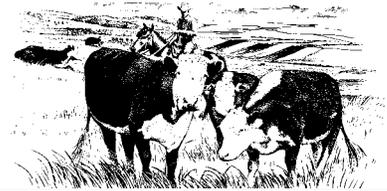


California Livestock Review



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STATISTICS SERVICE**

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National LIVESTOCK REPORTS RELEASE DATES 3:00 P.M. ET

July 18	Cattle on Feed	Aug. 15	Cattle on Feed
18	Cold Storage	20	Cold Storage
25	Livestock Slaughter	22	Livestock Slaughter

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in California feedlots totaled 395 thousand head on June 1, 1997, up 3 percent from last month and 22 percent from a year earlier. During May, placements of 70.0 thousand head were down 7 percent from a year earlier. Marketings of 50.0 thousand head were unchanged from a year ago. Other disappearance was at 10.0 thousand head.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 12 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 9.61 million head on June 1, 1997. The inventory was 12 percent above June 1, 1996. Placements in feedlots during May totaled 1.89 million, 22 percent above 1996. Net placements were 1.78 million. During May, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 332 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 406 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 640 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 514 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during May totaled 2.09 million, 2 percent above 1996. The year-to-year relationship between fed cattle marketed and commercial slaughter continues to be affected by the decrease in cattle imported from Canada that are going directly to slaughter. Other disappearance totaled 117 thousand during May, 39 percent above the previous year.

CATTLE ON FEED IN HISTORIC 7 STATES UP 13 PERCENT

Cattle on feed June 1, 1997 in the historic 7 states for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 8.23 million, up 13 percent from the previous year and up 1 percent from June 1, 1995. Placements in feedlots during May totaled 1.64 million, 26 percent above 1996, but 2 percent below 1995. Marketings during May totaled 1.82 million, 4 percent above 1996 and 9 percent above 1995. The year-to-year relationship between the 7 states fed cattle marketed and commercial slaughter continues to be affected by the decrease in cattle imported from Canada that are going directly to slaughter. The 7 states are marketing more fed cattle than last year, while the other states are marketing fewer fed cattle. This also affects the year-to-year relationship between the 7 states fed cattle marketed and U.S. commercial slaughter. Other disappearance during May was 80.0 thousand head, 38 percent above 1996 and 40 percent above 1995.

CATTLE AND CALVES: NUMBER ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN 7 SELECTED STATES

State	Number on feed May 1 ^{1/}			Placed During May		Marketed During May	
	1996	1997	1997/1996	1996	1997	1996	1997
----- Thousand Head -----							
Arizona	188	214	114	37	40	42	45
CALIFORNIA	305	385	126	75	70	50	50
Colorado	1,000	1,050	105	85	215	185	240
Iowa	325	325	100	33	35	60	63
Kansas	2,010	2,190	109	300	380	450	445
Nebraska	1,740	1,930	111	270	330	460	475
Texas	2,190	2,390	109	500	570	500	500
Total 7 States	7,758	8,484	109	1,300	1,640	1,747	1,818
State	Other Disappearance During May ^{2/}		Number on Feed June 1		1997/1996		
	1996	1997	1996	1997			
----- Thousand Head -----							
Arizona	---	3	183	206	113		
CALIFORNIA	5	10	325	395	122		
Colorado	10	15	890	1,010	113		
Iowa	3	2	295	295	100		
Kansas	10	15	1,850	2,110	114		
Nebraska	20	25	1,530	1,760	115		
Texas	10	10	2,180	2,450	112		
Total 7 States	58	80	7,253	8,226	113		

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fed for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates, and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

^{2/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California production of red meat during May 1997 totaled 84.3 million pounds (dressed weight), 2 percent below last month and 5 percent below May 1996. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In May, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,239 pounds; calves, 353 pounds; hogs, 216 pounds.

January - May red meat production was 17.6 billion pounds, down 4 percent from the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was down 3 percent; veal, down 7 percent; pork, down 4 percent; lamb and mutton, down 8 percent.

U.S. RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.57 billion pounds during May. This production was down 5 percent from the previous year.

May 1997 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays. May 1996 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.19 billion pounds, was down 5 percent from the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.18 million head, down 4 percent from a year earlier. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from the previous year to 1,149 pounds.

Veal production totaled 26.0 million pounds, down 14 percent from a year earlier. Calf slaughter totaled 116.4 thousand head, down 15 percent from the previous year. The average live weight was up 6 pounds to 361 pounds.

