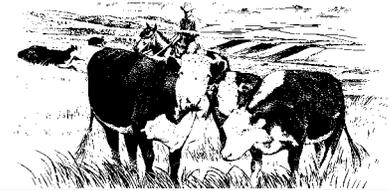


California Livestock Review



Frequency: Monthly
Released: October 26, 2005

(USPS 598-250)
VOL. 27 NO. 10



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service,
California Field Office

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Cattle On Feed	1
Milk Production — Hog Inventory	2
Livestock Slaughter — Farm Prices	3

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN SLIGHTLY

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ head capacity feedlots totaled 10.5 million head on October 1, 2005. The inventory was slightly below October 1, 2004, but up 3 percent from October 1, 2003. The inventory included 6.87 million steers and steer calves, up 6 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 66 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.55 million head, down 11 percent from 2004.

Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.36 million, 1 percent below 2004 and 5 percent below 2003. Net placements were 2.30 million head. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 565 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 505 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 550 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 735 thousand.

Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.82 million, 1 percent above 2004, but 11 percent below 2003. Other disappearance totaled 57.0 thousand during September, 7 percent below 2004 and 10 percent below 2003.

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 535 thousand head on October 1, 2005, 1 percent above the previous month and 3 percent above October 2004. During September, placements of 68.0 thousand head were 6 percent above the previous year. Marketings of 57.0 thousand head were 5 percent below September of 2004. Other disappearance totaled 6.00 thousand head.

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

State	Number On Feed September 1/			Placed During September		Marketed During September	
	2004	2005	2005/2004	2004	2005	2004	2005
	Thousand Head						
Arizona	296	314	106	28	29	25	24
California	520	530	102	64	68	60	57
Colorado	930	770	83	265	280	170	145
Idaho	245	250	102	84	69	53	48
Iowa	375	395	105	70	90	69	74
Kansas	2,130	2,210	104	520	510	410	455
Nebraska	1,800	1,770	98	470	500	320	320
New Mexico	129	135	105	29	26	19	22
Oklahoma	325	320	98	80	69	62	53
South Dakota	138	132	96	41	40	35	40
Texas	2,670	2,800	105	600	550	490	510
Washington	175	139	79	48	40	42	25
Other States	255	235	92	76	84	45	43
UNITED STATES	9,988	10,000	100	2,375	2,355	1,800	1,816
State	Other Disappearance During September 2/		Number On Feed October 1 1/		2005/2004		
	2004	2005	2004	2005			
	Thousand Head				Percent		
Arizona	1	1	298	318	107		
California	4	6	520	535	103		
Colorado	5	5	1,020	900	88		
Idaho	1	1	275	270	98		
Iowa	1	1	375	410	109		
Kansas	20	15	2,220	2,250	101		
Nebraska	10	10	1,940	1,940	100		
New Mexico	3	3	136	136	100		
Oklahoma	3	1	340	335	99		
South Dakota	1	2	143	130	91		
Texas	10	10	2,770	2,830	102		
Washington	1	1	180	153	85		
Other States	1	1	285	275	96		
UNITED STATES	61	57	10,502	10,482	100		

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 MILK PRODUCTION

California milk producers produced 3.08 billion pounds of milk in September 2005. This was 2 percent below August 2005, but 3 percent above September 2004.

The monthly milk per cow averaged 1,745 pounds, 45 pounds less than in August 2005, but 30 pounds more than a year ago.

CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION

Month	CALIFORNIA 1/						Total Milk		UNITED STATES 1/ 3/					
	Milk Cows 4/		Milk Per Cow 5/		Milk Production 5/		Receipts 2/		Milk Cows 4/		Milk Per Cow 5/		Milk Production 5/	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds				1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds	
January	1,701	1,739	1,760	1,770	2,994	3,078	2,993	3,076	8,044	8,083	1,624	1,640	13,061	13,258
February	1,706	1,742	1,675	1,635	2,858	2,848	2,856	2,845	8,051	8,076	1,531	1,519	12,329	12,270
March	1,710	1,748	1,815	1,845	3,104	3,225	3,100	3,223	8,059	8,095	1,661	1,702	13,387	13,779
April	1,716	1,751	1,790	1,820	3,072	3,187	3,070	3,184	8,063	8,109	1,636	1,683	13,194	13,647
May	1,720	1,754	1,830	1,875	3,148	3,289	3,144	3,288	8,064	8,121	1,692	1,757	13,641	14,266
June	1,724	1,757	1,755	1,810	3,026	3,180	3,021	3,178	8,083	8,132	1,607	1,686	12,988	13,712
July	1,729	1,760	1,780	1,775	3,078	3,124	3,076	3,122	8,096	8,145	1,623	1,681	13,143	13,692
August	1,733	1,763	1,775	1,790	3,076	3,156	3,075	3,153	8,102	8,157	1,601	1,667	12,970	13,595
September	1,737	1,765	1,715	1,745	2,979	3,080	2,974		8,104	8,158	1,533	1,597	12,426	13,032
October	1,740		1,770		3,077		3,077		8,103		1,583		12,824	
November	1,741		1,700		2,956		2,956		8,102		1,531		12,404	
December	1,741		1,775		3,087		3,087		8,097		1,610		13,037	

1/ Revised 2005 data.

