.2	3,191.6	3,072.5	3,096.3	2,940.9

Source: European Commission

Chapter 7 – Consumption

Table 7.1 GB retail value sales by type of outlet

%	Multiples	Freezer centres	Butchers	Other
Pork				
2012	84.9	3.4	9.0	2.7
2013	85.1	3.1	8.7	3.1
2014	85.6	3.1	8.1	3.2
Bacon				
2012	87.9	5.1	3.8	3.2
2013	87.6	5.5	3.8	3.1
2014	87.6	5.6	3.5	3.3

Data covers 52 weeks ending in early January of the following year.

Source: Kantar WorldPanel

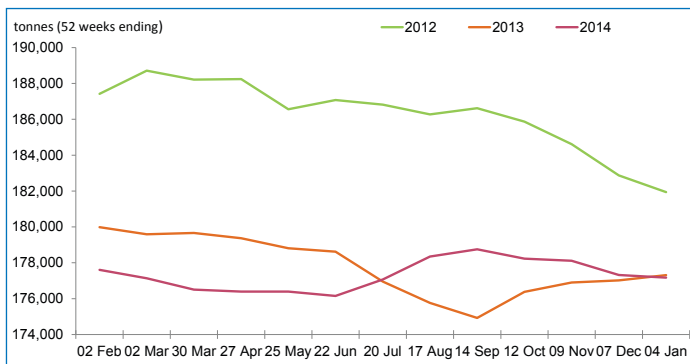
Table 7.2 UK per capita consumption of pig meat and total meat

	Pig meat	Total meat (including poultry) kg/person/ year
2000	23.6	79.2
2005	24.8	83.6
2006	25.0	83.5
2007	25.8	83.3
2008	24.7	80.5
2009	24.5	78.5
2010	24.3	80.1
2011	24.9	80.7
2012	24.6	79.7
2013	23.9	78.6
2014	24.4	79.9

Volumes are carcase weight equivalent.

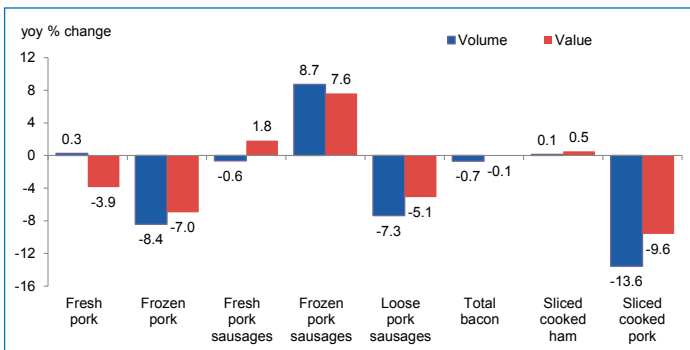
Source: AHDB Market Intelligence calculations based on data from Defra, HMRC, ONS

Figure 7.1 Trends in GB household pork purchases by volume



Source: Kantar WorldPanel

Figure 7.2 Change in GB retail volume and value sales of pig meat products, 2014

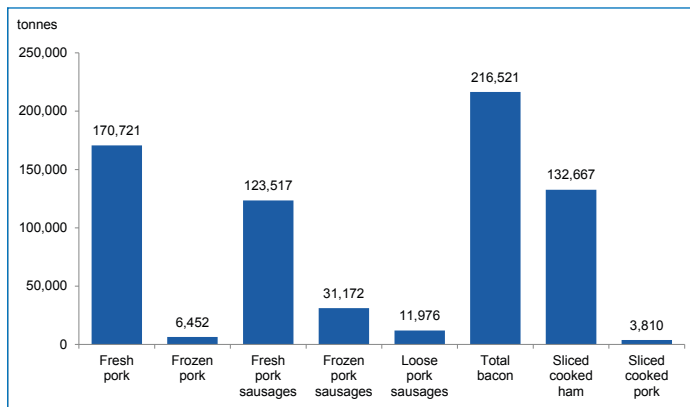


Data covers 52 weeks ended 4 January 2015.

