

ARIZONA MONTHLY LIVESTOCK



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ARIZONA CATTLE ON FEED UP FROM LAST YEAR

On April 1, 1999, Arizona had 214,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 5 percent from last month, and up 1 percent from a year ago. Placements totaled 39,000 head, 56 percent above the previous March. During March, 27,000 head were marketed, up 8 percent from March 1998.

Cattle on feed April 1, 1999, in the historic 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 8.89 million, up 3 percent from the previous year but slightly below April 1, 1997. The inventory included 5.33 million steers and steer calves, up 2 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 60 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.53 million head, up 6 percent from 1998. Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.73 million, 22 percent above 1998 and 2 percent above 1997. Marketings during March totaled 1.66 million, 5 percent above 1998 and 11 percent above 1997. Other disappearance during March was 52,000 head, 25 percent below 1998 and 16 percent below 1997.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.38 million head on April 1, 1999. The inventory was 3 percent above April 1, 1998 but slightly below April 1, 1997. The inventory included 6.28 million steers and steer calves, up 2 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 61 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.05 million head, up 4 percent from 1998.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 2.02 million, 18 percent above 1998 and 3 percent above 1997. Net placements were 1.95 million. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 357,000, 600-699 pounds were 468,000, 700-799 pounds were 739,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 457,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.98 million, 5 percent above 1998 and 12 percent above 1997.

CATTLE ON FEED: NUMBER ON FEED (1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS) MARCH 1, 1999 AND APRIL 1, 1998 AND 1999, PLACEMENTS, MARKETINGS AND OTHER DISAPPEARANCE MARCH 1998 AND 1999 BY STATE AND UNITED STATES

STATE	Number on Feed 1/					Placements During March			Marketings During March			Other Disappearance During March 2/		
	Mar 1		April 1			1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998
	1999	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998	1999 as % of Mar									
	1,000 head		Percent			1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
AZ	203	212	214	101	105	25	39	156	25	27	108	8	1	12
CA	385	370	385	104	100	50	55	110	45	50	111	10	5	50
CO	1,130	1,000	1,120	112	99	190	240	126	210	240	114	10	10	100
ID	275	285	280	98	102	55	58	105	37	49	132	3	4	133
IA	*360	325	360	111	100	26	57	219	50	56	112	1	1	100
KS	2,020	2,100	2,070	99	102	360	430	119	360	370	103	20	10	50
NE	2,160	2,060	2,180	106	101	290	380	131	340	350	103	10	10	100
NM	107	91	94	103	88	12	13	108	28	24	86	1	2	200
OK	365	370	345	93	95	80	69	86	80	86	108	5	3	60
SD	184	167	182	109	99	29	45	155	30	46	153	5	1	20
TX	2,610	2,540	2,560	101	98	480	530	110	550	565	103	10	15	150
WA	181	178	179	101	99	47	46	98	38	42	111	6	6	100
Other														
Sts	430	420	415	99	97	65	59	91	80	71	89	5	3	60
US	*10,410	10,118	10,384	103	100	1,709	2,021	118	1,873	1,976	105	94	71	76

* Revised.

1/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

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

RED MEAT AND PORK PRODUCTION SET RECORD HIGHS FOR MARCH

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.02 billion pounds in March, up 8 percent from the 3.73 billion pounds produced in March 1998 and up 7 percent from the previous record high for March set in 1995.

Beef production, at 2.23 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.05 million head, up 5 percent from 1998. The average live weight was up 16 pounds from the previous year, at 1,216 pounds.

Veal production totaled 20.0 million pounds, 12 percent below the previous record low for March set a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 117 thousand head, down 8 percent from March 1998. The average live weight was 9 pounds below last year, at 286 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.74 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year and 6 percent higher than the previous record high for

March set in 1995. Hog kill totaled 9.12 million head, 8 percent above 1998. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 259 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 29.0 million pounds, was up 10 percent from March 1998. Sheep slaughter totaled 423 thousand head, 10 percent above last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, down 1 pound from March a year ago.

