



ARIZONA LIVESTOCK

MARCH 2003

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CATTLE ON FEED

On March 1, 2003, Arizona had 279,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, down 31,000 head from a year ago. Placements totaled 22,000 head, down 4,000 head from February 2002. During February, 31,000 head were marketed, an increase of 5,000 head from last February.

On March 1, 2003, California had 470,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, down 5,000 head from February 1, 2003, and also down 5,000 head from March 2002. Placements totaled 54,000 head, down 1,000 head from a year ago. During February, 56,000 head were marketed, an increase of 6,000 head from last February.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.52 million head on March 1, 2003. The inventory was down 9 percent from the 11.52 million head on March 1, 2002 and 10 percent below March 1, 2001. Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.66 million, 8 percent below 2002, but 5 percent above 2001. Net placements were 1.59 million. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 263,000, 600-699 pounds were 376,000, 700-799 pounds were 597,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 421,000. Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.73 million, 4 percent below 2002 and 1 percent below 2001. Other disappearance totaled 71,000 during February, 13 percent above 2002, but 12 percent below 2001.

CATTLE ON FEED: NUMBER ON FEED, NUMBER PLACED ON FEED, NUMBER MARKETED, AND OTHER DISAPPEARANCE, 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS, BY MONTH, STATE, AND UNITED STATES 2002-2003

STATE 1/	Number on Feed 2/					Placements			Marketings			Other Disappearance		
	Mar 1, 2002	Feb 1, 2003	Mar 1, 2003			During February			During February			During February 3/		
			Number	as % of 2002	as % of Feb	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	1,000 Head		Percent			1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent
*AZ	310	291	279	90	96	26	22	85	26	31	119	1	3	300
*CA	475	475	470	99	99	55	54	98	50	56	112	5	3	60
*CO	1,150	1,030	990	86	96	190	170	89	210	200	95	10	10	100
ID	315	285	280	89	98	58	50	86	61	54	89	2	1	50
*IA	400	360	360	90	100	57	58	102	51	56	110	1	2	200
*KS	2,420	2,220	2,240	93	101	435	410	94	450	370	82	15	20	133
*NE	2,300	2,220	2,190	95	99	370	330	89	350	350	100	10	10	100
NM	109	*114	112	103	98	12	11	92	11	12	109	1	1	100
OK	345	*330	320	93	97	55	46	84	59	55	93	1	1	100
SD	210	215	215	102	100	45	40	89	34	39	115	1	1	100
*TX	2,850	*2,600	2,560	90	98	410	370	90	400	395	99	10	15	150
WA	229	180	180	79	100	43	31	72	50	30	60	1	1	100
Other Sts	405	340	325	80	96	54	65	120	49	77	157	5	3	60
US	11,518	*10,660	10,521	91	99	1,810	1,657	92	1,801	1,725	96	63	71	113

* Revised.

1/ States indicated with an asterisk are the historic seven states preparing monthly estimates of cattle on feed.

2/ 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.

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

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RELEASE DATES FOR UPCOMING NATIONAL REPORTS

April 17 Milk Production
 April 17 Cattle on Feed
 April 17 Livestock Slaughter
 April 24 Annual Dairy Products
 April 24 Milk-Production, Disposition, Income
 April 25 Meat Animals-Production, Disposition, Income
 April 30 Agricultural Prices

FEBRUARY MILK PRODUCTION UP 1.7 PERCENT

Milk production in the 20 major States during February totaled 11.6 billion pounds, up 1.7 percent from February 2002. January revised production, at 12.5 billion pounds, was up 1.8 percent from January 2002. The January revision represented an increase of 1 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,485 pounds for February, 13 pounds above February 2002.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.81 million head, 66,000 head more than February 2002, and 3,000 head more than January 2003.

MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION: BY STATE, FEBRUARY 2002-2003

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		2003 as % of 2002
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	
	1,000 Head		Lbs		Million Lbs		Percent
AZ	142	150	1,970	1,915	280	287	2.5
CA	1,626	1,686	1,620	1,635	2,634	2,757	4.7
FL	152	147	1,335	1,345	203	198	-2.5
ID	381	393	1,590	1,630	606	641	5.8
IL	115	114	1,440	1,485	166	169	1.8
IN	154	146	1,340	1,400	206	204	-1.0
IA	208	204	1,430	1,480	297	302	1.7
KY	123	120	1,100	1,040	135	125	-7.4
MI	295	299	1,545	1,560	456	466	2.2
MN	495	480	1,385	1,385	686	665	-3.1
MO	139	133	1,150	1,150	160	153	-4.4
NM	290	313	1,610	1,615	467	505	8.1
NY	672	682	1,405	1,390	944	948	0.4
OH	260	260	1,365	1,350	355	351	-1.1
PA	583	588	1,460	1,430	851	841	-1.2
TX	310	311	1,400	1,450	434	451	3.9
VT	154	153	1,375	1,360	212	208	-1.9
VA	120	118	1,290	1,250	155	148	-4.5
WA	247	248	1,735	1,790	429	444	3.5
WI	1,278	1,265	1,350	1,370	1,725	1,733	0.5
20-State Total	7,744	7,810	1,472	1,485	11,401	11,596	1.7

1/ Includes dry cows; excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

2002 WOOL PRODUCTION DOWN 4 PERCENT

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2002 was 41.2 million pounds, down 4 percent from 2001. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 5.45 million head, down 4 percent from 2001. The average price paid for wool sold in 2002 was \$0.53 per pound for a total value of \$21.8 million dollars, up 42 percent from \$15.3 million dollars in 2001.

Mohair production in the three major producing states (Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas) during 2002 was 2.13 million pounds, up 8 percent from 2001. Goats and kids clipped, at 283,000 head, were down 9 percent from 2001. Average weight per clip was 7.5 pounds compared with 6.4 pounds a year earlier. Value of mohair was \$3.4 million dollars, down 20 percent from 2001.

SHEEP AND LAMBS SHORN, WEIGHT PER FLEECE, WOOL PRODUCTION, PRICE AND VALUE, SELECTED STATES AND U.S. 2001 AND 2002

State	Sheep and Lambs Shorn		Weight per Fleece		Production		Price per Pound		Value of Production 1/	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 Head		Lbs		1,000 Lbs		Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
AZ	120	118	6.2	6.0	740	710	0.30	0.32	222	227
CA	510	520	7.4	7.0	3,750	3,650	0.35	0.45	1,313	1,643
CO	430	460	7.2	6.7	3,080	3,070	0.33	0.57	1,016	1,750
ID	230	217	9.3	9.7	2,140	2,115	0.22	0.67	471	1,417
MT	318	279	9.4	9.6	2,978	2,691	0.45	0.76	1,340	2,045
NV	71	65	8.7	9.1	620	590	0.44	0.85	273	502
NM	235	215	8.0	8.1	1,880	1,750	0.70	0.80	1,316	1,400
TX	870	790	6.9	7.0	6,003	5,530	0.52	0.68	3,122	3,760
UT	295	280	9.5	9.5	2,800	2,650	0.29	0.60	812	1,590
WA	48	44	8.2	8.1	395	357	0.45	0.47	178	168
WY	440	420	9.0	8.9	3,950	3,750	0.51	0.73	2,015	2,738
U.S.	5,689	5,453	7.6	7.5	43,016	41,150	0.36	0.53	15,311	21,792

1/ Production multiplied by marketing year average price. U.S. value is summation of State' values.

TOTAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION DROPS FROM JANUARY

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.50 billion pounds in February, virtually unchanged from the 3.50 billion pounds produced in February 2002. February 2002 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. February 2003 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. Beef production, at 1.94 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.57 million head, down 2 percent from February 2002. The average live weight was 1,261 pounds, up 6 pounds from February a year ago. Veal production totaled 15.8 million pounds, 10 percent above February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 83,100 head, up 14 percent from February 2002. The average live weight was 316 pounds, down 10 pounds from February a year ago.

Pork production totaled 1.52 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.68 million head, 2 percent above February 2002. The average live weight was 267 pounds, unchanged from February a year ago. Lamb and mutton production, at 15.0 million pounds, was down 16 percent from February 2002. Sheep slaughter totaled 224,200 head, 14 percent below last year. The average live weight was 133 pounds, down 4 pounds from February a year ago.

