

# California Livestock Review



Frequency: Monthly  
Released: October 27, 2006

(USPS 598-250)  
VOL. 28 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 UP 9 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.4 million head on October 1, 2006. The inventory was 9 percent above October 1, 2005 and 8 percent above October 1, 2004. This is the highest October 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. The inventory included 7.20 million steers and steer calves, up 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.12 million head, up 16 percent from 2005.

## CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 525 thousand head on October 1, 2006, 1 percent above last month, but 2 percent below October 2005. During September, placements of 72.0 thousand were 6 percent above the previous year. Marketings of 64.0 thousand head were 12 percent above September of 2005. Other disappearance totaled 3.00 thousand head.

Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.23 million, 5 percent below 2005 and 6 percent below 2004. Net placements were 2.16 million head. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 725 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 412 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 450 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 645 thousand.

Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.77 million, 3 percent below 2005 and 2 percent below 2004. This is the second lowest fed-cattle marketings for the month of September since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 68.0 thousand during September, 19 percent above 2005 and 11 percent above 2004.

## 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	
	2005	2006	2006/2005	2005	2006	2005	2006
	Thousand Head						
Arizona	314	336	107	29	28	24	26
California	530	520	98	68	72	57	64
Colorado	770	960	125	280	245	145	140
Idaho	250	235	94	69	72	48	41
Iowa	395	455	115	90	81	74	73
Kansas	2,210	2,390	108	510	500	455	420
Nebraska	1,770	2,050	116	500	500	320	320
New Mexico	135	142	105	26	21	22	16
Oklahoma	320	345	108	69	71	53	59
South Dakota	132	155	117	40	50	40	34
Texas	2,800	2,960	106	550	495	510	510
Washington	139	158	114	40	37	25	23
Other States	235	280	119	84	60	43	39
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,986</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>2,355</b>	<b>2,232</b>	<b>1,816</b>	<b>1,765</b>
State	Other Disappearance During September 2/		Number On Feed October 1 1/		2006/2005		
	2005	2006	2005	2006			
	Thousand Head				Percent		
Arizona	1	2	318	336	106		
California	6	3	535	525	98		
Colorado	5	5	900	1,060	118		
Idaho	1	1	270	265	98		
Iowa	1	3	410	460	112		
Kansas	15	20	2,250	2,450	109		
Nebraska	10	10	1,940	2,220	114		
New Mexico	3	4	136	143	105		
Oklahoma	1	2	335	355	106		
South Dakota	2	1	130	170	131		
Texas	10	15	2,830	2,930	104		
Washington	1	1	153	171	112		
Other States	1	1	275	300	109		
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>10,482</b>	<b>11,385</b>	<b>109</b>		

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 3.15 billion pounds of milk in September 2006. This was 4 percent below August 2006, but 2 percent above September 2005.

The monthly milk per cow averaged 1,775 pounds, 85 pounds less than in August 2006, but 25 pounds more than a year ago.

### CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION

Month	CALIFORNIA 1/						Total Milk		UNITED STATES 2/ 4/					
	Milk Cows 5/		Milk Per Cow 6/		Milk Production 6/		Receipts 3/		Milk Cows 5/		Milk Per Cow 6/		Milk Production 6/	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds		Pounds		1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds	
January	1,739	1,776	1,770	1,825	3,078	3,241	3,076	3,239	8,087	8,195	1,643	1,710	13,287	14,014
February	1,742	1,782	1,635	1,705	2,848	3,038	2,845	3,037	8,084	8,206	1,522	1,587	12,301	13,022
March	1,744	1,785	1,850	1,920	3,226	3,427	3,223	3,423	8,099	8,228	1,707	1,775	13,825	14,604
April	1,747	1,785	1,825	1,855	3,188	3,311	3,184	3,308	8,117	8,240	1,690	1,727	13,717	14,228
May	1,751	1,785	1,880	1,895	3,292	3,383	3,288	3,381	8,131	8,257	1,760	1,780	14,311	14,700
June	1,753	1,783	1,815	1,800	3,182	3,209	3,178	3,204	8,138	8,269	1,690	1,695	13,755	14,017
July	1,756	1,772	1,780	1,760	3,126	3,119	3,122	3,118	8,151	8,259	1,683	1,686	13,715	13,925
August	1,759	1,769	1,795	1,860	3,157	3,290	3,153	3,290	8,162	8,252	1,671	1,680	13,640	13,861
September	1,762	1,772	1,750	1,775	3,084	3,145	3,079		8,167	8,246	1,599	1,615	13,057	13,318
October	1,770		1,780		3,151		3,147		8,168		1,637		13,373	
November	1,770		1,725		3,053		3,049		8,167		1,592		13,002	
December	1,770		1,795		3,177		3,178		8,179		1,663		13,599	

1/ Revised data for June, July, and August for both 2005 and 2006.