2/ Milk receipts from California Department of Food and Agriculture, Dairy Marketing and Milk Pooling Branches. Excludes on-farm usage.

3/ Twenty-three-state total.

4/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

5/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

U.S. HOG INVENTORY UP SLIGHTLY

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on September 1, 2005 was 61.5 million head. This was up slightly from September 1, 2004, and up 1 percent from June 1, 2005.

Breeding inventory, at 5.97 million head, was up less than 1 percent from last year, but down less than 1 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 55.6 million head, was virtually unchanged from last year, but up 2 percent from last quarter.

The June - August 2005 U.S. pig crop, at 26.3 million head, was up slightly from 2004 and up 1 percent from 2003. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.90 million head, down slightly from last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 49 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.07 for the June-August 2005 period, compared to 9.01 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.10 for operations with more than 5.00 thousand hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.89 million sows farrow during the September-November 2005 quarter, unchanged from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2004, but up 1 percent from 2003. Intended farrowings for December 2005-February 2006, at 2.88 million sows, are up 1 percent from both 2005 and 2004.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5.00 thousand head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 39 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, unchanged from last year.

Revisions: All inventory and pig crop estimates for September 2004 through June 2005 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review, an adjustment of less than one-half of 1 percent was made to the March 2005 and June 2005 total inventory. An adjustment of slightly larger than one-half of 1 percent was made to the December 2004-February 2005 pig crop.

U.S. HOG AND PIG INVENTORY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2003-05

Item	2003	2004	2005	2005/2003	2005/2004
	1,000 Head			Percent	
September 1 Inventory					
All Hogs And Pigs	61,009	61,519	61,536	101	100
Kept For Breeding	5,938	5,962	5,972	101	100
Market	55,071	55,556	55,563	101	100
Market Hogs and Pigs by Weight Groups					
Under 60 Pounds	20,438	20,729	20,634	101	100
60-119 Pounds	13,739	13,613	13,716	100	101
120-179 Pounds	11,384	11,235	11,384	100	101
180 Pounds And Over	9,510	9,981	9,830	103	98

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during September 2005 totaled 119.2 million pounds (dressed weight), 7 percent below the previous month and 4 percent below September 2004. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In September 2005, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,334 pounds; calves, 146 pounds; and hogs, 236 pounds.

LAMB AND MUTTON PRODUCTION AT RECORD LOW FOR SEPTEMBER

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.93 billion pounds in September, up 1 percent from the 3.91 billion pounds produced in September 2004.

Beef production, at 2.16 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.78 million head, up 1 percent from September 2004. The average live weight was up 11 pounds from the previous year at 1,276 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.2 million pounds, 2 percent above September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 60.7 thousand head, down 10 percent from September 2004. The average live weight, at 363 pounds, was 43 pounds above last year.

Pork production totaled 1.74 billion pounds, down 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.87 million head, 1 percent below September 2004. The average live weight of 265 pounds was unchanged the previous year.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.6 million pounds, was down 4 percent from September 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 231 thousand head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, up 2 pounds from September a year ago.

January to September 2005 commercial red meat production was 33.9 billion pounds, up slightly from 2004. Accumulated beef production was up slightly from last year, veal was down 7 percent, pork was up 1 percent, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

September 2004 and 2005 both contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, SEPTEMBER 2004-05 1/

Class and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
CATTLE						
California	114.4	110.9	152,585	147,889	1,334	1,334
U.S. Total	2,737.1	2,777.6	3,463,716	3,543,498	1,265	1,276
CALVES						
California	8.0	6.5	1,103	949	138	146
U.S. Total	67.3	60.7	21,546	22,035	320	363
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	243.9	231.3	32,370	31,136	133	135
HOGS						
California	223.6	218.1	53,236	51,554	238	236
U.S. Total	8,999.2	8,869.9	2,387,426	2,349,204	265	265
RED MEAT	September 2004	August 2005 2/	September 2005	Sept. 05 Sept. 04	Sept. 05 Aug. 05	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	124.7	128.1	119.2	96	93	
U.S. Total	3,906.3	4,099.4	3,932.8	101	96	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.

2/ Revised U.S. data.

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

Commodity	Unit	California			United States		
		Sept. 2004	Aug. 2005	Sept. 15, 2005	Sept. 2004	Aug. 2005	Sept. 15, 2005
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	110.00	126.00	130.00	91.40	99.70	99.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/	Ton	113.00	131.00	135.00	97.50	109.00	107.00
Hogs 2/ 3/	Cwt.	---	---	---	54.80	51.00	48.80
Cows 2/	Cwt.	49.70	49.10	48.10	53.10	51.30	50.40
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	88.00	85.10	88.60	89.50	87.80	91.30
Calves 2/	Cwt.	112.00	109.00	114.00	128.00	131.00	133.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	35.00	40.00	---	41.20	42.30	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	87.50	96.00	---	100.00	108.00	---
Milk Cows 4/	Head	---	---	---	---	---	---
All Milk Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	14.27	13.52	14.10	15.50	14.80	15.10

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/ Prices include barrows, gilts, and sows.

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