Source: Kantar WorldPanel

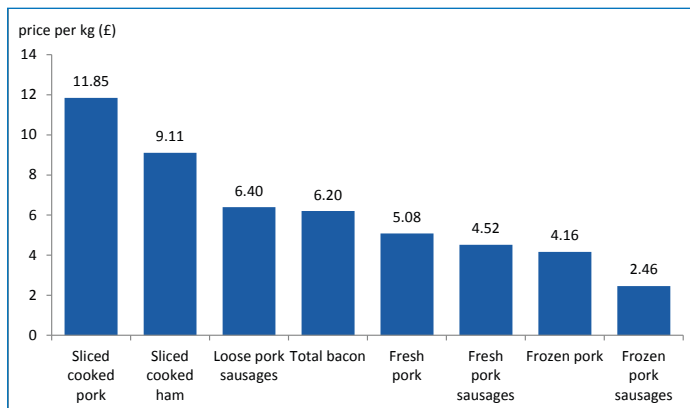
Consumption

Figure 7.3 GB volume sales of pig meat by product, 2014



Source: Kantar WorldPanel

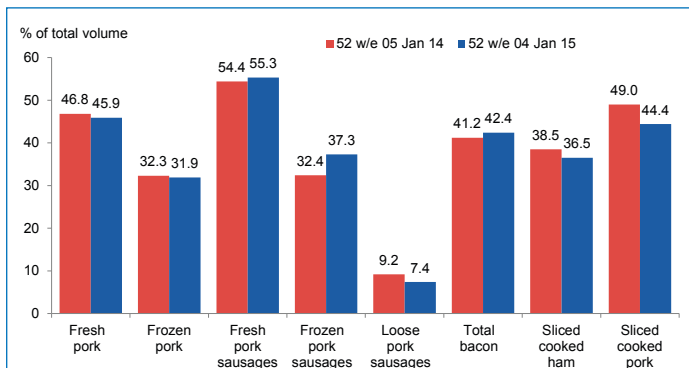
Figure 7.4 Average GB retail price of pig meat products, 2014



Data covers 52 weeks ended 4 January 2015.

Source: Kantar WorldPanel

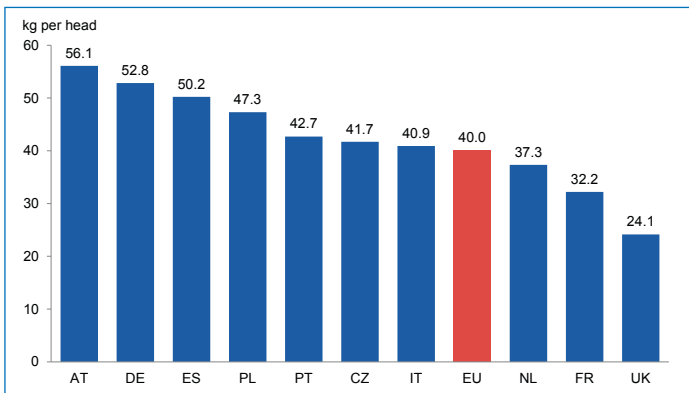
Figure 7.5 Share of pig meat products sold on promotion in GB retail outlets



Data covers 52 weeks ended 4 January 2015.

Source: Kantar WorldPanel

Figure 7.6 Per capita consumption of pig meat in selected EU Member States, 2013

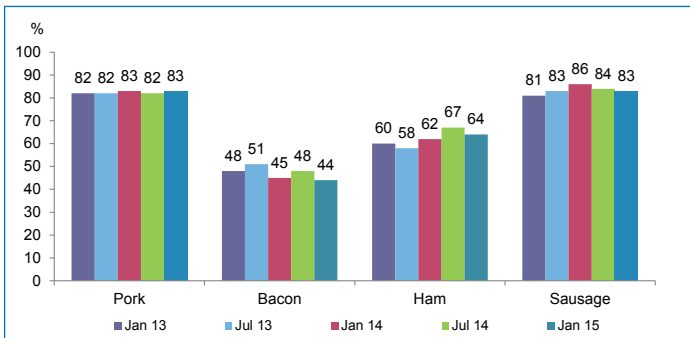


All data is carcase weight equivalent.

