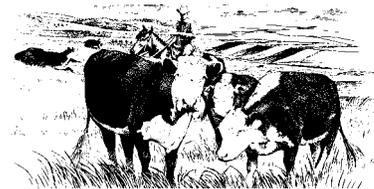


California Livestock Review



Frequency: Monthly
Released: November 29, 2005

(USPS 598-250)
VOL. 27 NO. 11



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service,
California Field Office

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U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 1 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ head capacity feedlots totaled 11.5 million head on November 1, 2005. The inventory was 1 percent above November 1, 2004 and 4 percent above November 1, 2003.

Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.80 million, 3 percent above 2004 and 1 percent above 2003. Net placements were 2.74 million head. During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 880 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 790 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 600 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 525 thousand.

Marketings of fed cattle during October totaled 1.74 million, 3 percent below 2004 and 6 percent below 2003. This is the second lowest number of fed-cattle marketings for the month of October since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 58.0 thousand during October, 12 percent below 2004 and 43 percent below 2003.

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 545 thousand head on November 1, 2005, 2 percent above the previous month, and 4 percent above November 2004. During October, placements of 64.0 thousand head were 9 percent below the previous year. Marketings of 50.0 thousand head were 15 percent below October of 2004. Other disappearance totaled 4.00 thousand head.

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

State	Number On Feed October 1 1/			Placed During October		Marketed During October	
	2004	2005	2005/2004	2004	2005	2004	2005
	Thousand Head						
Arizona	298	318	107	48	35	21	27
California	520	535	103	70	64	59	50
Colorado	1,020	900	88	260	290	185	155
Idaho	275	270	98	78	76	47	55
Iowa	375	410	109	125	131	68	65
Kansas	2,220	2,250	101	570	580	375	400
Nebraska	1,940	1,940	100	600	660	325	310
New Mexico	136	136	100	29	22	29	16
Oklahoma	340	335	99	87	79	64	53
South Dakota	143	130	91	65	68	38	35
Texas	2,770	2,830	102	650	670	520	520
Washington	180	153	85	43	34	37	23
Other States	285	275	96	76	86	35	35
UNITED STATES	10,502	10,482	100	2,701	2,795	1,803	1,744
State	Other Disappearance During October 2/		Number On Feed November 1 1/		2005/2004		
	2004	2005	2004	2005			
	Thousand Head				Percent		
Arizona	4	1	321	325	101		
California	6	4	525	545	104		
Colorado	5	5	1,090	1,030	94		
Idaho	1	1	305	290	95		
Iowa	2	1	430	475	110		
Kansas	15	20	2,400	2,410	100		
Nebraska	5	10	2,210	2,280	103		
New Mexico	2	1	134	141	105		
Oklahoma	3	1	360	360	100		
South Dakota	1	2	169	161	95		
Texas	20	10	2,880	2,970	103		
Washington	1	1	185	163	88		
Other States	1	1	325	325	100		
UNITED STATES	66	58	11,334	11,475	101		

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's production of red meat during October 2005 totaled 121.9 million pounds (dressed weight), 2 percent above the previous month and 3 percent above October 2004. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In October 2005, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,359 pounds; calves 169 pounds; and hogs 242 pounds.

January to October 2005 commercial red meat production was 37.8 billion pounds, up slightly from 2004. Accumulated beef production was virtually unchanged from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

October 2004 and 2005 both contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays.

**U.S. PORK PRODUCTION
UP FROM PREVIOUS MONTH AND YEAR**

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.93 billion pounds in October, up slightly from the 3.92 billion pounds produced in October 2004.

Beef production, at 2.08 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.68 million head, down 2 percent from October 2004. The average live weight was up 13 pounds from the previous year, at 1,280 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.6 million pounds, 2 percent above October a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 56.4 thousand, down 10 percent from October 2004. The average live weight was 41 pounds above last year, at 371 pounds.

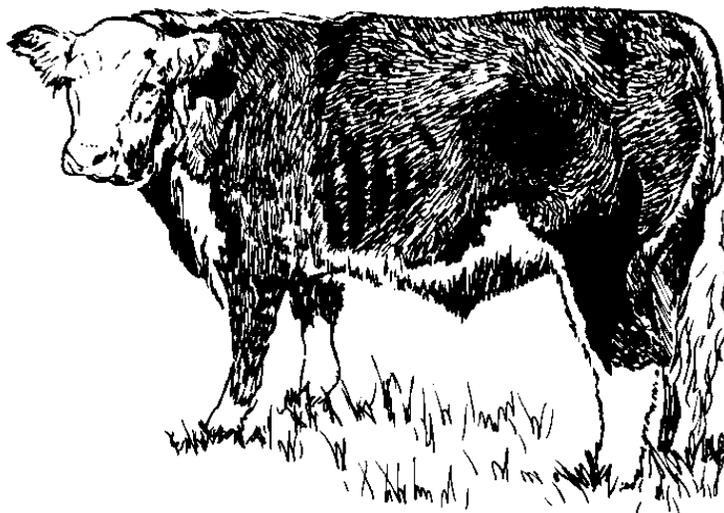
Pork production totaled 1.82 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.12 million head, 2 percent above October 2004. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 269 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.8 million pounds, was down 3 percent from October 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 229 thousand head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up 3 pounds from October a year ago.

