



Agri-News



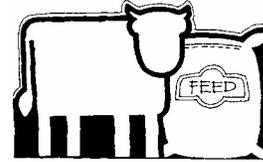
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HIGHLIGHTS

October 1 Cattle on Feed
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 Retail Price Spreads, Beef & Pork



October 1 Cattle on Feed

IOWA: There were 760,000 cattle on feed for the slaughter market in all feedlots in Iowa on October 1, down 5 percent from September 1, 2004 and down 3 percent from October 1, 2003. Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head had 375,000 head on feed, unchanged from last month but an increase of 21 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head had 385,000 head on feed, down 9 percent and 19 percent from last month and last year, respectively.

Of the feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head, 240,000 were steers and steer calves; 134,000 were heifers and heifer calves; and 1,000 were cows and bulls. Steers and steer calves inventory was up 20 percent from a year ago, and heifer and heifer calves inventory was up 23 percent from the previous year. Cow and bull inventory remained unchanged from October 1, 2003.

Placements during September totaled 118,000 head, up 15 percent from last month, but down 35 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head placed 70,000 head, an increase of 13 percent from last month but down 13 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head placed 48,000 head, up 17 percent from last month, but down 53 percent from last year.

Marketings for September were 154,000 head, up 12 percent from last month, but down 23 percent from last year. Feedlots with a capacity greater than 1,000 head marketed 69,000 head, up 5 percent from last month and

unchanged from last year. Feedlots with a capacity less than 1,000 head marketed 85,000 head, up 18 percent from last month, but down 35 percent from last year. Other disappearance totaled 4,000 head.

UNITED STATES: Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.5 million head on October 1, 2004. The inventory was 3 percent above October 1, 2003 and up slightly from October 1, 2002. The inventory included 6.46 million steers and steer calves, up 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.96 million head, up 1 percent from 2003.

Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.37 million, 4 percent below 2003 but 8 percent above 2002. Net placements were 2.31 million head. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 623,000, 600-699 pounds were 474,000, 700-799 pounds were 557,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 720,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.80 million, 11 percent below 2003 and 3 percent below 2002. This is the second lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of September since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 61,000 during September, 3 percent below 2003 but 15 percent above 2002.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements and Marketings by Month, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots¹

State	Cattle on feed October			Placements during September			Marketings during September			September disappearance other than slaughter ²		
	2003	2004	2004 2003	2003	2004	2004 2003	2003	2004	2004 2003	2003	2004	2004 2003
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Arizona	275	298	108	25	28	112	23	25	109	1	1	100
California	485	520	107	61	64	105	63	60	95	3	4	133
Colorado	950	1,020	107	255	275	108	200	180	90	5	5	100
Idaho	270	275	102	82	84	102	56	53	95	1	1	100
Iowa	310	375	121	80	70	88	69	69	100	1	1	100
Kansas	2,300	2,220	97	530	520	98	465	410	88	15	20	133
Nebraska	1,830	1,940	106	520	470	90	345	320	93	5	10	200
New Mexico	123	125	102	16	18	113	10	19	190	4	3	75
Oklahoma	350	340	97	81	80	99	73	62	85	3	3	100
S. Dakota	145	143	99	49	41	84	37	35	95	1	1	100
Texas	2,720	2,770	102	620	600	97	580	490	84	20	10	50
Washington	195	175	90	53	48	91	41	32	78	2	1	50
Other States	265	285	108	102	76	75	70	45	64	2	1	50
U.S.	10,218	10,486	103	2,474	2,374	96	2,032	1,800	89	63	61	97

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 loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed by Class, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots By Quarter, State, and United States, 2003-2004

