Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

OFFICIAL STATISTICS Accredited

Northern Ireland Animal Feed Statistics

The latest accredited official statistics on Northern Ireland Animal Feed produced by DAERA were released on 10th November 2026 according to the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority. This monthly notice will be updated in December 2026.

Key Points

This release shows the latest animal feed statistics.

- In August 2026 total deliveries of compound and other processed animal feedstuff by Northern Ireland feedstuffs manufacturers were 224.8 thousand tonnes, which is 5.5 per cent higher than August 2025.
- In the period January to August 2026, total deliveries of compound and other processed animal feedstuff by Northern Ireland feedstuffs manufacturers were 2014.2 thousand tonnes, which is 0.4 per cent higher than January to August 2025.
- In the period April to June 2026 the amount of raw materials used in the production of compound and other processed animal feedstuffs was 737.6 thousand tonnes, which is 1.4 per cent lower than April to June 2025.
- In the period April to June 2026 the amount of raw materials sold directly was 76.9 thousand tonnes, which is 12.7 per cent higher than in April to June 2025.
- This notice and additional information is available at:

Animal feed statistics from 2009 onwards | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (daera-ni.gov.uk)

Enquiries to:

Paul Keatley, Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Policy, Economics and Evaluations Branch, Clare House, 303 Airport Road West, Belfast, BT3 9ED, Tel: 028 9052 24938, email: aeb.econstats@daera-ni.gov.uk.

An Accredited Official Statistics publication:

The UK Statistics Authority has confirmed these statistics as accredited official statistics. Accredited official statistics are called National Statistics in the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007. Accreditation signifies production is in accordance with this act and that these statistics comply with the Code of Practice for Statistics. Further details can be found on the Office for Statistics Regulation website, Office for Statistics Regulation website.

Table 1: Total deliveries of compound and other processed animal feedstuff by Northern Ireland feedstuffs manufacturers (thousand tonnes).

	June 2026	July 2026	August 2026
Calf milk substitutes	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other calf compounds	8.2	7.4	7.3
Beef cattle compounds	9.5	10.5	11.8
Dairy cow compounds	64.1	56.3	50.9
All other cattle compounds	0.2	0.2	0.3
Beef - Coarse mixes or blends	18.9	17.3	18.8
Dairy - Coarse mixes or blends	26.1	22.4	22.2
Protein concentrates	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total cattle and calf	**127.0**	**114.2**	**111.3**
Pig starter and creep feed	0.8	0.4	0.6
Pig link/early grower feed	2.4	1.8	2.0
Pig growing feed	2.9	2.4	2.6
Pig finishing feed	9.7	9.0	8.6
Pig breeding feed	3.2	2.7	2.6
Protein concentrates	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total pig	**18.9**	**16.4**	**16.4**
Chick rearing feed	3.8	3.3	3.8
Layer and breeder feed	43.4	38.2	38.4
Broiler feed	43.7	36.8	41.1
Turkey and other poultry feed	2.8	3.1	3.2
Total poultry	**93.7**	**81.5**	**86.5**
Breeding sheep compounds	0.3	0.2	0.3
Growing and finishing sheep compounds	3.5	3.4	3.4
Coarse mixes or blends	0.7	0.6	0.6
Protein concentrates	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total sheep	**4.5**	**4.2**	**4.3**
Flaked maize and maize meal	5.3	3.6	3.7
Flaked barley and barley meal	0.3	0.3	0.4
Other	2.8	2.3	2.4
Total other	**8.3**	**6.3**	**6.4**
Total all feed	**252.5**	**222.6**	**224.8**

Table 2: Usage of raw materials in the production of compound and other processed animal feedstuffs (thousand tonnes)

	Qtr2 2026	Qtr2 2025
Wheat	169.4	164.4
Barley	41.4	41.1
Whole and Flaked Maize	158.5	160.6
Maize Gluten Feed	29.0	29.4
By-Products of Malting, Brewing and Distilling	38.2	45.1
Other Grains & Cereal By-Products	21.7	24.8
Rape Seed Cake and Meal	29.6	28.7
Soya Cake and Meal	94.0	94.8
Whole Oilseeds & Other Oilseed Cakes and	17.1	16.6
Fish Meal	0.0	0.0
Meat and Bone Meal	0.0	0.0
Milk Products/By-Products & Other Animal By-Products (excluding fats)	1.6	1.6
Roots and Tubers	0.0	0.0
Citrus and Other Fruit Pulp	0.1	0.1
Molasses and Sugar	15.1	15.6
Oils and Fats	7.9	8.2
Dried forages & Dried Sugar Beet Pulp	15.6	16.2
Minerals, Vitamins etc	37.7	38.4
Soya Hulls	43.1	41.1
Palm Kernels	7.9	11.6
Other materials	9.7	9.7
Totals	737.6	748.1

