



RANGE REVIEW

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National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA

Issue 2004-02, Released 2/03/04

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Thank You to all the producers who participated in our January surveys. The results you requested are in this issue.

Agricultural Prices
Annual Cattle Inventory
Cattle on Feed
Livestock Slaughter
Grazing Fees
Milk Production
Annual Sheep Inventory & Wool Production

CATTLE PRICES PLUNGE DOWNWARD

The **Index of Prices Received** by farmers and ranchers in Wyoming for agricultural commodities sold during January was 105 percent of the 1990-1992 base. The index was down 10 points (9 percent) from December and down 3 points (3 percent) from January last year.

The **All Livestock Index** was down 13 points (11 percent) from last month but still up 4 points (4 percent) from last year. The large change from last month was due to a drop in cattle prices resulting from the BSE scare. All livestock prices, except lambs, were lower than in December. Lamb prices were unchanged. All livestock prices continued to be above last year at this time.

Steer and heifer prices were down \$19.00 from last month but \$1.70 higher than January 2003. Calf prices were down \$12.00 from last month but \$11.00 higher than a year ago.

Cow prices were down \$7.80 from December but \$3.00 higher than last year. Lamb prices were \$13.00 above January 2003, while sheep prices were 20 cents lower than last month but \$7.80 higher than January 2003.

The **All Crops Index** was down 2 points (2 percent) from December and down 25 points (19 percent) from last year, mainly due to a large drop in hay prices from last year. The prices for feed barley, alfalfa hay, and other hay were slightly lower than last month. Prices were slightly higher for corn, oats, wheat, and dry beans. All crops were lower this month compared with January 2003. Alfalfa hay was down \$2.00 from December and \$35.00 below January 2003. Other hay prices were \$1.00 lower than last month and were also down \$35.00 from last year.

The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall indexes.

UNITED STATES: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January, at 111, based on 1990-92=100, is 2 points (2 percent) below the December Index. The Livestock Products Index is down 5 points (5 percent) from December while the All Crops Index is unchanged. Lower prices received for cattle, lettuce, milk, and tomatoes more than offset higher commodity prices for broilers, soybeans, corn, and eggs. 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 cattle, soybeans, corn, and strawberries offset decreased marketings of cotton, grapes, tobacco, and cottonseed.

This preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 11 points (11 percent) from January 2003. The Food Commodities Index, at 112, is 3 points (3 percent) below last month but 14 points (14 percent) above January 2003.

WYOMING CATTLE INVENTORY INCREASES FOR THE FIRST TIME IN FOUR YEARS

The inventory of all **cattle and calves** on Wyoming ranches and farms on January 1, 2004 totaled 1.40 million head. This is a 9 percent increase from 1.29 million head on January 1, 2003 but is down 5 percent from 1.47 million head on January 1, 2002. This is the first increase in inventory numbers in four years but is still far below the record inventory of 1.69 million head established in 1975.

The number of **beef cows** that have calved was up 7 percent from last year to 756,000 head compared with 706,000 head a year earlier. **Beef cow replacement heifers** increased 33 percent from a year ago to a total of 160,000 on January 1. The number of **milk cows** was 4,000 head, unchanged from the previous year.

The total inventory of **steers, other heifers not intended for breeding, and calves under 500 pounds** was 432,000 head, up 4 percent from a year earlier. Steers totaled 185,000 head, up 15,000 head from a year earlier; other heifers totaled 147,000 down 2,000; and calves totaled 100,000, up 5,000.

There were 100,000 head of cattle in Wyoming being fed to go directly to slaughter on January 1, up 25,000 head from last year.

The 2003 **calf crop** in Wyoming totaled 730,000 head, down 6 percent or 50,000 head from 2002 and the smallest since 1992.

UNITED STATES: 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 32.9 million, were down slightly from January 1, 2003. **Milk cows**, at 8.99 million, were down 2 percent from January 1, 2003.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2004 and the change from January 1, 2003, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.3 million, down 1 percent; **beef replacement heifers**, 5.52 million, down 2 percent; **milk replacement heifers**, 4.02 million, down 2 percent; **other heifers**, 9.80 million, down 1 percent; **steers** weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.3 million, down 2 percent; **bulls** weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.21 million, down 2 percent; **calves** under 500 pounds, 15.2 million, down 2 percent.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots totaled 13.8 million, up 4 percent. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots totaled 27.5 million, down 4 percent.

The 2003 **calf crop** was estimated at 37.9 million head, down 1 percent from 2002.

ALL CATTLE AND CALVES, JANUARY 1, 2003-04, WYOMING AND U.S.

