

FEIBP Congress 2018: Raw Materials Report – Fine Hair

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Last year's report was all about rising prices for sable hair and I said that one could expect a fall in the near future, but, like the stock market we're still waiting for the crash. But it is now more likely for prices to remain firm despite lower demand as supply is still extremely tight and so far this year we have seen further increases of 15% which means prices have doubled over the last 2 years. If it wasn't for a sharp fall in the Chinese currency prices would be even higher.

Prices for squirrel hair have also risen especially on shorter sizes.

Goat hair prices remain surprisingly firm as demand has fallen through the floor since the major cosmetic brands all went "cruelty free ". As demand falls, factories close which means there are only a handful of companies dressing and they will only continue if prices remain above a certain level. As with goat hair, we will see a further reduction in the use of animal hair in the coming year but it's unlikely prices will fall as raw material will be harder to source due to animal rights issues and tightening of regulations in China.