Source: AHDB/BPEX calculations using data from Eurostat

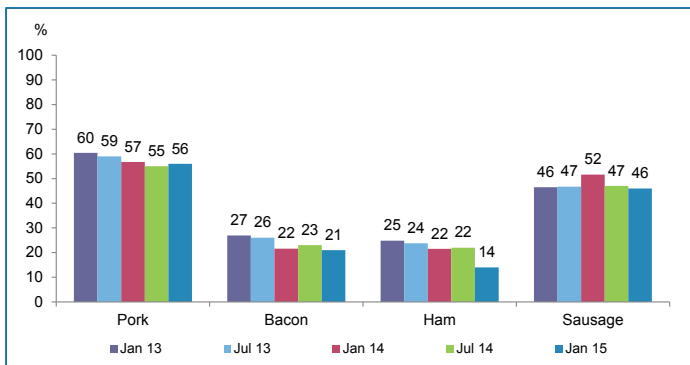
Consumption

Figure 7.7 Percentage of product facings with British logo sold in the total GB market



Source: AHDB/ESA

Figure 7.8 Percentage of product facings with Red Tractor quality standard mark sold in the total GB market



Source: AHDB/ESA

Chapter 8 – Pig carcase classification data

The Meat and Livestock Commercial Services Independent Authentication Service

John Messenger, Quality Manager

The information provided by MLCSL's Pig Carcase Authentication Service is used widely as the basis for transactions between producers and slaughterers. The current service, which incorporates all of the mandatory requirements of the EU Pig Carcase Grading Scheme was introduced in GB in 2010. The service provides pig slaughterers with technically trained MLCSL staff who independently establish all of the important criteria for trade between pig suppliers and abattoirs.

The Service Includes

Identification – Carcases are individually serial numbered and the slap marks are read and recorded to identify each consignment of pigs. The Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order 2003 requires all pigs going to slaughter to be identified by a Defra allocated herdmark on both shoulders. This must be legible before and after slaughter to allow correct tracing of the pigs for both payment and biosecurity.

Weighing – Carcases are individually weighed. Hot weights are recorded, with hot weight rebates and dressing coefficients deducted to establish the payment weight. Regular scale and tare checks form an integral part of the service. Mature boars and sows are not covered by the mandatory scheme but a weighing service is available as part of the Authentication Service.

Backfat measurement and lean meat percentage – MLCSL classifiers are trained to operate all of the approved classification equipment.

Methods and Probes

MLCSL offers all methods of pig carcase classification for the prediction of lean meat percentage in accordance with EU legislation. Each method involves taking carcase measurements with EU approved equipment at specified positions on each carcase.

The following equipment is approved for use in the UK:

- Optical Probe
- Hennessey Grading Probe (HGP)
- Fat-O-Meater (FOM)
- AutoFOM
- CSB Ultra-Meater

The HGP, FOM, AutoFOM and CSB Ultra-Meater are all automatic recording probes.

Method 1

Optical Probe is used to measure backfat and rind thickness at the P1 and P3 positions, level with the head of the last rib. The probe is inserted 4.5cm and 8cm from the dorsal midline respectively. The sum of the P1 and P3 measurements is recorded.

Method 2

Optical Probe is used to measure backfat and rind thickness at the P2 position, level with the head of the last rib. The probe is inserted 6.5cm from the dorsal midline.

Method 3

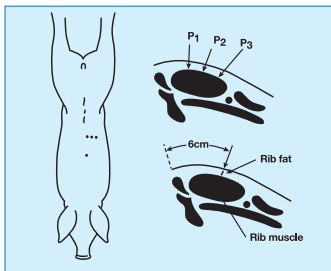
HGP or FOM are used to measure:

- Backfat and rind thickness at the P2 position as for Method 2. The HGP or FOM probes are inserted 6cm from the dorsal midline.

Pig carcass classification data

- Backfat and rind thickness at a point 6cm from the dorsal midline between the third and fourth last rib. This measurement is referred to as rib fat.
- Longissimus dorsi (eye muscle) depth at a point 6cm from the dorsal midline between the third and fourth last rib. This measurement is referred to as rib muscle.

Figure 8.1 Locations of probing sites on a pig carcass



Lean Meat Percentage and EU Grade

Lean meat percentage is calculated as follows:

Optical probe

Cold carcass weight and P2 (or P1 + P3) fat depths are used to estimate lean meat percentage.

An EU grade can be allocated to a carcass by using the lean meat percentage figure.

