

IN THIS ISSUE:

Prices Received
Cattle
Milk Production
Cattle on Feed
Potato Stocks
Dairy Products

Mid-January Prices Received by Farmers

Preliminary indications of prices received by Idaho farmers for the month of January showed increases for feed barley, potatoes, and all wheat. Prices decreased for alfalfa hay, all barley, malting barley, dry beans, beef cattle, and all milk.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January was 111, using a 1990-92=100 base period, is 2 points (1.8 percent) below the December Index. Lower prices received for cattle, lettuce, milk, and tomatoes more than offset higher prices for broilers, soybeans, corn, and eggs.

Prices Received by Farmers for Selected Commodities, Jan. 2003-Jan. 2004

Commodity	Unit	Idaho			United States			
		January 2003	December 2003	January 2004 ^{1/}	January 2003	December 2003	January 2004	
							Price ^{1/}	% Parity
CROPS:								
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	90.00	92.00	86.00	98.50	87.90	83.60	--
Barley, All	Bu.	3.05	3.25	3.14	2.85	2.94	2.70	42
Feed	Bu.	2.37	2.22	2.30	2.17	2.30	2.20	--
Malting	Bu.	3.09	3.38	3.35	3.07	3.22	3.00	--
Dry Beans	Cwt.	19.10	17.90	17.10	16.40	17.20	17.40	34
Potatoes ^{2/}	Cwt.	4.75	4.10	4.15	6.67	5.60	5.70	39
Fresh ^{3/}	Cwt.	5.20	3.70	--	8.40	6.03	--	--
Processing	Cwt.	4.50	4.30	--	5.46	5.25	--	--
Wheat, All	Bu.	3.97	3.52	3.65	3.89	3.69	3.73	38
LIVESTOCK & PRODUCTS:								
Beef Cattle ^{4/}	Cwt.	65.70	81.00	68.80	73.20	90.50	77.40	47
Cows ^{5/}	Cwt.	35.90	48.50	40.10	36.90	49.40	45.80	--
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	76.70	93.60	79.40	77.80	95.70	81.20	--
Calves	Cwt.	92.00	109.00	96.00	96.80	112.00	105.00	48
Lambs	Cwt.	89.00	90.00	--	92.00	98.40	--	--
Milk, All ^{6/}	Cwt.	10.60	12.30	12.20	11.70	13.70	7/13.10	8/40
Fluid Grade ^{9/}	Cwt.	10.60	12.30	--	11.80	13.80	7/13.10	--
Mfg. Grade	Cwt.	10.70	12.30	--	10.50	12.70	7/12.50	--

1/ Mid-Month. 2/ Average price of potatoes sold for all uses, including table stock, processing, seed and livestock feed. 3/ Fresh market prices only, includes table stock prices. 4/ "Cows" and "steers & heifers" combined. 5/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter. 6/ Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies. 7/ Fat test percent: all milk 3.79, fluid milk 3.78, mfg. grade 3.95. 8/ Seasonally adjusted price as percentage of parity price. 9/ Including milk diverted to manufacturing.

United States Price Index Summary Table

Index 1990-92 = 100	December 2002	January 2003	December 2003		January 2004 Preliminary
			Preliminary	Revised	
Prices Received	100	100	115	113	111
Prices Paid	125	126	130	130	130
Ratio ^{1/}	80	79	88	87	85

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

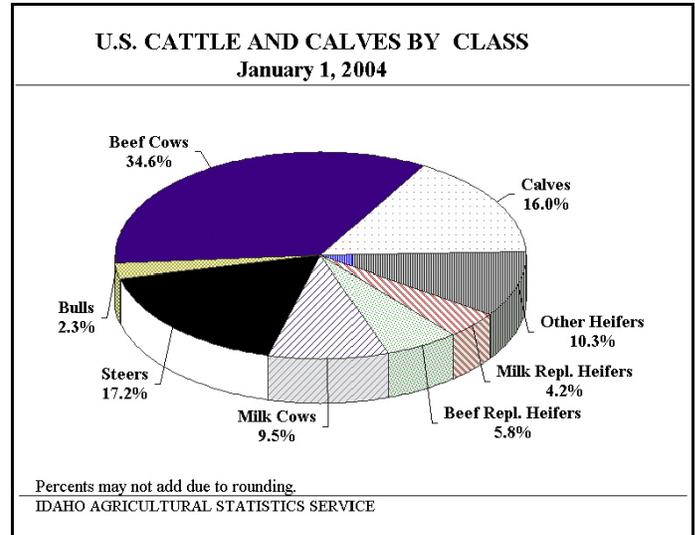
Idaho and U.S. Cattle Inventory

Idaho cattle and calf inventory totaled 2.01 million head as of January 1, 2004. This was up one-half percent from the 2.00 million head in the State on January 1, 2003. There were 488,000 beef cows, down slightly and 412,000 milk cows, up 6 percent, on hand at the beginning of the year. The number of beef replacement heifers, at 95,000, was up 6 percent and heifers for milk cow replacement, at 180,000 head, were down 5 percent from last year. Statewide, there were 350,000 steers over 500 pounds, 35,000 bulls over 500 pounds and 245,000 calves under 500 pounds on January 1. The 2003 calf crop totaled 880,000 head, up 2 percent from the calf crop of 2002.