2/ Revised 2006 data.

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

4/ Twenty-three-state total.

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

6/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

### U.S. HOG INVENTORY UP 1 PERCENT

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on September 1, 2006 was 62.7 million head. This was up 1 percent from September 1, 2005 and 2 percent above June 1, 2006.

Breeding inventory, at 6.08 million head, was up 2 percent from last year and slightly above the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 56.6 million head, was up 1 percent from last year and 2 percent above last quarter.

The June-August 2006 pig crop, at 26.7 million head, was up 1 percent from 2005 and 2 percent more than in 2004. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.92 million head, up slightly from 2005 and 1 percent above 2004. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.14 for the June-August 2006 period, compared to 9.06 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.70 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.20 for operations with more than 5.00 thousand hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.92 million sows farrow during the September-November 2006 quarter, up 1 percent from the actual farrowings in both 2005 and 2004. Intended farrowings for December 2006-February 2007, at 2.90 million sows, are up 2 percent from both 2006 and 2005.

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 2005 through June 2006 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review, a small adjustment of less than one-half of 1 percent was made to the March 2006 inventory along with an adjustment of slightly larger than one-half of 1 percent to the June 2006 total inventory.

### U.S. HOG AND PIG INVENTORY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2004-06

Item	2004	2005	2006	2006/2004	2006/2005
	1,000 Head			Percent	
<b>September 1 Inventory</b>					
All Hogs And Pigs	61,519	61,846	62,704	102	101
Kept For Breeding	5,962	5,972	6,079	102	102
Market	55,556	55,873	56,625	102	101
<b>Market Hogs and Pigs by Weight Groups</b>					
Under 60 Pounds	20,729	20,764	20,998	101	101
60-119 Pounds	13,613	13,876	13,991	103	101
120-179 Pounds	11,235	11,404	11,555	103	101
180 Pounds And Over	9,981	9,830	10,082	101	103

## CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during September 2006 totaled 130 million pounds (dressed weight), 7 percent below the previous month, but 9 percent above September 2005. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In September 2006, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,356 pounds; calves 143 pounds; and hogs 233 pounds.

### RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN FROM PREVIOUS MONTH

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.93 billion pounds in September, down 1 percent from August, but up slightly from the previous year.

Beef production, at 2.16 billion pounds, was slightly above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.77 million head, down slightly from September 2005. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year at 1,282 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.8 million pounds, 3 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 57.5 thousand head, down 5 percent from September 2005. The average live weight was 365 pounds, 2 pounds above last year.

Pork production totaled 1.74 billion pounds, up slightly from the previous year. Hog kills totaled 8.83 million head, slightly below September 2005. The average live weight, at 266 pounds, was 1 pound above the previous year.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.2 million pounds, was down 9 percent from September 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 219.1 thousand head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, down 6 pounds from September a year ago.

January to September 2006 commercial red meat production was 35.2 billion pounds, 4 percent above 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was up 2 percent, and lamb and mutton production was down slightly.

September 2005 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays, while September 2006 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays.

### COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, SEPTEMBER 2005-06 1/

Class and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
<b>CATTLE</b>						
California	110.9	127.7	147,908	173,116	1,333	1,356
U.S. Total	2,775.9	2,765.7	3,538,313	3,546,240	1,275	1,282
<b>CALVES</b>						
California	6.5	7.2	935	1,028	145	143
U.S. Total	60.7	57.5	22,022	20,987	363	365
<b>SHEEP &amp; LAMBS</b>						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	231.1	219.1	31,088	28,233	135	129
<b>HOGS</b>						
California	218.5	205.6	51,493	47,914	236	233
U.S. Total	8,871.1	8,833.0	2,348,822	2,351,899	265	266
<b>RED MEAT</b>	September 2005	August 2006 2/	September 2006	Sept. 06 Sept. 05	Sept. 06 Aug. 06	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	119.2	140.8	130.4	109	93	
U.S. Total	3,929.8	4,244.6	3,932.6	100	93	

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. 2005	Aug. 2006	Sept. 15, 2006	Sept. 2005	Aug. 2006	Sept. 15, 2006
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	127.00	100.00	101.00	99.00	106.00	107.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/	Ton	132.00	105.00	106.00	106.00	110.00	112.00
Hogs 2/ 3/	Cwt.	---	---	---	49.40	51.60	50.00
Cows 2/ 4/	Cwt.	47.90	45.70	45.40	49.80	47.00	47.30
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	89.30	89.20	92.70	92.10	91.90	95.20
Calves 2/	Cwt.	114.00	115.00	113.00	135.00	134.00	135.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	35.00	26.50	---	43.70	28.40	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	97.50	88.50	---	110.00	94.80	---
Milk Cows 5/	Head	---	---	---	---	---	---
All Milk Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	14.31	10.82	11.50	15.30	12.00	12.60

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/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

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