Table 3: Raw materials sold direct to Northern Ireland farmers and distributing merchants

	Qtr2 2026	Qtr2 2025
Wheat	8.5	7.4
Barley	14.2	11.7
Whole and Flaked Maize	13.6	12.5
Maize Gluten Feed	1.9	2.6
By-Products of Malting, Brewing and Distilling	3.9	5.2
Other Grains & Cereal By-Products	0.9	0.8
Rape Seed Cake and Meal	2.4	1.6
Soya Cake and Meal	14.7	12.7
Whole Oilseeds & Other Oilseed Cakes and	0.7	0.0
Fish Meal	0.0	0.0
Other Animal By-Products (excluding fats)	0.1	0.1
Roots and Tubers	0.0	0.0
Citrus and Other Fruit Pulp	0.0	0.0
Molasses and Sugar	1.8	1.2
Oils and Fats	0.4	0.4
Dried forages & Dried Sugar Beet Pulp	2.1	1.8
Minerals, Vitamins etc	1.6	0.9
Soya Hulls	9.4	8.7
Palm Kernels	0.0	0.0
Other materials	0.8	0.7
Totals	76.9	68.3

Methodology, Notes and Revisions Policy

User Statement

The information in the animal feed statistics is used by the Northern Ireland government as evidence for assessing market conditions and evaluating agricultural policy. The animal feed data is used to estimate the feed component of the Aggregate Agricultural Account for Northern Ireland. DEFRA also use the data in the UK Agricultural Account. Other users include the food and farming industry, academia and the general public. Contact details are available within the publication, for you to send feedback or ask questions about the information provided.

Survey Methodology

Feed manufacturers are required to provide this information to the Department under the Statistics of Trade & Employment (Northern Ireland) Order 1988.

Animal Feed Statistics

The data quoted in the publication are from the survey returns of all of the major Northern Ireland animal feed companies. Data on raw material use, stocks and production of the various categories of compound animal feed are recorded. The major producers typically cover 90% of total animal feed production are surveyed each month. The remaining smaller companies are sampled annually in December for their figures in the preceding 12 months. The survey data on compound animal feed is published each month and data on raw material usage is published quarterly. Weighting is used for the monthly results to include a suitable estimate for the smaller companies that have not been sampled to provide more robust and realistic monthly estimates.

Accuracy and Reliability of the Results

The accuracy of the survey results is very high because a review is carried out of all companies and the typical response rate is 100% per year.

An Accredited Official Statistics Publication

This accreditation means that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been accredited it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall be observed regarding them. Our statistical practice is regulated by the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR). OSR sets the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the Code of Practice for Statistics that all producers of official statistics should adhere to. These accredited official statistics were independently reviewed by OSR in 2011. They

comply with the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the Code of Practice for Statistics and should be labelled ‘National Statistics’. National Statistics are accredited official statistics.

You are welcome to contact us directly with any comments about how we meet these standards. Alternatively, you can contact OSR by emailing regulation@statistics.gov.uk or via the OSR website at Accredited official statistics – Office for Statistics Regulation (statisticsauthority.gov.uk)

Further information on accredited official statistics can be accessed at: www.statistics.gov.uk; and from the UK Statistics Authority at The UK Statistical System - The UK Statistical System (statisticsauthority.gov.uk)

Revisions Policy

Figures in the publication are provisional and subject to revision. We will provide information about any revisions we make to previously published. Revisions could occur for various reasons, including:

a. if we have not received survey data from respondents we make an estimate based on their previous returns. These estimates will be replaced with actual survey data when it is received.
b. survey respondents occasionally supply amended figures for previous periods.

Please note that the delivery of compound and other processed animal feedstuff has been revised from April 2026 to July 2026, due to revised firm data being received.