OCTOBER COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER 1/

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	Thousand Head		Thousand Pounds		Pounds	
CATTLE						
California	108.4	114.4	145,506	155,384	1,342	1,359
U.S. Total	2,745.9	2677.9	3,478,639	3,428,477	1,267	1,280
CALVES						
California	7.8	5.8	1,096	986	141	169
U.S. Total	62.5	56.4	20,607	20,912	330	371
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	241.3	228.5	32,465	31,420	135	138
HOGS						
California	203.5	209.5	49,508	50,754	243	242
U.S. Total	8,969.7	9,117.1	2,395,671	2,449,543	267	269
RED MEAT	October 2004	September 2005	October 2005	Oct. 05 / Oct. 04	Oct. 05 / Sep. 05	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	117.8	119.2	121.9	103.0	102	
U.S. Total	3,921.1	3,932.8	3,925.1	100.0	100	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.



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

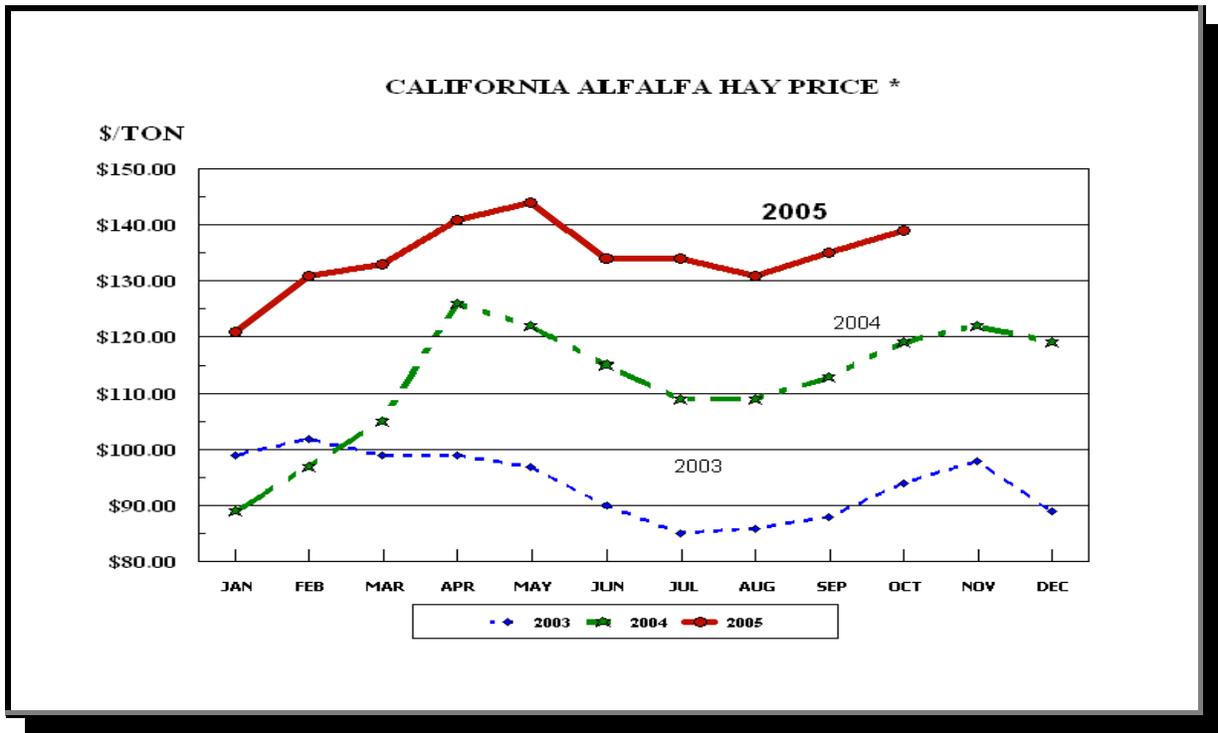
Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		October 2004	September 2005	Oct. 15, 2005	October 2004	September 2005	Oct. 15, 2005
Dollars							
Hay, All Baled 2/	Ton	115.00	130.00	132.00	92.80	99.00	97.70
Hay, Alfalfa Baled 2/	Ton	119.00	135.00	139.00	100.00	107.00	106.00
Hogs 2/ 3/	Cwt.	---	---	---	52.20	49.50	48.80
Cows 2/	Cwt.	47.50	47.90	46.60	49.80	49.80	47.70
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	89.00	89.30	92.20	91.10	92.30	96.00
Calves 2/	Cwt.	113.00	114.00	118.00	126.00	133.00	132.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	36.50	35.00	---	40.40	43.30	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	86.50	97.50	---	97.70	110.00	---
Milk Cows 4/	Head	1,650.00	---	1,950.00	1,640.00	---	1,870.00
Milk, Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	14.01	14.03	13.80	15.60	15.30	15.40

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.



* Includes All Qualities.

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, California Field Office



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**United States
Department
of Agriculture**

Five Reasons to Respond
to the 2006 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 Export Programs -- 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 USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is conducting the 2006 January Cattle and Sheep & Goat surveys. These surveys will provide information on first of the year livestock inventories, death and losses, production and on-farm grain storage capacity. The survey results will be available on the Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/> after 12:00 p.m. PST on January 28, 2006. The results will also be published in the "California Livestock Review."

Survey results are based only on a sample of producers, so each farmer and rancher surveyed represents many others. Every response is critical. USDA-NASS representatives from the California Field Office will contact 2,300 livestock producers during late December and early January. The interview takes approximately 20 minutes. The benefits are immeasurable. **Thank you in advance for your participation!**