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2004, totaled 94.9 million head, 1 percent below the 96.1 million on January 1, 2003.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 41.9 million, were down 1 percent from the 42.1 million on January 1, 2003. Beef cows, at 32.86 million, were down slightly from January 1, 2003. Milk cows, at 8.99 million, were down 2 percent from January 1, 2003. All heifers, 500 pounds and over, at 19.3 million, were down 1 percent.

Beef replacement heifers, at 5.52 million head, were down 2 percent and milk replacement heifers, at 4.02 million head, were down 2 percent. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over totaled 16.3 million, down 2 percent from a year ago. The 2003 calf crop, estimated at 37.9 million head, was down 1 percent from 2002. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.7 million, down 1 percent from 2002.



Cattle Inventory, January 1, 2003 - 2004

State	All Cattle & Calves			All Cows That Have Calved			Calf Crop		
	2003	2004	2004 As % of 2003	2003	2004	2004 As % of 2003	2002	2003	2003 As % of 2002
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>			<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Arizona	840	850	101	325	330	102	270	270	100
California	5,250	5,200	99	2,410	2,420	100	2,040	2,050	100
Colorado	2,650	2,400	91	800	710	89	820	730	89
IDAHO	2,000	2,010	101	880	900	102	860	880	102
Montana	2,450	2,400	98	1,450	1,490	103	1,520	1,540	101
Nevada	510	510	100	270	270	100	220	235	107
New Mexico	1,550	1,510	97	780	780	100	600	590	98
Oregon	1,360	1,440	106	710	720	101	660	690	105
Texas	14,000	13,900	99	5,800	5,800	100	5,000	5,100	102
Utah	880	860	98	430	440	102	390	390	100
Washington	1,100	1,120	102	495	510	103	450	455	101
Wyoming	1,290	1,400	109	710	760	107	780	730	94
U.S.	96,100.0	94,882.0	99	42,125.0	41,850.8	99	38,223.7	37,902.8	99

Idaho Milk Production Up 5.1 Percent

Idaho milk production during January 2004 totaled 742 million pounds, a 5.1 percent increase from the same month last year, but unchanged from December 2003. Revised production for December 2003 totaled 742 million pounds, up 1.2 percent from the preliminary estimate and 6.9 percent above December 2002. Average milk production per cow in January 2004 was 1,800 pounds, unchanged from January 2003 and December 2003. The average number of milk cows during January was 412,000 head, unchanged from the previous month, but 20,000 head more than January 2003.

Milk production in the 20 major States during January totaled 12.5 billion pounds, down 0.9 percent from January 2003. December revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds, was down 0.2 percent from December 2002. The December revision represented an increase of 0.5 percent or 62 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,620 pounds for January, 5 pounds above January 2003. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.72 million head, 92,000 head less than January 2003, but 5,000 head more than December 2003.

Milk Production, Average Number of Cows, Selected States, January 2003-2004

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		2004 As Percent of 2003
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Arizona	155	155	1,970	2,015	305	312	102
California	1,672	1,702	1,790	1,755	2,993	2,987	100
Florida	147	140	1,360	1,395	200	195	98
IDAHO	392	412	1,800	1,800	706	742	105
Illinois	114	108	1,580	1,610	180	174	97
Indiana	146	145	1,710	1,715	250	249	100
Iowa	207	196	1,595	1,600	330	314	95
Kentucky	120	112	1,115	1,090	134	122	91
Michigan	302	301	1,765	1,780	533	536	101
Minnesota	480	465	1,520	1,515	730	704	96
Missouri	134	125	1,240	1,265	166	158	95
New Mexico	314	325	1,720	1,760	540	572	106
New York	675	658	1,515	1,495	1,023	984	96
Ohio	260	258	1,445	1,450	376	374	99
Pennsylvania	590	563	1,540	1,500	909	845	93
Texas	320	317	1,505	1,660	482	526	109
Vermont	153	146	1,495	1,530	229	223	97
Virginia	116	105	1,365	1,380	158	145	92
Washington	248	240	1,910	1,915	474	460	97
Wisconsin	1,265	1,245	1,500	1,510	1,898	1,880	99
20 STATE TOTAL	7,810	7,718	1,615	1,620	12,616	12,502	99

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Idaho Cattle on Feed Down 5 Percent

Cattle on feed for the slaughter market in Idaho from feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head on February 1, 2004 totaled 275,000 head, down 5 percent from the February 1, 2003 inventory. The inventory was down 8 percent from the number on hand January 1, 2004.