Pork production, at 1.33 billion pounds, was down 6 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.10 million head, 7 percent below a year earlier. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year to 256 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production totaled 22.0 million pounds, up 3 percent from a year earlier. Sheep slaughter totaled 316.6 thousand head, 2 percent below the previous year. The average live weight was up 7 pounds to 139 pounds.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, MAY 1996-97 1/

Species & Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	- 1,000 Head -		- 1,000 Pounds -		- Pounds -	
CATTLE						
California	87.0	83.9	106,567	103,950	1,225	1,239
U.S. Total	3,329.0	3,184.2	3,848,368	3,659,724	1,156	1,149
CALVES						
California	24.9	12.3	8,892	4,331	357	353
U.S. Total	137.3	116.4	48,672	42,030	355	361
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
U.S. Total	324.3	316.6	42,938	43,954	132	139
HOGS						
California	165.1	154.3	35,827	33,329	217	216
U.S. Total	7,634.3	7,103.5	1,936,676	1,817,617	254	256
	May 1996	April 1997 2/	May 1997	May 97 May 96	May 97 Apr. 97	
RED MEAT	--- Million Pounds ---			-- Percent --		
California	88.7	86.0	84.3	95	98	
U.S. Total	3,766.2	3,592.2	3,570.1	95	99	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.
2/ Revised figures for April 1997 total.

FARM PRICES: AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS, CALIFORNIA AND U.S. 1/

Commodity	Unit	California			United States		
		May 1996	April 1997	May 15, 1997	May 1996	April 1997	May 15, 1997
		----- Dollars -----					
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	102.00	128.00	125.00	95.50	117.00	118.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/	Ton	104.00	132.00	129.00	100.00	123.00	127.00
Hogs 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	56.80	53.80	58.00
Cows 2/	Cwt.	29.50	35.00	36.50	30.40	38.20	38.10
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	44.50	62.00	63.00	57.60	67.90	68.80
Calves 2/	Cwt.	51.00	67.00	70.00	54.40	82.20	83.40
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	89.00	97.00	94.00	90.30	96.60	---
Milk Cows 3/	Head	---	1,250.00	---	---	1,110.00	---
All Milk Wholesale	Cwt.	12.79	12.49	12.20	14.30	13.40	13.10

1/ The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

2/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

3/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July and October.

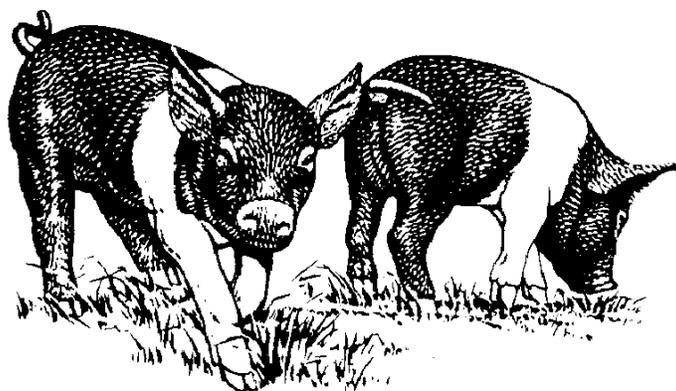
U.S. HOG INVENTORY UP 2 PERCENT

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on June 1, 1997 was 58.2 million head. This was 2 percent above June 1996 and 4 percent above the March 1, 1997 inventory.

Breeding inventory, at 6.95 million head, is up 1 percent from June 1, 1996 and up 2 percent from March 1, 1997. Market hog inventory, at 51.2 million head, was 2 percent above last year and 4 percent above last quarter.

The March-May 1997 U.S. pig crop, at 25.5 million head, was 2 percent more than 1996, but 3 percent less than 1995. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.95 million head, slightly below last year. Litter rate increases continue at a record level, with an average of 8.65 pigs saved per litter for the March-May period. Last year the litter rate averaged 8.47 pigs per litter. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 8.80 for operations with more than 2.00 thousand hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.91 million sows farrow during the June-August 1997 quarter, 5 percent above the actual farrowings during the same period last year, but 2 percent lower than 1995. Intended farrowings for September-November 1997, at 2.89 million sows, are 6 percent above 1996 and 3 percent above the 1995 period.



U.S. HOGS AND PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBER, JUNE 1, 1995-97

Item	1995	1996	1997	1997/1995	1997/1996
	--- 1,000 Head ---			Percent	
June 1 Inventory					
All Hogs And Pigs	59,560	57,200	58,150	98	102
Kept For Breeding	7,180	6,870	6,950	97	101
Market	52,380	50,330	51,200	98	102
Market Hogs And Pigs By Weight Groups:					
Under 60 Pounds	21,270	20,265	20,605	97	102
60-119 Pounds	13,060	12,700	12,890	99	101
120-179 Pounds	9,865	9,800	9,930	101	101
180 Pounds And Over	8,185	7,565	7,775	95	103