Class	Wyoming			United States		
	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
All Cattle and Calves	1,290	1,400	109	96,100	94,882	99
All Cows and Heifers that have Calved	710	760	107	42,125	41,851	99
Beef Cows	706	756	107	32,983	32,860	100
Milk Cows	4	4	100	9,142	8,991	98
Heifers 500 Pounds & Over	270	310	115	19,628	19,341	99
For Beef Cow Replacement	120	160	133	5,624	5,517	98
For Milk Cow Replacement	1	3	300	4,114	4,020	98
Other Heifers	149	147	99	9,891	9,804	99
Steers 500 Pounds & Over	170	185	109	16,554	16,280	98
Bulls 500 Pounds & Over	45	45	100	2,248	2,206	98
Heifers, Steers & Bulls Under 500 Pounds	95	100	105	15,545	15,204	98

CALF CROP 2002-03, WYOMING AND U.S.

Area	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
Wyoming	780	730	94
United States	38,223.7	37,902.8	99

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND RANCHERS, JANUARY 2003, DECEMBER 2003, AND JANUARY 15, 2004								
U.S. PRICES AS PERCENT OF PARITY								
COMMODITY	UNIT	WYOMING			UNITED STATES			
		JAN 2003	DEC 2003	JAN 15 2004	JAN 2003	DEC 2003	JAN 15 2004	% OF PARITY
		Dollars			Dollars			Percent
LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS								
Cows	100#	39.00	49.80	42.00	36.90	49.40	45.80	—
Steers & Heifers	100#	83.30	104.00	85.00	77.80	95.70	81.20	—
Calves	100#	101.00	124.00	112.00	96.80	112.00	105.00	48
Sheep	100#	44.20	52.20	52.00	41.30	44.40	1/	—
Lambs	100#	101.00	114.00	114.00	92.00	98.40	1/	—
CROPS								
Corn	Bu.	2.86	2.10	2.20	2.33	2.32	2.46	38
Oats	Bu.	2.15	1.80	1.90	2.04	1.58	1.50	39
Feed Barley	Bu.	2.05	2.04	2.00	2.17	2.30	2.20	—
All Wheat	Bu.	3.79	3.44	3.51	3.89	3.69	3.73	38
Dry Beans	100#	19.80	14.60	15.00	16.40	17.20	17.40	34
Alfalfa Hay (Baled)	Ton	112.00	79.00	77.00	98.50	87.90	83.60	—
Other Hay (Baled)	Ton	107.00	73.00	72.00	78.10	66.90	71.40	—

1/Mid-month prices discontinued January 1996.
NOTE: Entire month price is a revision of previous mid-month price except for hay which is always a mid-month price.

INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS & RANCHERS, WYOMING & U.S.							
1990-92 = 100	WYOMING			UNITED STATES			
	JAN 2003	DEC 2003	JAN 15 2004	JAN 2003	DEC 2003	JAN 15 2004	
All Commodities	108	115	105	100	113	111	
All Crops	131	108	106	103	115	115	
All Livestock and Products	100	117	104	107	112	107	

U.S. Cattle on Feed Up 6 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.2 million head on January 1, 2004. The inventory was 6 percent above January 1, 2003 but 3 percent below January 1, 2002. The inventory included 6.84 million steers and steer calves, up 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 61 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.33 million head, up 9 percent from January 1, 2003.

Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.75 million, 10 percent above 2002 and 11 percent above 2001. Net placements were 1.66 million. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 503,000, 600-699 pounds were 529,000, 700-799 pounds were 448,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 268,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.74 million, 3 percent below 2002 and 4 percent below 2001.

Other disappearance totaled 90,000 during December, 9 percent below 2002 and 3 percent below 2001.

State	On Feed Dec 1, 2003	Place- ments Dec 2003	Market- ings Dec 2003	Other Disapp. Dec 2003	On Feed Jan 1, 2004	On Feed Jan 1, 2003
Thousand Head						
CO	1,060	180	190	10	1,040	1,020
KS	2,480	410	435	25	2,430	2,200
NE	2,280	350	340	10	2,280	2,140
TX	2,840	420	410	20	2,830	2,630
Oth Sts.	2,670	388	365	25	2,668	2,603
U.S.	11,330	1,748	1,740	90	11,248	10,593

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.

WYOMING 2003 RED MEAT PRODUCTION 19 PERCENT ABOVE 2002

Commercial red meat production in *Wyoming* during December 2003 totaled 600,000 pounds. This is up 22 percent from the previous month and 3 percent higher than December 2002. Commercial red meat production excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Seven hundred **cattle** were slaughtered in December, the same as in December 2002. Total live weight was 815,000 pounds, down 1 percent from December 2002. Average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,168 pounds, down 8 pounds from last year.

