

**HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT**

June Livestock Slaughter  
July 1 Cattle Inventory  
July 1 Catfish Inventory  
Prices Received by Farmers

**United States Livestock Slaughter**

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.93 billion pounds in June, down 1 percent from the 3.95 billion pounds produced in June 2003.

June 2004 contained 22 weekdays (including one special holiday declared by the federal government for President Reagan's funeral) and 4 Saturdays. June 2003 contained 21 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

**Beef production**, at 2.23 billion pounds, was 7 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.99 million head, down 8 percent from June 2003. The average live weight, was up 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,225 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 13.4 million pounds, 11 percent below June a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 66,400 head, down 10 percent from June 2003. The average live weight was 2 pounds above last year, at 338 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.67 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year. This was a monthly record high. Hog kill totaled 8.50 million head, 10 percent above June 2003. The average live weight was 2 pounds below the previous year, at 264 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 15.5 million pounds, was up 2 percent from June 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 230,900 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 134 pounds, up 2 pounds from June a year ago.

**January to June 2004 commercial red meat production** was 22.3 billion pounds, down 3 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 8 percent from last year; veal was down 12 percent; pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 1 percent

**Louisiana Livestock Slaughter**

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during June totaled 1.0 million pounds, unchanged from May but 9 percent below the previous year.

There were 1,000 head of **cattle** slaughtered during June, down 200 head from May and 100 head below the previous year. Average live weight was 843 pounds, up 34 pounds from the previous month but 18 pounds below June 2003. Total live weight, at 846,000 pounds, was 13 percent below the previous month and 9 percent below the previous year.

**Calves** slaughtered during June totaled 800 head, up 300 head from May but the same as the previous year. Live weight averaged 470 pounds, up 2 pounds from May but 29 pounds below a year ago. Total live weight, at 358,000 pounds, was up 65 percent from May but 14 percent below the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during June totaled 1,700 head, down 100 head from last month and from June 2003. Average live weight was 196 pounds, down 11 pounds from May and from the previous year. Total live weight was 332,000 pounds, down 9 percent from May and 4 percent below a year ago.

The number of sheep slaughtered during June totaled 100 head, unchanged from May and the same as the previous year. Live weight averaged 82 pounds, down 10 pounds from the previous month but the same as the previous year.

**Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Meat Production**

Item	Louisiana					United States			
	May	June		January - June		June		January - June	
	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	----- Number, thousand head -----					----- Number, thousand head -----			
Cattle	1.2	1.1	1.0	7.2	7.0	3,252.6	2,994.6	17,817.2	16,401.6
Calves	0.5	0.8	0.8	4.6	3.5	74.0	66.4	491.3	429.0
Hogs	1.8	1.8	1.7	12.7	11.8	7,764.2	8,504.4	48,575.7	50,449.3
Sheep & Lambs	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.0	0.9	229.4	230.9	1,477.1	1,414.4
	----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----					----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----			
Cattle	973	933	846	6,414	6,014	3,959,951	3,667,668	21,943,421	20,016,819
Calves	217	414	358	2,325	1,696	24,902	22,437	161,240	143,057
Hogs	363	347	332	2,705	2,438	2,063,846	2,243,747	12,978,325	13,466,435
Sheep & Lambs	10	12	11	105	97	30,397	30,989	198,164	196,299
	----- Average live weight, pounds -----					----- Average live weight, pounds -----			
Cattle	809	861	843	891	859	1,217	1,225	1,232	1,221
Calves	468	499	470	505	485	336	338	328	333
Hogs	207	196	196	213	207	266	264	267	267
Sheep & Lambs	92	82	82	104	108	133	134	134	139
	----- Million pounds -----					----- Million pounds -----			
Red Meat	1.0	1.1	1.0	7.5	6.7	3,952.3	3,928.0	23,016.1	22,300.1

## July 1 Cattle Inventory Down Slightly

All **cattle and calves** in the United States as of July 1, 2004, totaled 103.6 million head, down slightly from the 103.9 million on July 1, 2003, and 1 percent below the 105.1 million two years ago.

All **cows and heifers** that have calved, at 42.5 million, were slightly below the 42.7 million on July 1, 2003, and 1 percent below the 42.9 million two years ago.

