

## International Comparisons 2016

International comparisons are provided by the agri benchmark network of 35 member countries who submit data for suckler herd, beef finishing and sheep “typical” farms. This is an internationally standardised method of establishing and analysing typical virtual farms representing typical production systems and their profitability in each country. The results are reported in US Dollars (USD) as an international comparison base. *For more information visit [www.agribenchmark.org](http://www.agribenchmark.org)*

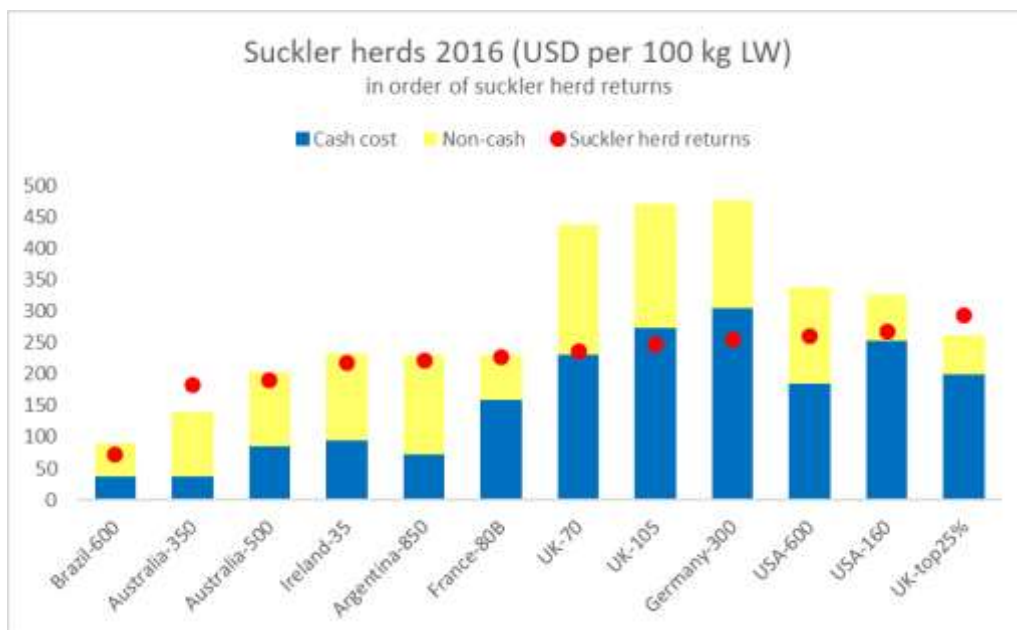
The UK trades and competes in a global market and is therefore affected by exchange rates as well as any competitive cost of production. The countries in the charts are based on the UK’s main competitors and the exporting environment for commercial beef and sheep meat.

The charts are ranked in ascending order of total returns because, globally, farmers tend to have little control over their market price. Cash costs include all paid expenses and non-cash costs include the value of family labour, rental value of owner-occupied land and depreciation.

Also included in each chart is the UK Top 25% performance of farms recording on the AHDB’s Farmbench system. These farms are Top 25% based on Full Economic Net Margin.

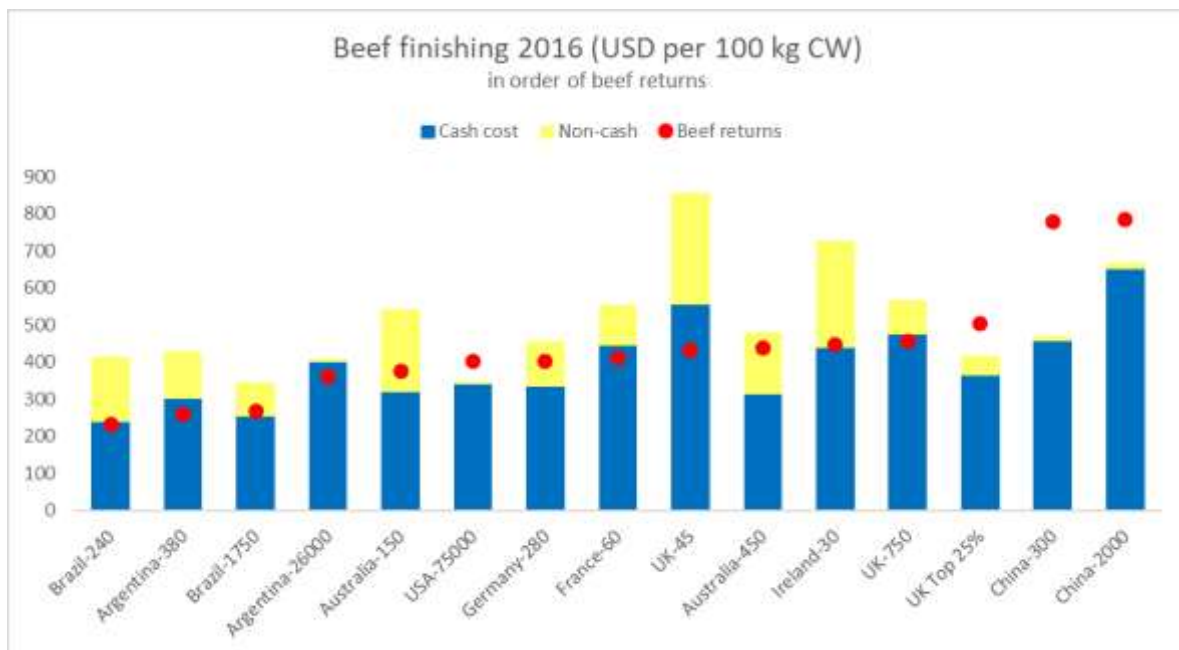
Returns do not include decoupled payments such as land-based payments paid in the EU.

