

# California Livestock Review



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## U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 3 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ head capacity feedlots totaled 11.0 million head on November 1, 2003. The inventory was 3 percent above November 1, 2002, but 7 percent below November 1, 2001.

Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.78 million, 16 percent above 2002 and 3 percent above 2001. Net placements were 2.68 million. During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 1.02 million, 600-699 pounds were 796 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 508 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 454 thousand.

Marketings of fed cattle during October totaled 1.86 million, 6 percent below 2002 and 2 percent below 2001.

Other disappearance totaled 101 thousand during October, 20 percent above 2002 and 49 percent above 2001.

## CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 495 thousand head on November 1, 2003, 2 percent above last month, and 1 percent above November 2002. During October, placements of 68.0 thousand head were 13 percent above the previous year. Marketings of 54.0 thousand head were 7 percent below October of 2002. Other disappearance totaled 4.00 thousand head.

## CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES

State	Number On Feed October 1/ <sup>1/</sup>			Placed During October		Marketed During October	
	2002	2003	2003/2002	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Thousand Head						
Arizona	288	275	95	28	26	25	22
California	495	485	98	60	68	58	54
Colorado	1,030	950	92	250	270	210	160
Idaho	280	270	96	77	88	61	60
Iowa	315	310	98	95	113	73	72
Kansas	2,280	2,300	101	455	570	410	410
Nebraska	1,960	1,830	93	520	640	360	320
New Mexico	113	123	109	22	19	16	20
Oklahoma	330	350	106	75	78	63	74
South Dakota	150	145	97	57	68	36	34
Texas	2,720	2,720	100	600	680	570	530
Washington	170	190	112	49	51	33	45
Other States	285	265	93	101	110	64	54
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>10,416</b>	<b>10,213</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>2,389</b>	<b>2,781</b>	<b>1,979</b>	<b>1,855</b>
State	Other Disappearance During October 2/ <sup>2/</sup>		Number On Feed November 1 1/ <sup>1/</sup>		2003/2002		
	2002	2003	2002	2003	Percent		
	Thousand Head						
Arizona	1	1	290	278	96		
California	7	4	490	495	101		
Colorado	10	10	1,060	1,050	99		
Idaho	1	3	295	295	100		
Iowa	2	1	335	350	104		
Kansas	25	30	2,300	2,430	106		
Nebraska	10	10	2,110	2,140	101		
New Mexico	2	4	117	118	101		
Oklahoma	2	4	340	350	103		
South Dakota	1	2	170	177	104		
Texas	20	30	2,730	2,840	104		
Washington	1	1	185	195	105		
Other States	2	1	320	320	100		
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>10,742</b>	<b>11,038</b>	<b>103</b>		

<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 COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during October 2003 totaled 127.4 million pounds (dressed weight), 5 percent above last month and 1 percent above October 2002. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In October 2003, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,284 pounds; calves 191 pounds; and hogs 240 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 18.0 million pounds, was down 9 percent from October 2002. Sheep slaughter totaled 265.5 thousand head, 12 percent below last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, up 3 pounds from October a year ago.

January to October 2003 commercial red meat production was 39.1 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2002. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down 2 percent, pork was up 1 percent, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent.

### PORK PRODUCTION AT RECORD MONTHLY HIGH AND VEAL AT RECORD MONTHLY LOW

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.15 billion pounds in October, down 5 percent from the 4.38 billion pounds produced in October 2002.

October 2002 and 2003 both contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.21 billion pounds, was 12 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.00 million head, down 8 percent from October 2002. The average live weight was down 39 pounds from the previous year at 1,231 pounds.

Veal production totaled 16.4 million pounds, 13 percent below October a year ago and a record monthly low. Calf slaughter totaled 87.5 thousand head, down 13 percent from October 2002. The average live weight, at 308 pounds, was unchanged last year.

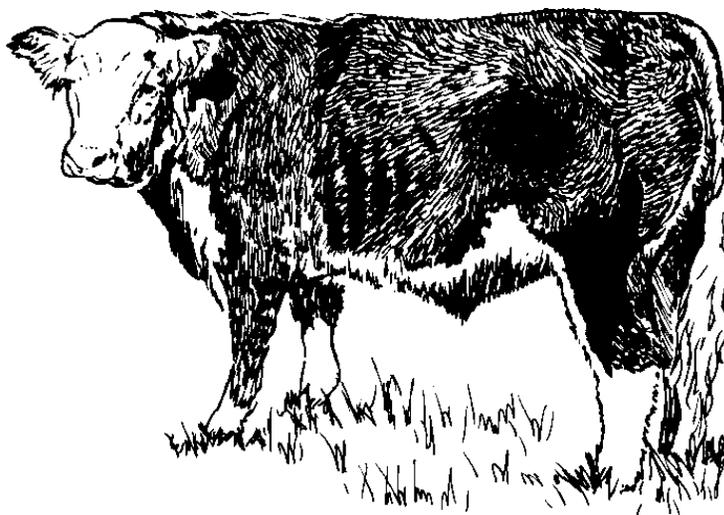
Pork production totaled 1.91 billion pounds, a record monthly high and up 4 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.64 million head, 3 percent above October 2002. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year at 267 pounds.

