

Beef and Lamb International Comparisons 2017

AHDB are part of the agri benchmark international network of 35 member countries who submit data for suckler herd, beef finishing and sheep “typical” farms. This is an internationally standardised method of identifying and analysing typical farms representing typical production systems and their profitability in each country. The results are expressed in US Dollars (USD) as the international comparison base. For more information visit www.agribenchmark.org

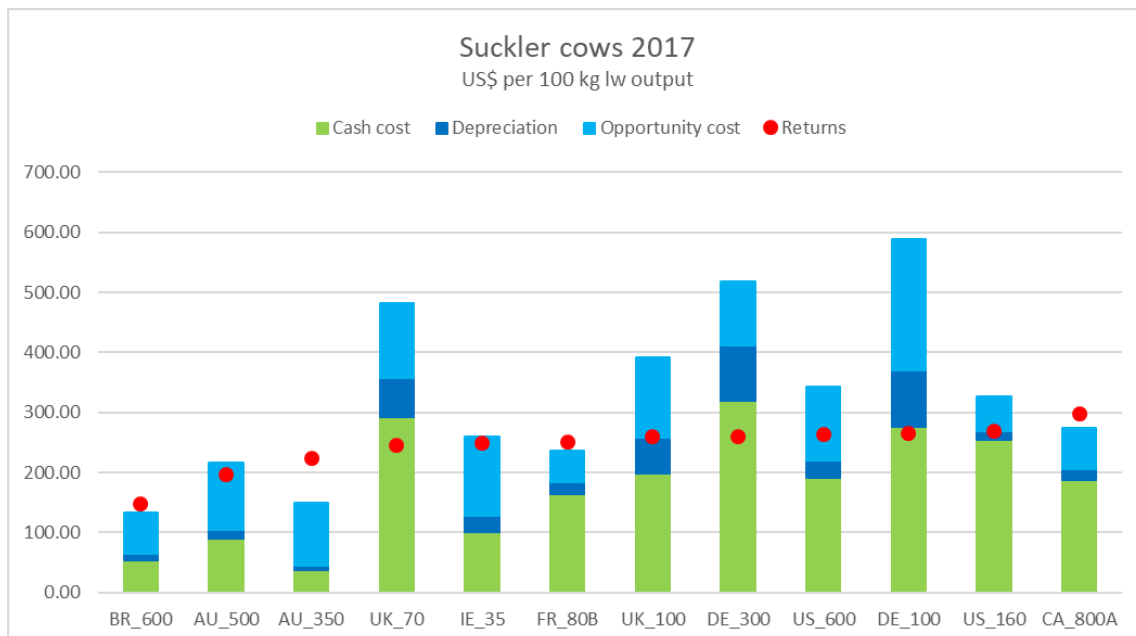
The UK trades and competes in a global market and is therefore affected by exchange rates as well as any competitive cost of production. The countries in the charts are representative of the UK’s main competitors and the exporting environment for commercial beef and sheep meat.

Farms are ranked in these charts 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.

Returns do not include decoupled payments typically received by some farms, such as the EU land-based payments, nor any other enterprise returns.

