

# California Livestock Review



Frequency: Monthly  
Released: October 27, 1999

(USPS 598-250)  
VOL. 21 NO. 10



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE

## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Cattle on Feed .....	1
Milk Production and California Cash Income .....	2
Livestock Slaughter and Farm Prices .....	3

## NATIONAL LIVESTOCK REPORTS RELEASE DATES

3:00 P.M. EDT

Nov. 19 Cattle on Feed	Dec. 17 Cattle on Feed
19 Cold Storage	20 Cold Storage
19 Livestock Slaughter	23 Livestock Slaughter

## CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 380 thousand head on October 1, 1999, 1 percent above last month, but 4 percent below October 1998. During September, placements of 56.0 thousand head were 6 percent above the previous year. Marketings of 48.0 thousand head were 4 percent below September 1998. Other disappearance totaled 3.00 thousand head.

calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 629 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 557 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 758 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 815 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.96 million, 5 percent above 1998 and 8 percent above 1997. Other disappearance totaled 62.0 thousand during September, 2 percent above 1998 and 17 percent above 1997.

## U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 5 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 10.27 million head on October 1, 1999. The inventory was 5 percent above October 1, 1998 and 3 percent above October 1, 1997. The inventory included 6.21 million steers and steer calves, up 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 60 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.02 million head, up 6 percent from 1998.

## CATTLE ON FEED UP 5 PERCENT IN HISTORIC SEVEN MONTHLY STATES

Cattle on feed October 1, 1999 in the historic seven states for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 8.78 million, up 5 percent from the previous year and 3 percent above October 1, 1997. The inventory included 5.28 million steers and steer calves, up 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 60 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.48 million head, up 6 percent from 1998. Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.35 million, 4 percent above 1998 and 3 percent above 1997. Marketings during September totaled 1.68 million, 7 percent above 1998 and 10 percent above 1997. Other disappearance during September was 55.0 thousand head, 8 percent above 1998 and 31 percent above 1997.

Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.76 million, 4 percent above 1998 and 2 percent above 1997. Net placements were 2.70 million. During September, placements of cattle and

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

State	Number on feed September 1 <sup>1/</sup>			Placed During September		Marketed During September	
	1998	1999	1999/1998	1998	1999	1998	1999
1,000 Head							
Arizona	200	200	100	23	29	20	20
California	395	375	95	53	56	50	48
Colorado	840	960	114	370	330	205	210
Iowa	235	300	128	68	60	42	44
Kansas	1,950	2,080	107	530	600	380	430
Nebraska	1,520	1,700	112	570	580	320	370
Texas	2,610	2,560	98	640	690	560	560
Seven-State Total	7,750	8,175	105	2,254	2,345	1,577	1,682
State	Other Disappearance During September <sup>2/</sup>		Number on Feed October 1		1999/1998		
	1998	1999	1998	1999			
1,000 Head							
Percent							
Arizona	2	1	201	208	103		
California	3	3	395	380	96		
Colorado	5	10	1,000	1,070	107		
Iowa	1	1	260	315	121		
Kansas	10	10	2,090	2,240	107		
Nebraska	10	10	1,760	1,900	108		
Texas	20	20	2,670	2,670	100		
Seven-State Total	51	55	8,376	8,783	105		

<sup>1/</sup> 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.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

**CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION**

California milk producers produced 2.55 billion pounds of milk in September 1999. This was 2 percent below August 1999, but 16 percent above September 1998.

Monthly milk per cow averaged 1,725 pounds, 40 pounds less than August 1999, but 195 pounds more than a year ago.

**CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION**

Month	CALIFORNIA						Total Milk Receipts <sup>1/</sup>		UNITED STATES <sup>2/</sup>					
	Milk Cows		Milk Per Cow		Milk Production		1998	1999	Milk Cows		Milk Per Cow		Milk Production	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999			1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds				1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds	
Jan.	1,402	1,443	1,670	1,690	2,341	2,439	2,340	2,437	7,728	7,704	1,466	1,521	11,327	11,720
Feb.	1,405	1,448	1,480	1,550	2,079	2,244	2,077	2,243	7,716	7,702	1,347	1,403	10,394	10,809
Mar.	1,408	1,452	1,665	1,785	2,344	2,592	2,343	2,600	7,709	7,704	1,515	1,577	11,678	12,147
Apr.	1,410	1,456	1,640	1,770	2,312	2,577	2,311	2,572	7,713	7,712	1,501	1,553	11,579	11,977
May	1,414	1,460	1,720	1,825	2,432	2,665	2,430	2,655	7,719	7,722	1,556	1,610	12,011	12,430
June	1,417	1,464	1,635	1,725	2,317	2,525	2,313	2,500	7,718	7,729	1,477	1,525	11,396	11,785
July	1,421	1,468	1,625	1,705	2,309	2,503	2,308	2,509	7,709	7,736	1,468	1,496	11,314	11,571
Aug.	1,426	1,472	1,590	1,765	2,267	2,598	2,266	2,598	7,708	7,741	1,443	1,488	11,124	11,522
Sept.	1,429	1,476	1,530	1,725	2,186	2,546	2,181		7,701	7,753	1,386	1,449	10,672	11,235
Oct.	1,432		1,650		2,363		2,359		7,695		1,446		11,125	
Nov.	1,436		1,590		2,283		2,282		7,697		1,407		10,829	
Dec.	1,439		1,650		2,374		2,375		7,708		1,489		11,481	

<sup>1/</sup> Milk receipts from California Department of Food and Agriculture, Dairy Marketing and Milk Pooling Branches. Excludes on-farm usage.  
<sup>2/</sup> Twenty-state total.