### OCTOBER COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER 1/

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Thousand Head		Thousand Pounds		Pounds	
<b>CATTLE</b>						
California	120.4	122.8	155,096	157,691	1,288	1,284
U.S. Total	3,266.6	3,002.6	4,148,453	3,695,836	1,270	1,231
<b>CALVES</b>						
California	9.9	10.3	1,495	1,968	152	191
U.S. Total	100.9	87.5	31,033	26,973	308	308
<b>SHEEP &amp; LAMBS</b>						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	300.6	265.5	39,617	35,706	132	135
<b>HOGS</b>						
California	232.4	215.6	54,352	51,638	234	240
U.S. Total	9,403.6	9,638.7	2,482,798	2,575,859	264	267
<b>RED MEAT</b>	October 2002	September 2003	October 2003	Oct. 03 Oct. 02	Oct. 03 Sept. 03	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	126.4	120.8	127.4	101	105	
U.S. Total 2/	4,382.1	4,007.7	4,154.0	95	104	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.

2/ Revised September 2003 data.



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

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		October 2002	Sept. 2003	Oct. 15, 2003	October 2002	Sept. 2003	Oct. 15, 2003
Dollars							
Hay, All Baled 2/	Ton	94.00	85.00	88.00	93.80	84.20	84.40
Alfalfa Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	98.00	88.00	94.00	102.00	89.00	88.80
Hogs 2/ 3/	Cwt.	---	---	---	30.80	39.60	37.70
Cows 2/	Cwt.	32.50	42.00	42.00	33.60	44.90	44.70
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	66.50	88.50	96.50	68.60	89.40	97.40
Calves 2/	Cwt.	79.50	99.00	107.00	92.00	109.00	112.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	25.50	32.50	---	25.60	32.10	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	74.50	88.50	---	79.60	94.70	---
Milk Cows 4/	Head	1,450.00	---	1,300.00	1,430.00	---	1,370.00
Milk, Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	10.86	13.01	13.10	12.10	14.40	14.80

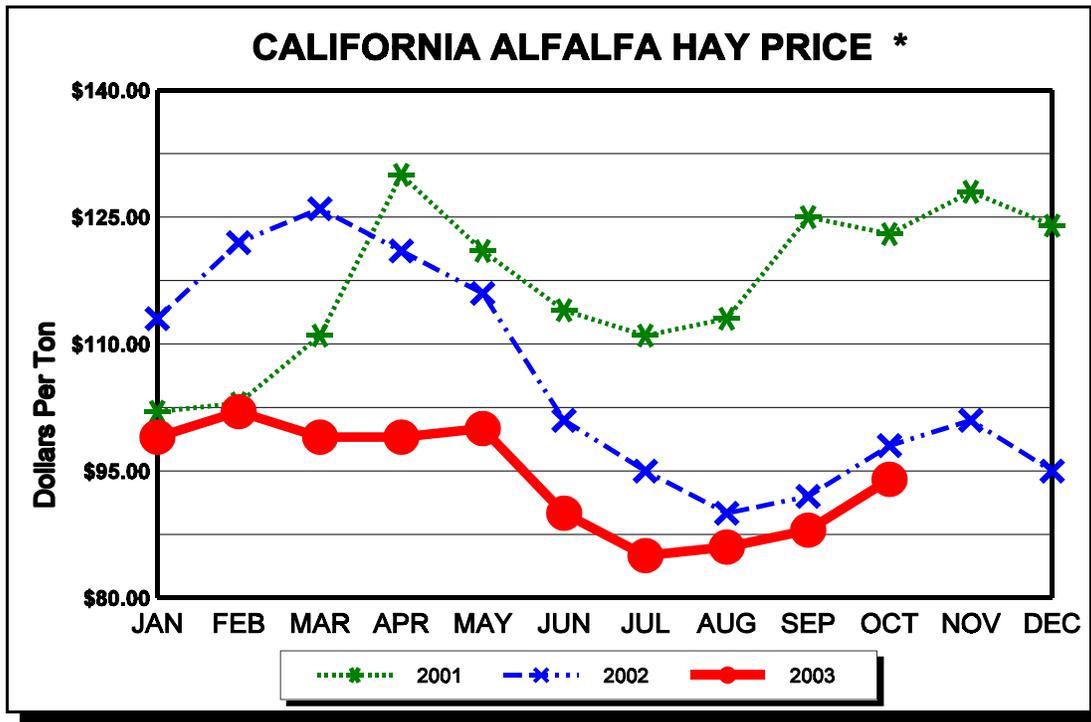
1/ The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

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.

**For information on part-time jobs collecting agricultural data in your local area, please call 1-800-851-1127.**



\* Includes All Qualities.

Source: California Agricultural Statistics Service



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
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**United States  
Department  
of Agriculture**

**Five Reasons to Respond**  
*to the 2004 January Livestock Reports*

- Creates a "Level Playing Field" - Official USDA reports derived from this survey will be made available to everyone at the same time. No individual or organization will have an unfair advantage due to early access to the data.
- Supports Exports Program -- Provides production estimates to build stronger markets abroad for U.S. commodities.
- Reduces Risk -- Provides for orderly marketing of commodities, with less price variation.
- Benefits Agriculture -- Farm associations use official USDA estimates to promote agriculture.
- Increases Efficiency -- Suppliers, transportation operators, and storage providers use this information to better allocate their resources and to meet expected needs geographically.

The National Agricultural Statistics Service is conducting the January Cattle and January Sheep reports. These surveys will provide information on first of the year livestock inventories, peak numbers of other livestock, and on-farm grain storage capacity. Results will be released January 30, 2004 and published in the "California Livestock Review."

Only a sample of producers is selected to represent agriculture nationwide, so every response is critical. California Agricultural Statistics representatives will contact 1,800 livestock producers during early January. Although the interview will take about 20 minutes, the benefits are immeasurable. **Thank you in advance for your participation!**