January - February red meat production was 7.57 billion pounds, virtually unchanged from 2002. Accumulated beef production was down 2 percent from last year, veal was up 8 percent, pork was up 2 percent, and lamb and mutton production was down 13 percent.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: ARIZONA AND U.S. 1/

Class	February 2002	January 2003	February 2003	February 2003 as % of	
				February 2002	January 2003
1,000 Lbs			Percent		
ARIZONA 2/					
Total Red Meat	35,100	37,300	35,800	102	96
UNITED STATES					
Million Lbs			Percent		
Beef	1,987	2,292	1,944	98	85
Veal	14	*18	16	110	89
Pork	1,482	1,749	1,521	103	87
Lamb and Mutton	18	16	15	84	94
Total Red Meat	3,502	4,076	3,497	100	86

*Revised

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

2/ Breakdown by class not available, includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER: ARIZONA, FEBRUARY 2003 AND U.S., JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2003 1/

SPECIES	ARIZONA			UNITED STATES		
	February 2003			January - February 2003		
	Number Slaughtered	Total Live Weight	Average Live Weight 2/	Number Slaughtered	Total Dressed Weight 3/	Average Live Weight 2/
	1,000 Head	1,000 Lbs	Lbs	1,000 Head	Million Lbs	Lbs
ARIZONA						
Cattle	45.8	61,296	1,340	5,576.7	4,237	1,265
Calves 4/				176.8	34	317
Hogs	0.1	32	255	16,467.8	3,271	267
Sheep	0.1	9	117	463.0	31	133

1/ Includes slaughter under federal inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

2/ Average liveweights based on unrounded data.

3/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

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

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MARCH FARM PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UNCHANGED FROM LAST MONTH

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March is 99, based on 1990-92=100, unchanged from the February index. Higher prices for tomatoes, onions, oranges, and chicken eggs offset lower prices for cattle, dairy, strawberries, and wheat. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3 year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings for strawberries, tomatoes, dairy, and asparagus offset decreases for cattle, cotton, corn, and oranges.

This preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 7 points (6.6 percent) from March 2002. Lower prices for lettuce, strawberries, potatoes, and celery more than offset higher prices for soybeans, corn, onions, and broilers. The Food Commodities Index increased 1 point (1.0 percent) above last month to 97, but is 12 points (11.0 percent) below March last year.

PRICES PAID INDEX UNCHANGED

The March Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 128 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is unchanged from February but 5 points (4.1 percent) above March 2002. Lower prices in March for feeder cattle, herbicides, feed grains, and feeder pigs are offset by higher prices for nitrogen fertilizers, diesel fuel, LP gas, and feed concentrates.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS: ARIZONA AND U.S., MARCH 2002 AND 2003 AND FEBRUARY 2003

Commodity	Unit	ARIZONA			UNITED STATES		
		March 2002 Entire Month	February 2003 Entire Month	March 2003 Mid-Month	March 2002 Entire Month	February 2003 Entire Month	March 2003 Mid-Month
Upland Cotton 1/	¢ Lb	2/	2/	2/	29.9	45.2	44.5
All Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	2.87	3.68	3.49
Durum Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	3.33	4.24	4.13
Winter Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	2.81	3.52	3.27
All Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	100.00	100.00	98.00	91.40	91.80	92.80
Alfalfa Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	100.00	100.00	98.00	98.80	96.40	96.20
Other Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	95.00	93.00	90.00	73.00	79.40	82.30
Grapefruit 5/	\$ Box	12.50	13.40	12.30	13.60	14.50	14.70
Oranges 5/	\$ Box	20.20	15.10	19.10	19.50	14.10	15.40
Lemons 5/	\$ Box	23.80	20.30	18.50	26.00	20.90	19.20
Tangerines 5/	\$ Box	14.00	25.10	19.60	23.10	23.20	23.30
Cows 6/	\$ Cwt	37.40	40.60	42.50	41.60	38.90	39.80
Steers and Heifers	\$ Cwt	71.70	79.90	77.00	74.30	78.10	76.20
Beef Cattle 7/	\$ Cwt	71.40	79.50	76.70	70.70	74.00	72.20
Calves	\$ Cwt	101.00	96.20	94.90	104.00	97.30	96.40
All Milk 8/	\$ Cwt	12.10	10.80	10.50	12.70	11.40	11.00

1/ Includes both spot and contract sales.

2/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

3/ Not available for Arizona.

4/ Mid-month.

5/ F.O.B. packed fresh Arizona box weights: Grapefruit 67 lbs., Oranges 75 lbs., Lemons 76 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	2002		2003	
	February	March	February	March
Prices Received	99	106	99	99
Prices Paid	123	123	128	128
Ratio 1/	80	86	77	77

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