



California Livestock Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 3 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.0 million head on September 1, 2008. The inventory was 3 percent below September 1, 2007 and 9 percent below September 1, 2006.

Placements in feedlots during August totaled 2.06 million, 3 percent below 2007 and 10 percent below 2006. Net placements were 2.01 million head. This is the second lowest placements for the month of August since the series began in 1996. During August, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 365 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 410 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 566 thousand and 800 pounds and greater were 720 thousand.

Marketings of fed cattle during August totaled 1.88 million, 9 percent below 2007 and 9 percent below 2006. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of August since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 49.0 thousand during August, 2 percent below 2007 and 17 percent below 2006.

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 505 thousand head on September 1, 2008, 2 percent below last month, and 5 percent below September 2007. During August, placements of 37.0 thousand head were 31 percent below the previous year. Marketings of 45.0 thousand head were 27 percent below the previous year. Other disappearance totaled 2.00 thousand head.

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

State	Number On Feed August 1/			Placed During August		Marketed During August	
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head			
Arizona	341	357	105	36	33	28	27
California	540	515	95	54	37	62	45
Colorado	870	750	86	170	190	185	165
Idaho	205	180	88	48	45	47	44
Iowa	500	475	95	71	72	80	75
Kansas	2,100	2,010	96	520	520	465	430
Nebraska	1,910	1,920	101	465	445	435	395
New Mexico	129	164	127	22	27	19	23
Oklahoma	305	290	95	75	70	69	54
South Dakota	175	170	97	37	28	36	32
Texas	2,780	2,590	93	520	510	550	510
Washington	144	133	92	35	36	30	30
Other States	300	315	105	66	48	60	54
UNITED STATES	10,299	9,869	96	2,119	2,061	2,066	1,884

State	Other Disappearance During August 2/		Number On Feed September 1 1/		2008 2007
	2007	2008	2007	2008	
	1,000 Head		1,000 Head		Percent
Arizona	1	1	348	362	104
California	2	2	530	505	95
Colorado	5	5	850	770	91
Idaho	1	1	205	180	88
Iowa	1	2	490	470	96
Kansas	15	10	2,140	2,090	98
Nebraska	10	10	1,930	1,960	102
New Mexico	1	1	131	167	127
Oklahoma	1	1	310	305	98
South Dakota	1	1	175	165	94
Texas	10	10	2,740	2,580	94
Washington	1	1	148	138	93
Other States	1	4	305	305	100
UNITED STATES	50	49	10,302	9,997	97

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 August 2008 totaled 133 million pounds (dressed weight), slightly below the previous month, and 8 percent below August 2007. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In August 2008, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,277 pounds; calves 118 pounds; and hogs 235 pounds.

January to August 2008 commercial red meat production was 33.4 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 2 percent from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was up 9 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

August 2007 contained 23 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays. August 2008 contained 21 weekdays (including no holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

**U.S. AUGUST TOTAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION
BELOW PREVIOUS YEAR**

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.10 billion pounds in August, down 5 percent from the 4.33 billion pounds produced in August 2007.

Beef production, at 2.27 billion pounds, was 7 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.91 million head, down 7 percent from August 2007. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from the previous year, at 1,284 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.2 million pounds, 9 percent above August a year ago.

Calf slaughter totaled 79.2 thousand head, up 21 percent from August 2007. The average live weight was down 23 pounds from last year, at 245 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.80 billion pounds, down 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.27 million head, down 1 percent from August 2007. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 261 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.3 million pounds, was down 10 percent from August 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 201 thousand head, 12 percent below last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, up 3 pounds from August a year ago.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, AUGUST 1/

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
CATTLE						
California	141.3	125.0	179,361	157,353	1,290	1,277
U.S.	3,132.1	2,910.9	3,993,828	3,726,689	1,279	1,284
CALVES						
California	11.5	17.0	1,399	1,986	122	118
U.S.	65.5	79.2	17,435	19,135	268	245
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S.	228.1	200.7	29,314	26,507	129	132
HOGS						
California	231.4	232.6	53,777	54,672	233	235
U.S.	9,394.5	9,267.6	2,470,996	2,415,430	263	261
RED MEAT	August 2007	July 2008	August 2008	Aug 08 Aug 07	Aug 08 Jul 08	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	144.9	133.5	133.3	92	100	
U.S.	4,325.7	4,251.6	4,097.4	95	96	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.