January - March red meat production was 11.4 billion pounds, 3 percent higher than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was 3 percent higher than last year, veal was down 19 percent, pork up 4 percent, and lamb and mutton was down 2 percent.

**COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: ARIZONA AND U.S.
MARCH 1998 AND 1999, FEBRUARY 1999 AND JANUARY- MARCH 1999 1/**

CLASS	March 1998	February 1999	March 1999	March 1999 as % of		January - March 2/		1999 as % of 1998
				March 1998	February 1999	1998	1999	
	1,000 lbs			Percent		1,000 lbs		Percent
ARIZONA 3/								
Total Red Meat	26,400	27,100	30,900	117	114	74,100	86,200	116
		<u>Mil. Lbs</u>		<u>Percent</u>		<u>Mil. Lbs</u>		<u>Percent</u>

UNITED STATES

Beef	2,081	1,997	2,230	107	112	6,215	6,397	103
Veal	23	17	20	88	118	68	55	81
Pork	1,596	1,501	1,737	109	116	4,687	1,865	104
Lamb and Mutton	26	20	29	110	143	68	67	98
Total Red Meat	3,726	3,535	4,016	108	114	11,038	11,384	103

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.
 2/ Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.
 3/ Breakdown by class not available, includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER: ARIZONA AND U.S., MARCH 1999 AND U.S. JANUARY-MARCH 1999 1/

SPECIES	ARIZONA			UNITED STATES				
	March			March			January - March	
	Number slaughtered	Total liveweight	Average liveweight 2/	Number slaughtered	Total liveweight	Average liveweight 2/	Number slaughtered	Average liveweight 2/
	1,000 head	1,000 lbs	Pounds	1,000 head	1,000 lbs	Pounds	1,000 head	Pounds
Cattle	43.0	49,660	1,155	3,048.9	3,707,708	1,216	8,732.4	1,219
Calves 3/				116.9	33,482	286	321.8	284
Hogs	0.7	142	198	9,117.2	2,362,520	259	25,571.2	259
Sheep	0.1	14	128	423.0	57,820	137	990.4	135

1/ Includes slaughter under federal inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.
 2/ Average liveweights based on unrounded data.

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3/ Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations but included in U.S. total.

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in the 20 major States during March totaled 12.1 billion pounds, up 4.0 percent from production in these same States in March 1998. February revised production, at 10.8 billion pounds was up 4.0 percent from February 1998.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,577 pounds for March, 62 pounds above March 1998.

The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.70

million head, 5,000 head less than March 1998 and 2,000 head more than February 1999.

The quarterly production of milk for the U.S. was 40.5 billion pounds, 3.3 percent above the January-March period last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the January-March quarter was 9.13 million head, 42,000 head less than the same period last year.

MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION: BY STATE, MARCH 1998-99

STATE	Milk cows 1/		Milk per cow 2/		Milk production 2/		
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	Percent change from 1998
	1,000		Pounds		Million pounds		Percent
AZ	130	132	1,885	2,135	245	282	15.1%
CA	1,408	1,452	1,665	1,785	2,344	2,592	10.6%
FL	162	159	1,415	1,490	229	237	3.5%
ID	283	307	1,660	1,650	470	507	7.9%
IL	129	125	1,510	1,480	195	185	-5.1%
IN	134	136	1,430	1,330	192	181	-5.7%
IA	224	215	1,472	1,540	330	331	0.3%
KY	141	134	1,105	1,110	156	149	-4.5%
MI	297	297	1,530	1,580	454	469	3.3%
MN	555	545	1,465	1,555	813	847	4.2%
MO	174	162	1,240	1,320	216	214	-0.9%
NM	216	225	1,705	1,755	368	395	7.3%
NY	697	700	1,440	1,490	1,004	1,043	3.9%
OH	265	260	1,460	1,460	387	380	-1.8%
PA	624	614	1,535	1,565	958	961	0.3%
TX	362	342	1,475	1,585	534	542	1.5%
VT	161	162	1,430	1,470	230	238	3.5%
VA	125	122	1,345	1,350	168	165	-1.8%
WA	249	6.2 TD -0.003 Tj					