### Suckler Herds



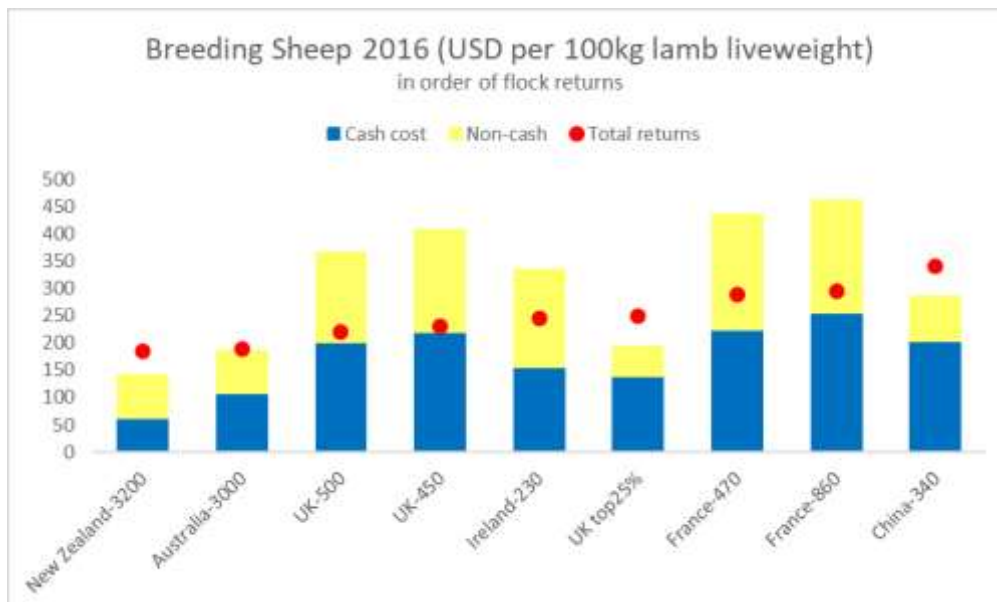
The numbers after the country name are the number of cows typically put to the bull each year. UK-70 is a lowland farm in the South West who finishes the weaned calves on farm. UK-105 is a typical upland farm in North Yorkshire that sells the calves at weaning. Also shown is UK-Top25% which is the average performance of the Top25% of all suckler herds benchmarking using Farmbench.

## Beef Finishing



The numbers after the country name are the number of animals typically finished off farm in a year. Many of these farms are the finishing enterprises of the suckler herds shown in the previous chart. The exceptions are Brazil-1750, Argentina-26000, Germany-280, USA-75000, UK-750, China-300 and China-2000 who all purchase calves or stores to finish. UK-45 is the beef finishing enterprise on the South West suckler farm UK-70. Also shown is UK Top25% which is the average of the performance of the Top25% of beef finishing enterprises recording using Farmbench.

## Sheep flocks



The numbers after the country name are the number of ewes typically put to rams each year. UK-450 is the sheep flock on the South West suckler herd farm and UK-500 is a typical upland farm in the north of England. Also shown is UK-top25% which is the average of the performance of the Top25% of all sheep flocks recording using Farmbench.