A total of 300 **hogs** and **pigs** were processed, also unchanged from last year. Total live weight, at 97,000 pounds, was up 39 percent from December 2002. Average live weight of hogs slaughtered was 281 pounds, up 44 pounds from last year.

One hundred **sheep** and **lambs** were processed in December, again unchanged from December 2002. Live weight totaled 16,000 pounds, 7 percent above last year. Average live weight of sheep and lambs slaughtered was 125 pounds, down 9 pounds from a year earlier.

Total red meat production for 2003, at 6.4 million pounds, was 19 percent above the 2002 total of 5.4 million pounds.

UNITED STATES: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.88 billion pounds in December, up slightly from the 3.86 billion pounds produced in December 2002.

Beef production, at 1.97 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.67 million head, down 4 percent from December 2002. The average live weight was down 21 pounds from the previous year, at 1,244 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.87 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.35 million head, 8 percent above December 2002. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 269 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 18.0 million pounds, was down 3 percent from December 2002. Sheep slaughter totaled 262,000 head, 6 percent below last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, up 4 pounds from December a year ago.

January to December 2003 commercial red meat production was 46.5 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2002. Accumulated beef production was down 3 percent from last year, veal was down 2 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent.

SPECIES	WYOMING					UNITED STATES				
	Number of Head		Total Liveweight			Number of Head		Total Liveweight		
	Dec 2002	Dec 2003	Dec 2002	Dec 2003	% 03/02	Dec 2002	Dec 2003	Dec 2002	Dec 2003	% 03/02
			1,000 Pounds				1,000 Pounds			
Cattle	700	700	827	815	99	2,771,800	2,668,200	3,506,036	3,320,134	95
Hogs	300	300	70	97	139	8,657,400	9,346,600	2,316,087	2,513,068	109
Sheep & Lambs	100	100	15	15	100	278,700	262,000	37,145	35,954	97

GRAZING RATES DIP SLIGHTLY

The average rate for grazing cattle in Wyoming on privately-owned, non-irrigated land in 2003 was \$13.40 per animal unit month (AUM), according to data collected on the January 1 cattle survey. The AUM rate was down \$0.10 from the previous year. Average rates for other methods of payment also were slightly lower in 2003. The cow-calf rate dipped \$0.10 to \$15.50 and the per head rate also dipped \$0.10 to \$13.90.

AVERAGE GRAZING RATES ON PRIVATELY OWNED, NON-IRRIGATED LAND, SELECTED STATES

State	AUM 1/ 2/		Cow-Calf		Per Head	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
Dollars per Month						
CO	12.60	13.00	14.90	14.60	12.80	13.50
ID	11.70	12.00	13.70	14.00	12.20	12.60
MT	15.10	15.20	17.30	17.40	16.30	15.90
NE	20.90	21.60	25.00	26.00	22.00	23.40
SD	16.90	17.30	19.10	20.20	18.00	19.20
UT	11.60	11.60	13.70	13.40	12.10	12.50
WY	13.50	13.40	15.60	15.50	14.00	13.90

1/An AUM is the forage required to sustain one cow for one month
2/Includes animal unit plus cow-calf rates. Cow-calf rate converted to AUM using cow-calf=1.2 AUM's.

U.S. MILK PRODUCTION CONTINUES TO DECLINE

WYOMING: The number of milk cows in Wyoming during October-December 2003 averaged 3,900 head. The number of cows was up 5 percent from the previous quarter and down 5 percent from the same quarter one year ago. Milk production during 2003's fourth quarter was 14.4 million pounds, up 11 percent from the previous three months and virtually unchanged from the same quarter last year.

UNITED STATES: The October-December quarterly production of milk in the U.S. totaled 41.3 billion pounds, 0.6 percent below the same period last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.01 million head, 141,000 head fewer than the same period last year.

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Production 2/		Change from 2002
	2002	2003	2002	2003	
1,000 Head Million Pounds Percent					
WY	4.1	3.9	14.3	14.4	0.7
CA	1,670	1,699	8,674	8,683	0.1
CO	99	99	540	540	0.0
ID	390	412	2,041	2,200	7.8
MT	18	18	85	86	1.2
NE	66	62	290	270	-6.9
SD	95	87	336	347	3.3
UT	92	90	409	398	-2.7
WI	1,267	1,249	5,396	5,431	0.6
US	9,148	9,007	41,555	41,322	-0.6

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

**WYOMING AND LAMB INVENTORY DOWN 7 PERCENT
REPLACEMENT LAMB UP 11 PERCENT**

On January 1, 2004, Wyoming operators owned 430,000 **sheep and lambs**, down 7 percent from the January 1, 2003 estimate of 460,000 head. The number of **breeding sheep and lambs** was 340,000 head, down 6 percent from last year's 360,000. The number of **market sheep and lambs** on January 1 was 90,000 head, 10 percent less than the 100,000 head on January 1, 2003.