FEDERALLY-INSPECTED SLAUGHTER FOR REGIONS AND U.S., JANUARY-AUGUST 2008 1/

Standard Federal Regions	Cattle							Calves Total 2/
	Total 2/	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls & Stags	
				All	Dairy	Other		
	1,000 Head							
1	7.2	3.1	1.3	---	---	---	---	1.5
2	37.0	12.4	2.3	19.6	16.3	3.2	2.8	181.0
3	678.9	282.1	63.9	316.0	251.0	65.0	17.0	105.0
4	575.9	9.9	3.5	485.4	91.7	393.6	77.2	2.7
5	2,717.1	1,204.2	340.3	1,097.9	560.5	537.5	74.6	145.4
6	4,605.1	2,449.0	1,407.4	656.1	116.7	539.4	92.7	19.2
7	9,721.5	5,464.1	3,688.5	503.2	12.3	490.9	65.8	0.5
8	2,283.7	1,209.3	922.2	---	---	---	---	---
9	1,404.3	720.5	96.6	563.7	489.2	74.5	23.5	125.6
10	901.2	367.5	257.8	241.5	109.1	132.4	34.5	---
U.S. 2/	22,931.9	11,722.1	6,783.6	4,019.9	1,694.5	2,325.4	406.2	589.5
Standard Federal Regions	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total 2/	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total 2/	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings	
								1,000 Head
1	9.5	9.1	---	---	15.5	1.0	14.6	
2	87.7	85.5	1.2	0.9	110.7	11.1	99.6	
3	3,611.8	3,491.2	20.3	100.3	69.9	3.8	66.1	
4	10,868.0	10,298.0	556.3	13.7	26.0	8.4	17.7	
5	19,998.7	18,938.4	1,032.4	27.8	240.9	25.5	215.4	
6	3,797.3	3,596.3	193.9	7.1	---	---	---	
7	32,030.7	31,300.9	562.6	167.3	227.3	3.4	223.9	
8	3,232.1	3,226.1	5.9	0.1	653.9	12.7	641.2	
9	1,717.6	1,716.7	---	---	---	---	---	
10	232.3	231.4	0.9	0.1	18.1	1.0	17.1	
U.S. 2/	75,585.6	72,893.6	2,374.5	317.5	1,584.6	81.0	1,503.6	

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/ Regions with no data printed are still included in the US and Region total, data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations. Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