- **Beef cows**, at 33.5 million, were down slightly from July 1, 2003, and 1 percent below two years ago.
- **Milk cows**, at 9.0 million, were down 1 percent from July 1, 2003, and 1 percent below two years ago.

Other class estimates on July 1, 2004 and the changes from July 1, 2003, are:

- **All heifers** 500 pounds and over, 15.95 million, up slightly.
- **Beef replacement heifers**, 4.8 million, up 4 percent.
- **Milk replacement heifers**, 3.6 million, unchanged.
- **Other heifers**, 7.55 million, down 2 percent.
- **Steers** weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.2 million, unchanged.
- **Bulls** weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.05 million, down 2 percent.
- **Calves under 500 pounds**, 28.9 million, down slightly.
- **All cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter, 11.8 million, down slightly.

The 2004 calf crop is expected to be 37.7 million, down 1 percent from both 2003 and 2002. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.5 million, down 1 percent from both 2003 and 2002.

### Louisiana and United States Cattle and Calf Inventories

Class	Louisiana <sup>1</sup>	United States		2004 as a percent of 2003
	Jan. 1, 2004	July 1, 2003	July 1, 2004	
	----- 1,000 Head -----			Percent
All Cattle and Calves	850	103,900	103,600	100
Cows and Heifers That Have Calved	530	42,700	42,500	100
Beef Cows	489	33,600	33,500	100
Milk Cows	41	9,100	9,000	99
Heifers 500 Pounds and Over	108	15,900	15,950	100
For Beef Cow Replacement	81	4,600	4,800	104
For Milk Cow Replacement	10	3,600	3,600	100
Other Heifers	17	7,700	7,550	98
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	21	14,200	14,200	100
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	33	2,100	2,050	98
Calves Under 500 Pounds	158	29,000	28,900	100
Calf Crop <sup>2</sup>	415	37,903	37,700	99

<sup>1</sup> July 1 estimates are not published for Louisiana.

<sup>2</sup> The 2003 calf crop is all calves born during 2003. For the U. S., the 2004 calf crop is all calves born before July 1, 2004, plus the number expected to be born on or after July 1.

## Louisiana Catfish Growers Survey

Commercial catfish operations in Louisiana had 12.4 million foodsize fish on hand July 1, 2004, down 42 percent from the July 1, 2003, total of 21.4 million. Live weight totaled 18.9 million pounds for all foodsize fish, 33 percent below July 1, 2003. The breakout of foodsize fish inventory numbers on July 1, 2004, with their respective percent change from the previous year are: large foodsize, 690,000, up 53 percent; medium foodsize, 5.0 million, down 44 percent; and small foodsize, 6.7 million, down 44 percent. Catfish producers had 23,000 broodfish on hand on July 1, 2004, up 21 percent from last year. Live weight totaled 133,000 pounds for broodfish, up 33 percent from July 1, 2003. The number of stockers on hand on July 1, 2004, totaled 14.7 million fish, down 13 percent from the 16.9 million fish on hand a year ago. Of the total number of stockers on hand, 9.0 million were large stockers, up 32 percent from the previous year. The remaining 5.8 million were small stockers, down 43 percent. Live weight totaled 3.48 million pounds for all stockers, 18 percent below July 1 of last year. Producers had 49.0 million fingerlings and fry on hand July 1, 2004, down 43 percent from the 85.3 million fingerlings and fry on hand July 1, 2003. Live weight, at 570 thousand pounds, was down 59 percent from the 1.4 million pounds a year ago.

## United States Catfish Growers Survey

Commercial catfish operations in the four major producing states (Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi) had 317 million foodsize fish on hand July 1, 2004, down 9 percent from the July 1, 2003, total of 347 million. The breakouts of foodsize fish inventory numbers on July 1, 2004, with their respective percent change from the previous year, are: large foodsize, 7.80 million, up 6 percent; medium foodsize, 78.5 million, down 8 percent; and small foodsize, 231 million, down 9 percent. The four major states also had 913 thousand broodfish on hand on July 1, 2004, up 2 percent from last year's 894 thousand. The number of large stockers on hand on July 1, 2004, totaled 300 million fish, down 4 percent from the 314 million fish on hand a year ago. There were 325 million small stockers, down 3 percent from last year. Producers had 1.30 billion fingerlings and fry on hand on July 1, 2004, down 13 percent from the 1.50 billion on hand July 1, 2003. Live weight, at 16.9 million pounds, was down 24 percent from the 22.3 million pounds a year ago.