Lean meat percentage	EU grade
60% and above	S
55-59%	E
50-54%	U
45-49%	R
40-44%	O
39% or less	P

Visual Appraisal

This is the identification of pigs with carcass faults. These are described as “Z” carcasses. Carcasses that are scraggy, deformed, blemished, pigmented and coarse skinned, those with soft fat or pale muscle and those devalued by being partially condemned are recorded as “Z” on the carcass record (PCC1 or computer equivalent). Young boars are identified and recorded. Carcasses with poor conformation are recorded as “C” carcasses at the request of the abattoir.

Dressing Specification

Carcass dressing specifications are closely monitored by MLCSL staff and provide a vital element of the carcass record.

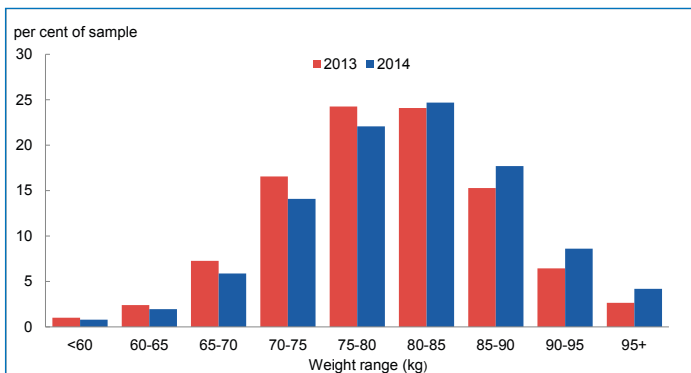
Classification Consistency

To ensure consistency of pig carcass classification standards by MLCSL staff, various procedures are strictly applied to the operation of the scheme. Extensive training programmes, both in-plant and centrally, ensure that classifiers maintain the required standards of proficiency. Classifiers are checked regularly by Divisional Managers and nominated checkers on a local basis, with the General Manager providing a GB link.

Each check requires the manager/checker separately to classify and record 20 carcasses. The classification measurements assessed by the classifier are then checked against the manager’s measurements and an analysis of accuracy levels for the 20 carcasses is made. This analysis measures both bias (the tendency of a classifier to measure higher or lower classifications than the checker) and consistency (the overall level of agreement between classifier and checker).

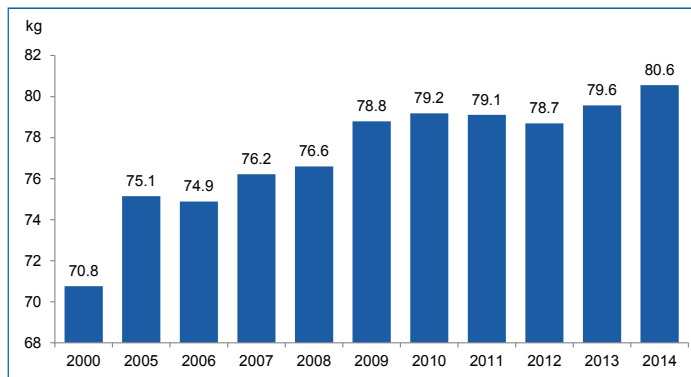
All checks are analysed at MLCSL’s HQ to ensure classifiers are meeting accuracy levels.

Figure 8.2 Distribution of the GB classified sample by carcass weight



Source: AHDB Market Intelligence

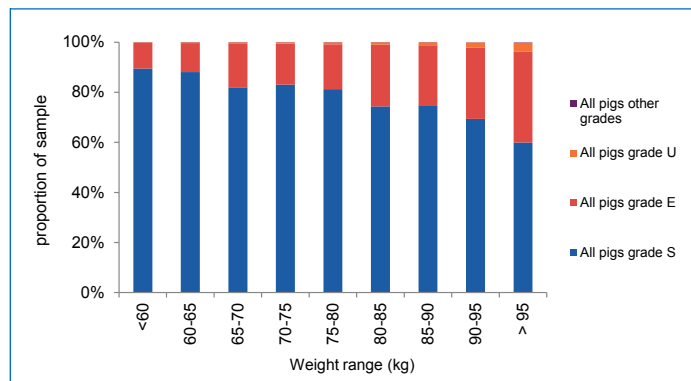
Figure 8.3 Average carcass weights of the GB collected sample