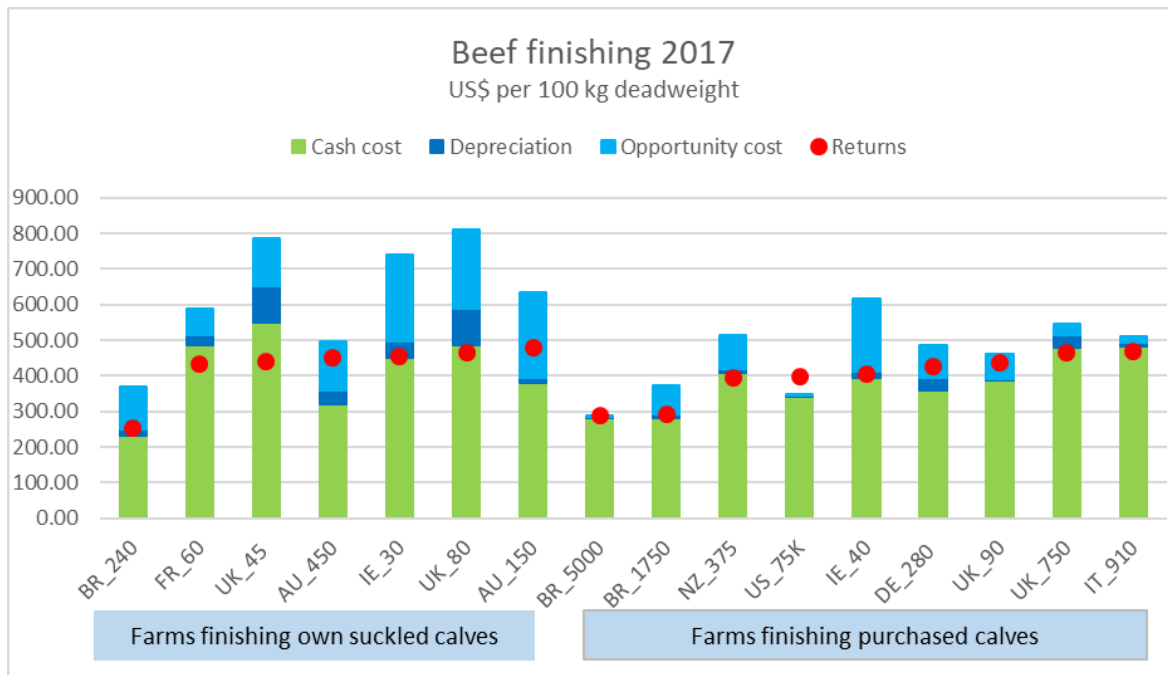
Suckler Herds



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-100 is a typical upland farm in North Yorkshire that sells the calves at weaning.

Returns will include the value of calves at weaning and cull or breeding cow sales.

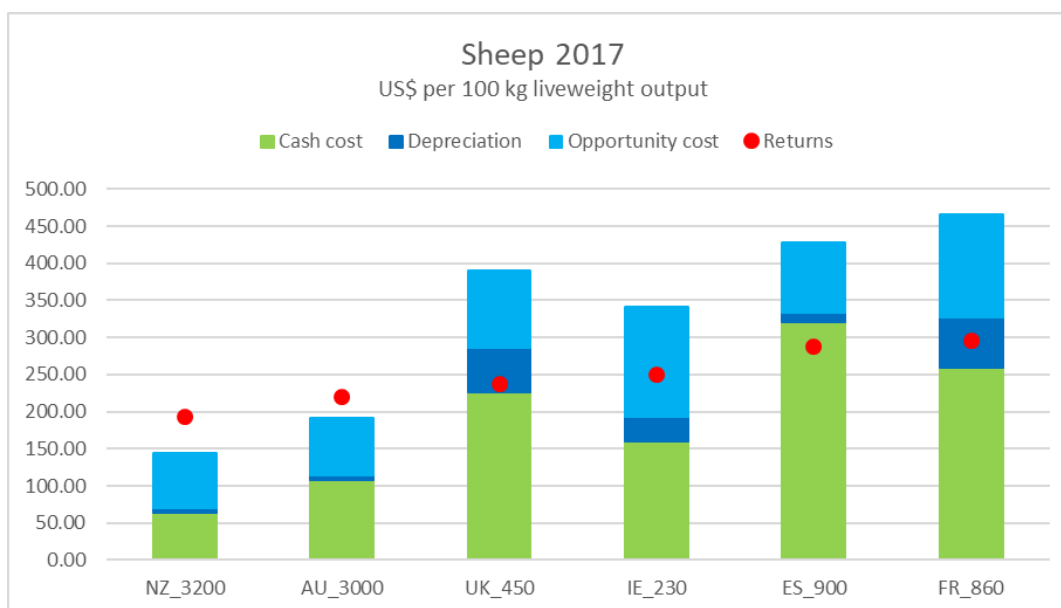
Beef Finishing



The numbers after the country name are the number of animals typically finished off farm in a year. The left-hand part of the chart shows the finishing enterprises of many of the suckler herds shown in the previous chart.

The right-hand side of the chart shows farms who are finishing animals they have purchased. These animals could have been purchased as calves, such as UK-90 beef cross dairy calves, or purchased forward stores kept for a short finishing period. This would apply to the feedlots such as BR-5000 and UK-75k.

Sheep flocks



The numbers after the country name are the number of ewes typically put to rams each year.

Returns would include lambs sold for slaughter, for further finishing or breeding, cull and breeding ewes and wool sales.