

To: Samuel, Graeme
Sent: Fri Apr 25 07:43:49 2008
Subject: Enquiry into supermarket prices

Dear Sir/Madam,
24/04/08

I am sick and tired of listening to the 'big two' supermarket chains justify their high prices (particularly with regard to meat, but I suspect their same excuses are being applied to other products), by blaming the drought.

Let's get one thing straight. Yes, the drought has forced the price of feeding livestock (growing produce) upwards from the prices of past years. However, it is the producer (farmer) that bears this cost, NOT the supermarket chain who buys the product AFTER the input costs have been applied. Do they pay for these increased costs? NO they do NOT! They are now paying LESS for the meat (produce) than they did 6 years ago.

I have attached a 'Killsheet' from 'Coles' dated January 2002 that clearly shows that the highest price paid on that day was \$3.85 per kilo, and the average price per kilo for that day was \$3.80. I have also attached a 'Killsheet' dated February 2008 which shows that 'Coles' highest price was \$3.75 per kilo, and the average price per kilo for that day was \$3.67 per kilo. Here we have evidence that their costs (for the raw product INCLUDING the increased costs of the drought), have in fact gone DOWN, not up as they would have you believe.

Regards

Grahame B. Dunn