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASES 1 POINT

The All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in April was 98 based on 1990-92=100, up 1 point (1.0 percent) from March. The increase is due to the seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell. The normal increase in marketings of strawberries, cattle, oranges, and milk more than offset the relatively lower marketings of soybeans, corn, wheat, and hogs. The change in marketings also more than offset a decline in overall prices. Price decreases from March for milk, eggs, broilers, and corn more than offset price increases for lettuce, hogs, onions, and carrots.

Compared with April 1998, the All Farm Products Index was 6 points

(5.8 percent) lower. Price decreases from April 1998 for corn, soybeans, milk, and hogs more than offset price increases for strawberries, carrots, lettuce, and grapefruit.

PRICES PAID INDEX UNCHANGED

The April Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 116 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was unchanged from March but 2 points (1.7 percent) below April 1998. Since March, lower prices for feed grains, and seeds were offset by higher prices for feed supplements, complete feeds, hays and forages, and diesel fuel.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS: ARIZONA AND U.S., APRIL 1998 AND 1999 AND MARCH 1999

COMMODITY	UNIT	ARIZONA			UNITED STATES		
		Apr. 1998 Entire Mo.	Mar. 1999 Entire Mo.	Apr. 1999 Mid-Mo.	Apr. 1998 Entire Mo.	Mar. 1999 Entire Mo.	Apr. 1999 Mid-Mo.
Upland Cotton 1/	¢ Lb	.560	.524	.552	.636	.553	.557
All Wheat 2/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	3.18	2.65	2.71
Durum Wheat 2/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	4.60	2.81	2.78
Winter Wheat 2/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	2.94	2.53	2.51
All Hay Baled 3/	\$ Ton	115.00	105.00	94.00	98.00	78.50	81.90
Alfalfa Hay Baled 3/	\$ Ton	115.00	105.00	95.00	105.00	82.40	85.60
Other Hay Baled 3/	\$ Ton	4/	95.00	70.00	72.20	67.40	65.80
Grapefruit 5/	\$ Box	11.70	13.10	12.90	12.90	13.80	14.50
Oranges 5/	\$ Box	11.60	29.30	23.00	18.10	21.50	19.80
Lemons 5/	\$ Box	19.00	18.90	22.50	22.50	20.50	23.20
Tangerines 5/	\$ Box	15.50	34.30	23.20	30.30	28.60	32.30
Cows 6/	\$ Cwt	39.40	34.10	35.50	36.20	35.20	35.10
Steers and Heifers	\$ Cwt	64.30	64.10	64.40	66.30	65.50	65.30
Beef Cattle 7/	\$ Cwt	62.60	63.80	64.10	63.00	62.40	62.10
Calves	\$ Cwt	92.50	82.20	87.50	90.80	87.30	88.40
All Milk 8/	\$ Cwt	13.60	13.90	11.80	14.00	15.00	13.00

1/ Includes both spot and contract sales.

2/ Not available for Arizona.

3/ Mid-month.

4/ Insufficient sales to establish a price.

5/ F.O.B. packed fresh Arizona box weights: Grapefruit 67 lbs., Lemons 76 lbs., Oranges 75 lbs., Tangerines 75 lbs.

6/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

7/ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

8/ Preliminary; Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

U.S. PRICE INDEX SUMMARY TABLE

INDEX 1990-92 = 100	1998		1999	
	March	April	March	April
Prices Received	102	104	97	98
Prices Paid	118	118	116	116
Ratio 1/	86	88	84	84

1/ *Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.*