State	Steers & Steer Calves			Heifers & Heifer Calves			Cows and Bulls		
	October 1, 2003	July 1, 2004	October 1, 2004	October 1, 2003	July 1, 2004	October 1, 2004	October 1, 2003	July 1, 2004	October 1, 2004
1,000 Head									
AZ	271	292	296	4	3	2	0	0	0
CA	445	480	485	40	40	35	0	0	0
CO	580	560	605	365	375	410	5	5	5
ID	166	150	170	104	90	104	0	0	1
IA	200	260	240	109	129	134	1	1	1
KS	1,220	1,130	1,180	1,060	950	1,020	20	10	20
NE	1,010	1,100	1,110	805	740	820	15	10	10
NM	54	60	75	69	64	50	0	0	0
OK	215	205	220	131	109	118	4	1	2
SD	77	88	71	59	68	60	9	17	12
TX	1,700	1,750	1,710	1,018	1,008	1,056	2	2	4
WA	115	90	105	77	59	68	3	1	2
Other Sts	190	205	195	70	60	87	5	5	3
U.S.	6,243	6,370	6,462	3,911	3,695	3,964	64	52	60

All Cattle on Feed, Iowa

	Lots 1,000+ Head	Lots Less than 1,000 Head	All Lots
----- Thousand head -----			
Cattle on Feed, September 1, 2004	375	425	800
September Placements	70	48	118
September Marketings	69	85	154
September Other Disappearance	1	3	4
Cattle on Feed, October 1, 2004	375	385	760

September Milk Production

IOWA: Milk production in Iowa in September totaled 281 million pounds, down 5.7 percent from September 2003. The average number of milk cows, 190 thousand head, was 10,000 head below September 2003. Production per cow averaged 1,480 pounds, ten pounds lower than production levels one year ago.

UNITED STATES: Milk production in the 20 major States during September totaled 11.9 billion pounds, up 1.3 percent from September 2003. August revised production, at 12.4 billion pounds, was up

1.4 percent from August 2003. The August revision represented a decrease of 11 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,529 pounds for September, 18 pounds above September 2003. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.77 million head, 6,000 head less than September 2003, but 4,000 head more than August 2004.

September Milk Cows and Milk Production

State	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		Change from 2003
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	
	1,000 head		Pounds		Million pounds		Percent
California	1,695	1,737	1,670	1,710	2,831	2,970	4.9
Illinois	109	107	1,420	1,440	155	154	-0.6
Iowa	200	190	1,490	1,480	298	281	-5.7
Minnesota	470	465	1,355	1,365	637	635	-0.3
Missouri	127	121	1,090	1,150	138	139	0.7
Wisconsin	1,253	1,239	1,430	1,440	1,792	1,784	-0.4
20 State Total ³	7,764	7,770	1,511	1,529	11,731	11,879	1.3

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh. ² Excludes milk sucked by calves. ³ The 20 States are Arizona, California, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

September Layers and Egg Production

IOWA: Egg production in Iowa for September 2004 was 992 million eggs, up 14 percent from the same period a year ago. The total number of layers on hand during September 2004 was 45.8 million, up 15 percent from 39.7 million layers in September 2003. Eggs per 100 layers for the month of September was 2,166, up from 2,195 eggs the previous year.

included 6.26 billion table eggs, and 1.06 billion hatching eggs, of which 996 million were broiler-type and 60 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during September 2004 averaged 343 million, up 3 percent from a year earlier. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,133 eggs, up slightly from September 2003. September 2004 and September 2003 both contained 22 weekdays, 4 Saturdays and 1 holiday.