Source: AHDB Market Intelligence

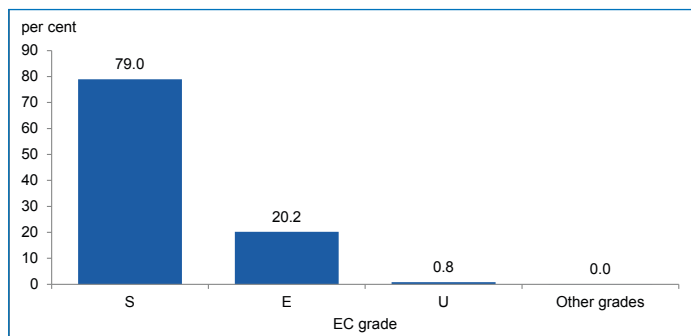
Pig carcass classification data

Figure 8.4 Distribution of the GB classified sample in EC grade by weight band, 2014



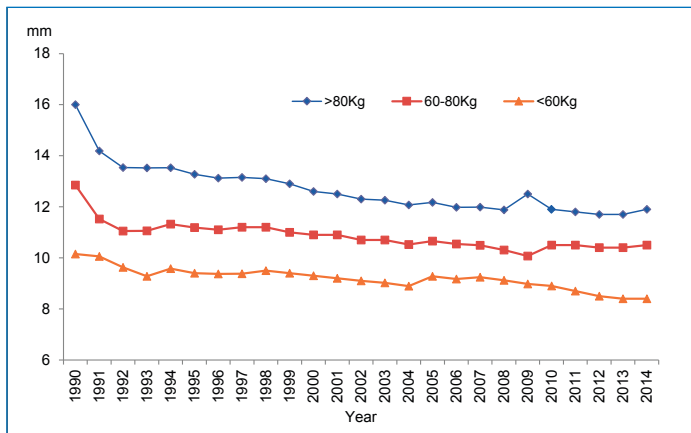
Source: AHDB Market Intelligence

Figure 8.5 Distribution of the GB classified sample by EC grade, 2014



Source: AHDB Market Intelligence

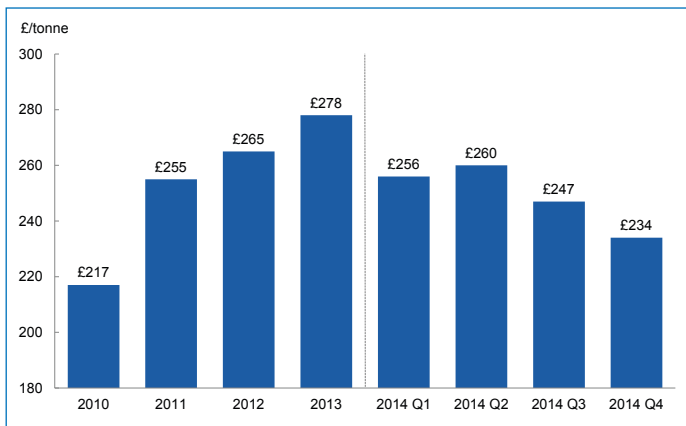
Figure 8.6 Trends in P2 fat depth of the GB classified sample



Source: AHDB Market Intelligence

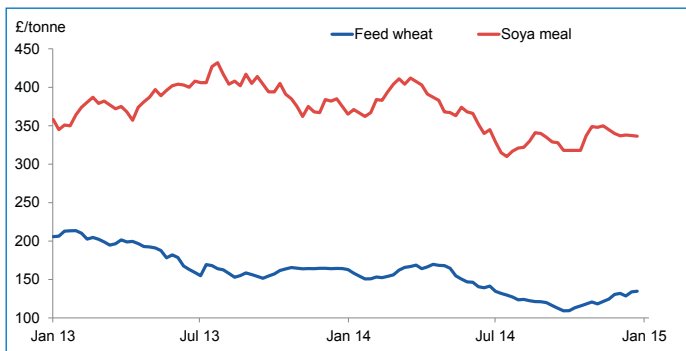
Chapter 9 – Feed prices

Figure 9.1 Average pig compound feed prices, GB



Source: Defra

Figure 9.2 Feed wheat and soya meal prices



Source: AHDB/HGCA