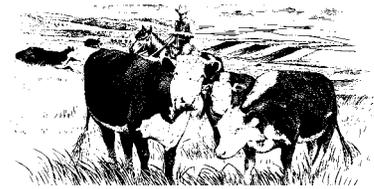


California Livestock Review



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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

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Placements in feedlots during November totaled 1.74 million, 10 percent below 2003 and 12 percent below 2002. This is the lowest placements have been for the month of November since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.64 million. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 590 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 557 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 326 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 270 thousand.

CATTLE ON FEED IN CALIFORNIA

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 530 thousand head on December 1, 2004, 1 percent above last month and 6 percent above December 2003. During November, placements of 66.0 thousand head were 6 percent above the previous year. Marketings of 53.0 thousand head were 2 percent above November of 2003. Other disappearance totaled 8.00 thousand head.

Marketings of fed cattle during November totaled 1.63 million, 6 percent above 2003, but 6 percent below 2002. This is the second lowest fed-cattle marketings have been for the month of November since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 108 thousand during November, 11 percent above 2003 and 20 percent above 2002.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ head capacity feedlots totaled 11.3 million head on December 1, 2004. The inventory was slightly above December 1, 2003 and 4 percent above December 1, 2002.

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

| State | Number On Feed November 1 1/ | | | Placed During November | | Marketed During November | |
|---------------|--|--------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2004/2003 | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 |
| Thousand Head | | | | | | | |
| Arizona | 278 | 321 | 115 | 26 | 35 | 19 | 23 |
| California | 495 | 525 | 106 | 62 | 66 | 52 | 53 |
| Colorado | 1,050 | 1,090 | 104 | 185 | 175 | 165 | 155 |
| Idaho | 295 | 305 | 103 | 64 | 50 | 47 | 48 |
| Iowa | 350 | 430 | 123 | 77 | 90 | 56 | 82 |
| Kansas | 2,430 | 2,400 | 99 | 425 | 390 | 350 | 370 |
| Nebraska | 2,140 | 2,210 | 103 | 410 | 410 | 260 | 310 |
| New Mexico | 118 | 134 | 114 | 22 | 14 | 17 | 16 |
| Oklahoma | 350 | 360 | 103 | 56 | 43 | 51 | 44 |
| South Dakota | 177 | 169 | 95 | 54 | 51 | 30 | 33 |
| Texas | 2,840 | 2,880 | 101 | 440 | 320 | 410 | 430 |
| Washington | 200 | 180 | 90 | 46 | 37 | 35 | 31 |
| Other States | 320 | 330 | 103 | 59 | 62 | 45 | 30 |
| UNITED STATES | 11,043 | 11,334 | 103 | 1,926 | 1,743 | 1,537 | 1,625 |
| State | Other Disappearance During November 2/ | | Number On Feed December 1 1/ | | 2004/2003 | | |
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 | | | |
| Thousand Head | | | | | Percent | | |
| Arizona | 1 | 4 | 284 | 329 | 116 | | |
| California | 5 | 8 | 500 | 530 | 106 | | |
| Colorado | 10 | 10 | 1,060 | 1,100 | 104 | | |
| Idaho | 2 | 2 | 310 | 305 | 98 | | |
| Iowa | 1 | 3 | 370 | 435 | 118 | | |
| Kansas | 25 | 30 | 2,480 | 2,390 | 96 | | |
| Nebraska | 10 | 10 | 2,280 | 2,300 | 101 | | |
| New Mexico | 2 | 3 | 121 | 129 | 107 | | |
| Oklahoma | 5 | 4 | 350 | 355 | 101 | | |
| South Dakota | 1 | 1 | 200 | 186 | 93 | | |
| Texas | 30 | 30 | 2,840 | 2,740 | 96 | | |
| Washington | 1 | 1 | 210 | 185 | 88 | | |
| Other States | 4 | 2 | 330 | 360 | 109 | | |
| UNITED STATES | 97 | 108 | 11,335 | 11,344 | 100 | | |

1/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals that are fed grain or other concentrates before going to the slaughter market and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade at select or better.

2/ Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during November 2004 totaled 121.7 million pounds (dressed weight), 3 percent above last month and 11 percent above November 2003. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In November 2004, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,343 pounds; calves, 142 pounds; and hogs, 249 pounds.