February 1, 2004. The inventory was 4 percent above February 1, 2003 but 4 percent below February 1, 2002. Placements in feedlots during January totaled 1.75 million, 16 percent below 2003 and 20 percent below 2002. Net placements were 1.65 million.

Placements of cattle into State feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during January totaled 41,000 head, down 15,000 from January 2003 placements. Marketings during January totaled 64,000 head, down 1,000 from the January 2003 marketings.

During January, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 362,000, 600-699 pounds were 466,000, 700-799 pounds were 576,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 342,000. Marketings of fed cattle during January totaled 1.78 million, 10 percent below 2003 and 14 percent below 2002. Other disappearance totaled 94,000 during January, 25 percent above 2003 and 6 percent above 2002.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States from feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.1 million head on

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots^{1/}

State	February 1, 2003	January 1, 2004	February 1, 2004		
			Number	As % of 2003	As % of January
	<i>---1,000 Head---</i>		<i>---Percent---</i>		
Arizona	291	293	296	102	101
California	*480	510	500	104	98
Colorado	1,030	1,040	1,040	101	100
Idaho	*290	300	275	95	92
Iowa	*390	370	380	97	103
Kansas	2,220	2,430	2,420	109	100
Nebraska	2,220	2,280	2,280	103	100
New Mexico	114	115	117	103	102
Oklahoma	330	355	350	106	99
South Dakota	215	200	200	93	100
Texas	2,600	2,830	2,770	107	98
Washington	180	*200	185	103	93
Other States	340	330	310	91	94
United States	*10,700	*11,253	11,123	104	99

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. *Revised.

U.S. February Potato Stocks Up 1 Percent

Potato stocks held by growers, dealers and processors in Idaho on February 1 totaled 67.0 million cwt, 5.5 million cwt less than on hand February 1, 2003. Disappearance, at 56.2 million cwt, is down from last year's 60.9 million cwt but up from 2001's 52.2 million cwt. Stocks in the 10 Southwest Counties totaled 3.70 million cwt, below last year's 4.90 million cwt. The Other Counties' stocks, at 63.3 million cwt, was 4.30 million cwt less than the amount stored on February 1, 2003.

The 15 major potato States held 201 million cwt of potatoes in storage February 1, 2004, up 1 percent from last year and 4 percent above 2002. Potatoes in storage account for 50 percent of the 2003 fall storage States' production, up 1 percentage point from last year. Stocks by type were 4 percent red, 14 percent round white, 2 percent long white (Shepody), and 80 percent russet, with more reds and round whites and fewer russets than a year ago. Disappearance of 203 million cwt from the start of harvest to February 1, is down 2 percent from the same period last year but 4 percent above two years ago.

Fall Potatoes: Production & Stocks 1998-2003 Idaho & 15 Fall States

CROP YEAR	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS						
		DEC 1	FOLLOWING YEAR					
			JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1	MAY 1	JUN 1
		<u>1,000 Cwt.</u>						
IDAHO								
1998	138,000	99,500	89,000	77,500	66,000	52,000	37,000	23,000
1999	133,330	96,000	86,000	76,500	65,000	50,000	36,000	21,000
2000	152,320	111,000	101,000	87,500	76,500	61,500	47,000	26,500
2001	120,200	87,500	78,000	68,000	58,000	45,000	32,500	18,500
2002	133,385	92,000	82,500	72,500	62,000	49,000	34,500	21,000
2003	123,180	86,000	76,500	67,000				
15 STATES								
1998	423,170	280,910	246,230	209,640	173,650	131,220	87,895	50,270
1999	420,567	275,100	239,910	207,150	169,620	128,410	86,915	47,220
2000	458,827	310,300	275,270	234,260	197,670	153,520	109,160	61,240
2001	387,179	258,750	224,680	192,190	158,590	119,950	81,200	42,990
2002	407,821	264,585	231,690	199,320	165,310	125,870	82,940	45,980
2003	403,946	267,860	233,880	200,530				

U.S. Dairy Products December 2003 Highlights

Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) was 753 million pounds, 0.8 percent above December 2002 and 6.0 percent above November 2003.

American type cheese production totaled 319 million pounds, 0.4 percent above December 2002 and 8.8 percent above November 2003.

Butter production was 114 million pounds in December, 10.4 percent below December 2002 but 30.0 percent above November 2003.

Frozen dessert: (comparisons with December 2002)

Ice cream:

Regular (hard) -- 54.4 million gallons, up 0.9 percent.

Lowfat (total) -- 26.4 million gallons, up 12.5 percent.

Nonfat (hard) -- 1.30 million gallons, up 3.8 percent.

Sherbet (hard) -- 3.33 million gallons, up 4.5 percent.

Frozen Yogurt (total) -- 4.04 million gallons, down 4.5 percent.

Nonfat dry milk for human food: (compared with December 2002)-- 132 million pounds, down slightly.