Of the total breeding sheep, 270,000 head were **ewes one year old and older**, down 8 percent from last year. There were 9,000 **rams one year old and older**, down 1,000 head from last year. **Replacement lambs for breeding** totaled 61,000, up 11 percent from last year and an indication of plans for herd expansion.

Of the 90,000 **market sheep and lambs**, 1,000 were **market sheep**, down 1,000 from 2003. **Market lambs** totaled 89,000 head, down 9,000 head from last January. By weight groups, the number of market lambs was: under 65 pounds - 2,000 (2% of the total), 65 to 84 pounds - 18,000 (20%), 85 to 105 pounds - 29,000 (33%), and over 105 pounds - 40,000 (45%).

The 2003 **lamb crop** in Wyoming set a record low for the sixth straight year with 310,000 head docked or branded, down 30,000 head from the previous year.

United States: All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2004, totaled 6.09 million head, down 3 percent from 2003 and 9 percent below two years ago. The inventory has trended downward since peaking at 56.2 million head in 1942.

Breeding sheep inventory declined to 4.48 million head on January 1, 2004, down 4 percent from 4.66 million head on January 1, 2003. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.60 million head, were 4 percent below last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2004, totaled 1.61 million head, down 2 percent from January 1, 2003. Twenty-seven percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 16 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 23 percent 85 - 105 pounds, 30 percent were over 105 pounds, and 4 percent were market sheep.

The 2003 **lamb crop** of 4.12 million head was down 5 percent from 2002 and a new record low.

WYOMING WOOL PRODUCTION OFF 3 PERCENT

Wyoming sheep produced 3.65 million pounds of wool during 2003 with a total value of \$4.02 million, up 47 percent from the previous year. Total production was down 3 percent from 2002 but average wool prices were up 37 cents to \$1.10 per pound. Wyoming was second in the nation in wool production behind Texas.

UNITED STATES: Shorn wool production in the United States during 2003 was 38.1 million pounds, down 8 percent from 2002. The average price paid for wool sold in 2003 was up \$0.19 to \$0.72 per pound for a total value of \$27.4 million dollars, up 25 percent from \$21.9 million dollars in 2002.

SHORN WOOL PRODUCTION AND VALUE, SELECTED STATES, 2002 AND 2003

State	Sheep & Lambs Shorn		Weight Per Fleece		Wool Production		Price Per Lb.		Value 1/	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	1,000 Head		Pounds		1,000 Pounds		Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
WYOMING	420	390	8.9	9.4	3,750	3,650	.73	1.10	2,738	4,015
Colorado	460	360	6.7	7.2	3,070	2,580	.57	.74	1,750	1,909
Montana	289	272	9.6	9.5	2,788	2,597	.76	1.03	2,119	2,675
S. Dakota	375	330	8.3	8.0	3,105	2,625	.45	.76	1,397	1,995
Texas	850	800	7.0	7.0	5,950	5,600	.68	.90	4,046	5,040
Utah	280	240	9.5	9.3	2,650	2,230	.60	.80	1,590	1,784
U.S.	5,476	5,057	7.5	7.5	41,322	38,114	.53	.72	21,876	27,408

1/ Annual production multiplied by market year average prices.

ALL SHEEP AND LAMBS, JANUARY 1, 2003-04, WYOMING AND U.S.

Class	Wyoming			United States		
	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003	2003	2004	2004 as % of 2003
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
All Sheep and Lambs	460	430	93	6,300.0	6,090.0	97
Market Sheep and Lambs	100	90	90	1,642.0	1,610.0	98
Breeding Sheep	360	340	94	4,658.0	4,480.0	96
Ewes 1 yr. & Over	295	270	92	3,770.0	3,601.0	96
Rams 1 yr. & Over	10	9	90	193.0	188.5	98
Replacement Lambs	55	61	111	695.0	690.5	99

LAMB CROP 2002-03, WYOMING AND U.S.

Area	Breeding Ewes 1 Yr. & Over January 1		Lambs Saved Per 100 Ewes 1 Yr. & Over January 1		Lambs Saved 1/		
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	Thousand Head		Percent		Thousand Head		Percent
Wyoming	320	295	106	105	340	310	91
United States	3,980	3,770	109	109	4,357	4,120	95

1/Lamb crop defined as lambs born in the Eastern States and lambs docked or branded in the Western States.