January to November 2004 commercial red meat production was 41.5 billion pounds, down 3 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 7 percent from last year; veal was down 12 percent; pork was up 3 percent; and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

November 2003 contained 20 weekdays (including two holidays) and five Saturdays. November 2004 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and four Saturdays.

U.S. PORK PRODUCTION AT RECORD MONTHLY HIGH FOR NOVEMBER

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.77 billion pounds in November, up 7 percent from the 3.53 billion pounds produced in November 2003.

Beef production, at 1.94 billion pounds, was 9 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.54 million head, up 4 percent from November 2003. The average live weight, at 1,271 pounds, was up 35 pounds from the previous year.

Veal production totaled 13.8 million pounds, 9 percent below November a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 68.0 thousand head, down 13 percent from November 2003. The average live weight was 14 pounds above last year, at 336 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.80 billion pounds, a new monthly record, and was up 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.96 million head, 4 percent above November 2003. The average live weight was 270 pounds, 1 pound above the previous year.

Lamb and mutton production, at 16.5 million pounds, was up 1 percent from November 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 242.1 thousand head, 3 percent above last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, down 2 pounds from November a year ago.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, NOVEMBER 2003-04 a/

| Species and Location | Number Slaughtered | | Total Live Weight | | Average Live Weight | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------|
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 |
| | 1,000 Head | | 1,000 Pounds | | Pounds | |
| CATTLE | | | | | | |
| California | 103.6 | 111.5 | 132,891 | 149,666 | 1,283 | 1,343 |
| U.S. Total | 2,433.5 | 2,541.0 | 3,008,512 | 3,228,842 | 1,236 | 1,271 |
| CALVES | | | | | | |
| California | 8.7 | 8.5 | 1,739 | 1,203 | 200 | 142 |
| U.S. Total | 78.1 | 68.0 | 25,110 | 22,843 | 322 | 336 |
| SHEEP & LAMBS | | | | | | |
| California | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| U.S. Total | 236.1 | 242.1 | 32,538 | 32,934 | 138 | 136 |
| HOGS | | | | | | |
| California | 194.2 | 209.8 | 47,084 | 52,291 | 242 | 249 |
| U.S. Total | 8,597.4 | 8,963.6 | 2,316,151 | 2,416,669 | 269 | 270 |
| RED MEAT | November 2003 | October 2004 b/ | November 2004 | Nov. 04 Nov. 03 | Nov. 04 Oct. 04 | |
| | Million Pounds | | | Percent | | |
| California | 109.9 | 117.7 | 121.7 | 111 | 103 | |
| U.S. Total | 3,532.7 | 3,921.3 | 3,771.0 | 107 | 96 | |

a/ Farm slaughter excluded.

b/ Revised U.S. total.

FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER BY REGIONS AND UNITED STATES, JANUARY - NOVEMBER 2004 *

| Standard Federal Regions 1/ | Cattle | | | | | | | Calves Total |
|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------|---------|---------------|------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | Total 2/ | Steers | Heifers | All Cows | Dairy Cows | Other Cows | Bulls & Stags | |
| | 1,000 Head | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 12.0 | 4.0 | 2.2 | 3.8 | 3.2 | 0.6 | 2.0 | 11.7 |
| 2 | 59.1 | 16.2 | 3.3 | 35.7 | 33.8 | 1.9 | 4.0 | 192.8 |
| 3 | 827.8 | 325.2 | 74.0 | 398.4 | 321.2 | 77.2 | 30.2 | 155.5 |
| 4 | 637.4 | 11.6 | 3.6 | 530.6 | 135.9 | 394.7 | 91.5 | 11.6 |
| 5 | 3,124.3 | 1,306.1 | 422.9 | 1,314.4 | 781.7 | 532.7 | 81.0 | 275.5 |
| 6 | 5,692.0 | 2,960.0 | 1,944.2 | 659.3 | 118.5 | 540.8 | 128.4 | 10.0 |
| 7 | 13,589.8 | 7,454.2 | 5,423.9 | 630.8 | 29.8 | 601.1 | 80.9 | 0.3 |
| 8 | 2,841.3 | 1,500.3 | 1,187.6 | 132.4 | 41.5 | 90.8 | 21.0 | --- |
| 9 | 1,613.8 | 838.7 | 84.3 | 651.2 | 559.2 | 92.0 | 39.6 | 88.3 |
| 10 | 1,118.3 | 487.0 | 349.4 | 250.4 | 115.3 | 135.1 | 31.5 | 4.5 |
| U.S. 2/ | 29,515.8 | 14,903.3 | 9,495.5 | 4,607.0 | 2,140.1 | 2,466.9 | 510.0 | 750.1 |
| | Hogs | | | | Sheep | | | |
| | Total 2/ | Barrows & Gilts | Sows | Stags & Boars | Total 2/ | Mature Sheep | Lambs & Yearlings | |
| | 1,000 Head | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 16.4 | 16.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 19.5 | 4.0 | 15.5 | |
| 2 | 129.0 | 126.4 | 1.8 | 0.8 | 129.2 | 14.6 | 114.5 | |
| 3 | 6,132.4 | 6,115.7 | 16.3 | 0.4 | 98.9 | 8.7 | 90.2 | |
| 4 | 14,929.4 | 14,067.5 | 847.3 | 14.6 | 28.9 | 12.9 | 16.0 | |
| 5 | 24,551.7 | 23,218.6 | 1,308.0 | 25.2 | 362.7 | 54.9 | 307.8 | |
| 6 | 4,914.3 | 4,678.5 | 234.9 | 0.9 | 248.8 | 13.2 | 235.6 | |
| 7 | 35,528.5 | 34,815.6 | 522.0 | 191.0 | 366.5 | 1.1 | 365.4 | |
| 8 | 4,390.2 | 4,327.1 | 62.7 | 0.4 | 893.3 | 19.9 | 873.4 | |
| 9 | 2,251.5 | 2,250.3 | 0.9 | 0.3 | 282.3 | 5.5 | 276.8 | |
| 10 | 358.5 | 357.5 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 17.5 | 1.7 | 15.8 | |
| U.S. 2/ | 93,202.0 | 89,973.4 | 2,994.8 | 233.8 | 2,447.6 | 136.6 | 2,311.0 | |

* Accumulated totals based on unrounded data.

1/ States included in regions are as follows: 1--CT, ME, NH, VT, MA & RI; 2--NY & NJ; 3--DE-MD, PA, WV & VA; 4--AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC & TN; 5--IL, IN, MI, MN, OH & WI; 6--AR, LA, NM, OK & TX; 7--IA, KS, MO & NE; 8--CO, MT, ND, SD, UT & WY; 9--AZ, CA, HI & NV; 10--AK, ID, OR & WA.

2/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

| Commodity | Unit | California | | | United States | | |
|------------------------|------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | | November 2003 | October 2004 | Nov. 15, 2004 | November 2003 | October 2004 | Nov. 15, 2004 |
| | | Dollars | | | | | |
| Hay, All Baled 2/ | Ton | 90.00 | 115.00 | 116.00 | 81.50 | 89.80 | 86.20 |
| Hay, Alfalfa Baled 2/ | Ton | 98.00 | 119.00 | 120.00 | 86.80 | 97.80 | 94.00 |
| Hogs 2/ 3/ | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | 34.70 | 52.10 | 55.30 |
| Cows 2/ | Cwt. | 44.00 | 47.50 | 44.50 | 47.70 | 49.90 | 48.60 |
| Steers and Heifers 2/ | Cwt. | 97.50 | 89.00 | 86.40 | 99.90 | 91.00 | 89.10 |
| Calves 2/ | Cwt. | 101.00 | 113.00 | 110.00 | 111.00 | 126.00 | 124.00 |
| Sheep 2/ | Cwt. | 40.50 | 36.50 | --- | 40.50 | 40.70 | --- |
| Lambs 2/ | Cwt. | 87.50 | 86.50 | --- | 99.70 | 98.20 | --- |
| Milk Cows 4/ | Head | --- | 1,650.00 | --- | --- | 1,640.00 | --- |
| Milk, All Wholesale 2/ | Cwt. | 12.80 | 13.80 | 14.40 | 14.40 | 15.50 | 15.80 |

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.



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