**Cash Income by Commodity Groups, 1996-98**

Source of Income	1996	1997	1998	Source of Income	1996	1997	1998
	\$1,000				\$1,000		
<b>LIVESTOCK, POULTRY &amp; PRODUCTS</b>				<b>FIELD CROPS</b>	2,979,149	3,359,052	2,863,573
Aquaculture	12,011	14,875	14,220	<b>VEGETABLE CROPS</b>	5,541,127	6,191,626	5,909,396
Broilers	456,690	471,978	505,920	<b>FRUIT &amp; NUT CROPS</b>	6,583,759	7,716,122	6,518,661
Cattle & Calves	1,033,513	1,257,018	1,205,087	<b>NURSERY &amp; GREENHOUSE PROD.</b>	2,281,327	2,550,199	2,468,541
Chickens	812	1,232	1,636	<b>CHRISTMAS TREES</b>	12,491	10,469	11,000
Eggs	367,317	344,810	308,924	<b>TOTAL CASH INCOME FROM MARKETINGS</b>	23,522,964	26,137,127	24,616,242
Hogs	41,895	46,561	27,133	<b>FARM RELATED INCOME</b>	1,629,094	1,504,578	1,277,814
Honey	22,932	22,050	23,157	<b>GROSS CASH INCOME FROM FARMING <sup>1/</sup></b>	25,152,058	27,641,705	25,894,056
Horses & Mules	---	55,000	60,000				
Milk & Cream	3,714,624	3,629,762	4,290,392				
Sheep & Lambs	83,589	80,393	52,094				
Turkeys	221,738	201,978	181,507				
Wool	3,256	3,002	2,196				
Other							
Livestock & Poultry	166,734	181,000	172,805				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,125,111</b>	<b>6,309,659</b>	<b>6,845,071</b>				

<sup>1/</sup> Includes value of home consumption, value of inventory adjustments, machine hire and custom work, forest products sold, rental value of farm dwelling, government payments, and other miscellaneous farm income.

**CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER**

California production of red meat during September 1999 totaled 88.0 million pounds (dressed weight), 2 percent below last month and 5 percent below September 1998. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In September 1999, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,250 pounds; calves, 135 pounds; and hogs, 208 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 19.0 million pounds, was up 2 percent from September 1998. Sheep slaughter totaled 307 thousand head, slightly above last year. The average live weight was 127 pounds, up 2 pounds from September a year ago.

January-September red meat production was 34.4 billion pounds, 3 percent higher than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was 3 percent higher than last year, veal was down 12 percent, pork was up 3 percent, and lamb & mutton was down 4 percent.

**BEEF/PORK/RED MEAT PRODUCTION SET RECORD HIGHS  
VEAL PRODUCTION SETS RECORD LOW**

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.93 billion pounds in September, up 3 percent from September's previous record high of 3.83 billion pounds produced in 1998.

September 1998 and 1999 both contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.28 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year and just above the September 1976 record high. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.10 million head, up 4 percent from 1998. The average live weight was down 3 pounds from the previous year to 1,210 pounds.

Veal production totaled 20.0 million pounds, 7 percent below the previous record low for September set a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 121 thousand head, down 11 percent from September 1998. The average live weight was 281 pounds, 12 pounds above last year.

Pork production totaled 1.62 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the September 1998 record high. Hog kill totaled 8.64 million head, 1 percent above 1998. The average live weight, at 255 pounds, was 2 pounds above the previous year.

**COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, SEPTEMBER 1998-99 1/**

Class and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
<b>CATTLE</b>						
California	88.3	82.8	109,913	103,463	1,245	1,250
U.S. Total	2,991.4	3,101.4	3,629,369	3,753,428	1,213	1,210
<b>CALVES</b>						
California	15.7	16.0	1,906	2,164	121	135
U.S. Total	135.3	120.5	36,443	33,882	269	281
<b>SHEEP &amp; LAMBS</b>						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	306.5	307.3	38,176	39,052	125	127
<b>HOGS</b>						
California	206.6	199.5	43,537	41,408	211	208
U.S. Total	8,600.2	8,644.3	2,175,584	2,208,006	253	255
<b>RED MEAT</b>	September 1998	August 1999 2/	September 1999	Sept. 99 Sept. 98	Sept. 99 Aug. 99	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	92.5	89.3	88.0	95	98	
U.S. Total	3,828.4	3,911.9	3,934.2	103	101	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.  
2/ Revised U.S. total.

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

Commodity	Unit	California			United States		
		Sept. 1998	Aug. 1999	Sept. 15, 1999	Sept. 1998	Aug. 1999	Sept. 15, 1999
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	91.00	71.00	74.00	85.00	77.40	74.50
Alfalfa, Baled 2/	Ton	93.00	72.00	75.00	87.10	81.50	77.30
Hogs 2/ 3/	Cwt.	---	---	---	29.50	36.20	32.30
Cows 2/	Cwt.	33.50	36.00	34.50	32.60	36.30	34.90
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	58.00	64.00	64.50	58.90	66.20	66.90
Calves 2/	Cwt.	63.50	76.50	81.50	74.10	89.60	91.20
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	27.50	29.50	28.00	26.80	29.80	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	78.00	80.00	77.50	71.80	80.30	---
Milk Cows 4/	Head	---	---	---	---	---	---
All Milk Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	16.68	15.00	14.80	16.70	15.00	15.90

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/ Prices include barrows, gilts, and sows.  
4/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July and October.