### Louisiana Catfish Production, July 1, 2004, with Comparisons To United States

Item	Louisiana				United States			
	Total Number		Total Live Weight		Total Number		Total Live Weight	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	-----1,000 Fish-----		-----1,000 Pounds----		----- 1,000 Fish -----		-----1,000 Pounds-----	
<b>Broodfish</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>133</b>	894	913	4,270	4,553
Large Foodsize	450	690	1,680	2,490	7,380	7,800	24,880	26,790
Medium Foodsize	8,900	4,970	15,600	9,800	85,200	78,470	156,300	150,400
Small Foodsize	12,000	6,700	10,900	6,600	254,300	230,900	248,300	228,800
<b>Total Foodsize</b>	<b>21,350</b>	<b>12,360</b>	<b>28,180</b>	<b>18,890</b>	346,880	317,170	429,480	405,990
Large Stockers	6,800	8,970	3,000	2,850	313,700	299,670	123,600	116,450
Small Stockers	10,100	5,750	1,230	630	335,100	324,650	32,030	31,880
<b>Total Stockers</b>	<b>16,900</b>	<b>14,720</b>	<b>4,230</b>	<b>3,480</b>	648,800	624,320	155,630	148,330
<b>Fingerlings/Fry</b>	<b>85,300</b>	<b>49,000</b>	1,400	570	1,501,800	1,300,000	22,330	16,890

## Prices Received Index Down

The Preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in July was 122 (based on 1990-92=100), 6 points below the June Index. Declines occurred in both the Crop Price Index and the Livestock Price Index. The Crop Index declined 6 points from June while the Livestock Index decreased 5 points. Producers received higher commodity prices for oranges, asparagus, sweet corn and snap beans. Lower prices were received for dairy, corn, soybeans and cattle. 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 of grapes, wheat, tomatoes and hay offset decreased marketings of dairy, cantaloupe, asparagus and oranges. The Preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 17 points from July 2003.

## Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The July Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates is 134 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is unchanged from June but 7 points above July 2003. Lower prices in July for feed concentrates, complete feeds, feed grains, and hay and forages were offset by higher prices for feeder cattle, milk cows, nitrogen fertilizers and diesel fuel.

*The Louisiana Farm Reporter (ISSN-0056-7670) is published semi-monthly (Twice a Month) by the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service, 5825 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, La 70806. Subscription is free to respondents and cooperators, \$10.00 annually to all others, and is available from the above address. Periodicals Postage is Paid in Baton Rouge, LA and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: send changes of address to Louisiana Farm Reporter, P. O. Box 65038, Baton Rouge, LA 70896-5038.*

### Average Prices Received By Farmers

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	July 2003	June 2004	July 2004 <sup>1</sup>	July 2003	June 2004	July 2004 <sup>1</sup>
	-----Dollars-----			-----Dollars-----		
Soybeans, per bushel	2/	2/	2/	5.82	9.05	8.21
Rice, per cwt	5.32	9.41	10.07	5.31	8.69	8.76
Upland Cotton, per ton	.469	.595	.601 <sup>3</sup>	.463	.605	.593 <sup>3</sup>
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	89.00	95.20	90.40
Beef Cattle, per cwt	54.60	66.20	70.30	75.80	89.50	87.50
Steers & Heifers, per	80.20	101.00	104.00	78.90	93.50	91.10
Cows, per cwt	41.40	50.60	53.00	44.90	53.60	55.90
Calves, per cwt	93.60	115.00	121.00	102.00	125.00	128.00
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.360	.520	.520
Eggs, All, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	.687	.672	.589
Milk, All, per cwt <sup>4</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	12.10	18.20	16.20

<sup>1</sup>Mid-Month

<sup>2</sup>Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

<sup>3</sup>Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month.

<sup>4</sup>Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

n/a = not available.

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