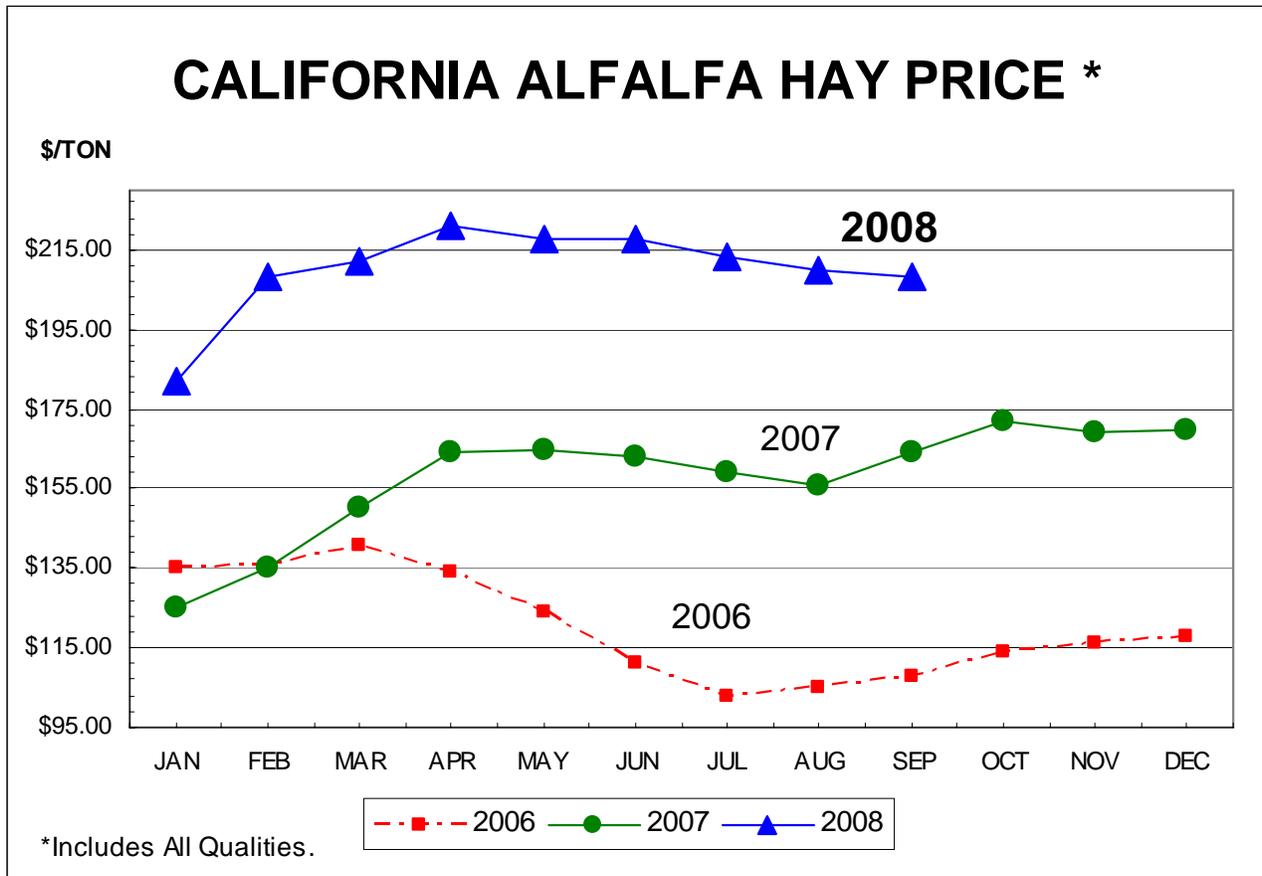
Commodity	Unit	California			United States		
		August 2007	July 2008	Aug. 15, 2008	August 2007	July 2008	Aug. 15, 2008
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	149.00	197.00	192.00	124.00	164.00	165.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/	Ton	156.00	213.00	210.00	135.00	177.00	180.00
Hogs 2/ 3/	Cwt.	---	---	---	51.30	54.20	59.70
Cows 2/	Cwt.	47.00	46.10	50.20	51.50	56.40	57.60
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	94.20	98.70	98.70	95.70	99.60	100.00
Calves 2/	Cwt.	110.00	100.00	100.00	127.00	115.00	114.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	27.50	23.00	---	28.30	26.90	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	91.00	95.50	---	97.90	103.00	---
Milk Cows 4/	Head	---	1,800.00	---	---	1,990.00	---
All Milk Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	20.61	17.96	17.00	21.60	19.40	18.50

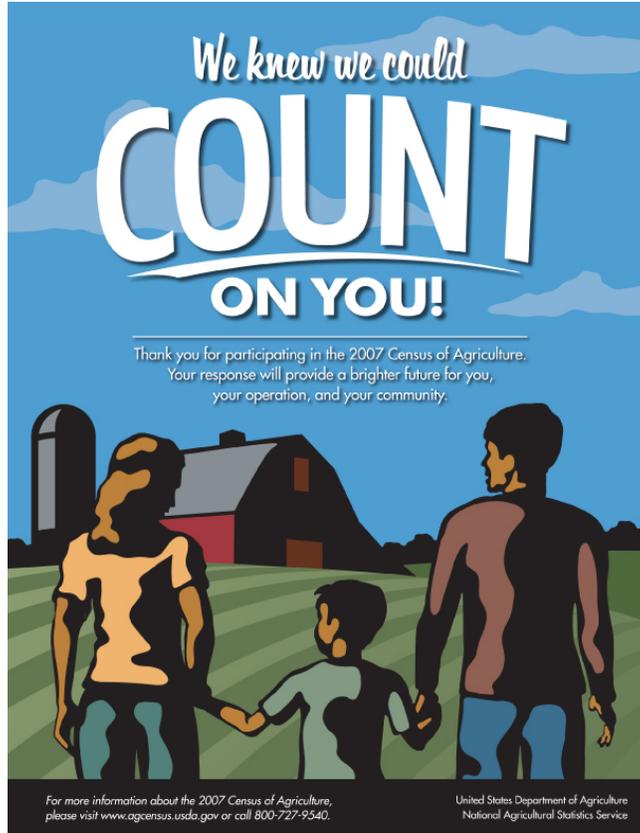
1/ The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

2/ California's August 2008 prices are for the full month.

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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