UNITED STATES: U.S. egg production totaled 7.32 billion during September 2004, up 3 percent from last year. Production

All Layers and Egg Production, September 2003 and 2004¹

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All layers on hand ²		Eggs per 100 layers ²		Egg production by type					
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	Total production		Table eggs ³		Hatching eggs ³	
	-----Thousands-----		-----Thousands-----		-----Number-----		-----Million eggs-----					
AR	4,229	4,026	14,628	14,187	1,846	1,875	270	266	94	92	176	174
CA	19,573	19,654	20,058	20,105	2,149	2,203	431	443				
GA	10,999	11,120	20,145	20,280	2,040	2,027	411	411	245	243	166	168
IN	21,938	23,084	22,613	23,885	2,162	2,135	489	510	477	498	12	12
IA	38,912	45,037	39,675	45,805	2,195	2,166	871	992				
MN	10,423	10,065	11,016	10,638	2,151	2,200	237	234	229	226	8	8
NE	11,747	11,760	11,847	11,835	2,212	2,188	262	259	262	259	0	0
NC	3,387	3,331	10,442	10,819	1,925	1,913	201	207	80	80	121	127
OH	28,205	27,890	28,699	28,388	2,150	2,138	617	607				
PA	22,313	22,049	24,019	23,774	2,250	2,255	541	536	527	521	14	15
TX	14,044	13,797	18,304	18,194	2,087	2,171	382	395				
30 Sts ⁴	254,312	262,315	311,930	320,621	2,129	2,134	6,641	6,842	5,706	5,879	935	963
U.S.	270,803	278,592	334,198	343,120	2,128	2,133	7,112	7,319	6,095	6,264	1,017	1,056

¹2004 preliminary, 2003 revised. ²Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size. ³Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations. ⁴The 30 States are those listed as well as AL, CO, CT, FL, HI, IL, ME, MD, MI, MS, MO, NY, OK, OR, SC, SD, VA, WA, and WI.

September Livestock Slaughter

IOWA: Commercial red meat production in Iowa during September 2004 totaled 568.0 million pounds, 1 percent above September 2003. There were 2.62 million hogs slaughtered in September 2004,

2 percent above the same month last year. The average live weight of hogs slaughtered in September 2004 was 267 pounds, up 5 pounds from September 2003.

Commercial Red Meat Production: United States¹

Kind	September 2003	August 2004	September 2004	Sept. 2004 as % of		Jan. - Sept. ²		2004 as % of 2003
				September 2003	August 2004	2003	2004	
	----- Million pounds -----			Percent		----- Million pounds -----		Percent
Beef	2,314	2,151	2,104	91	98	20,265	18,449	91
Veal	15.3	*14.0	13.0	85	93	141.2	126.0	89
Pork	1,668	1,698	1,772	106	104	14,447	15,074	104
Lamb & mutton	16.9	15.1	16.3	96	108	147.5	143.9	98
Total red meat	4,014	3,878	3,905	97	101	35,001	33,793	97

¹Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter. ²Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data. *Revised.

Choice Beef & Pork: Retail Value, Farm Value, Price Spreads, and Farmers' Share of the Retail Value

Item	Retail Value	Wholesale Value	Net Farm Value	Price Spreads			Farmers' Share
				Total	Wholesale-to-Retail	Farm-to-Wholesale	
----- Cents per pound of retail equivalent -----							Percent
Choice beef							
1998	277.1	153.8	130.8	146.3	123.3	23.0	47.2
1999	287.8	171.6	141.1	146.7	116.2	30.5	49.0
2000	306.4	182.3	149.0	157.4	124.1	33.3	48.6
2001	337.7	192.1	154.5	183.2	145.6	37.6	45.8
2002	331.5	180.0	144.6	186.9	151.5	35.4	43.6
2003	374.6	222.9	181.3	193.3	151.7	41.6	48.4
Pork							
1998	242.7	97.3	61.2	181.5	145.4	36.1	25.2
1999	241.5	99.0	60.4	181.1	142.5	38.6	25.0
2000	258.2	114.5	79.4	178.8	143.7	35.1	30.8
2001	269.4	117.8	81.3	188.1	151.6	36.5	30.2
2002	265.7	100.7	61.9	203.8	165.0	38.8	23.3
2003	265.8	107.4	69.6	196.2	158.4	37.8	26.2

Source: USDA-ERS, October 2004. For more information, contact William F. Hahn (202) 694-5175.

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