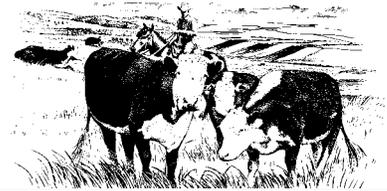


California Livestock Review



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NATIONAL LIVESTOCK REPORTS RELEASE DATES 3:00 P.M. ET

June 19	Cattle on Feed	July 17	Cattle on Feed
19	Cold Storage	20	Cold Storage
19	Livestock Slaughter	24	Livestock Slaughter

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 370 thousand head on May 1, 1998, the same as last month, but 4 percent less than May 1997. During April, placements of 50.0 thousand head were 17 percent less than the previous year. Marketings of 45.0 thousand head were 10 percent lower than a year earlier. Other disappearance was 5.00 thousand head.

Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.88 million, 2 percent below 1997 and 1 percent below 1996. Other disappearance totaled 92.0 thousand during April, 6 percent below 1997 and 14 percent below 1996.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 2 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 9.72 million head on May 1, 1998. The inventory was 2 percent below May 1, 1997, but 6 percent above May 1, 1996. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.58 million, 2 percent above 1997 and 16 percent above 1996. Net placements were 1.49 million. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 232 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 349 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 566 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 436 thousand.

CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 2 PERCENT IN HISTORIC SEVEN STATES

Cattle on feed in the historic seven states for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 8.30 million on May 1, 1998. This was down 2 percent from the previous year, but 7 percent above May 1, 1996. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.36 million, 5 percent above 1997 and 18 percent above 1996. Marketings during April totaled 1.61 million, 2 percent below 1997 and slightly below 1996. Other disappearance during April was 61.0 thousand head, 10 percent below 1997 and 6 percent below 1996.

CATTLE AND CALVES: NUMBER ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN SEVEN SELECTED STATES

State	Number on feed April 1 1/			Placed During April		Marketed During April	
	1997	1998	1998/1997	1997	1998	1997	1998
----- Thousand Head -----							
Arizona	224	212	95	31	28	39	30
California	380	370	97	60	50	50	45
Colorado	1,090	1,000	92	165	160	190	170
Iowa	340	325	96	35	40	49	54
Kansas	2,270	2,100	93	350	330	410	400
Nebraska	2,030	2,060	101	295	310	380	360
Texas	2,570	2,540	99	360	440	530	550
Seven-State Total	8,904	8,607	97	1,296	1,358	1,648	1,609
State	Other Disappearance During April 2/		Number on Feed May 1		1998/1997		
	1997	1998	1997	1998			
----- Thousand Head -----					Percent		
Arizona	2.0	5.0	214.0	205.0	96.0		
California	5.0	5.0	385.0	370.0	96.0		
Colorado	15.0	20.0	1,050.0	970.0	92.0		
Iowa	1.0	1.0	325.0	310.0	95.0		
Kansas	20.0	10.0	2,190.0	2,020.0	92.0		
Nebraska	15.0	10.0	1,930.0	2,000.0	104.0		
Texas	10.0	10.0	2,390.0	2,420.0	101.0		
Seven-State Total	68.0	61.0	8,484.0	8,295.0	98.0		

1/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fed for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates, and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

2/ Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding

AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS, CALIFORNIA AND U.S. 1/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		April 1997	March 1998	April 15, 1998	April 1997	March 1998	April 15, 1998
----- Dollars -----							
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	128.00	121.00	119.00	112.00	97.50	101.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/	Ton	132.00	121.00	120.00	120.00	104.00	105.00
Hogs 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	53.80	34.80	35.00
Cows 2/	Cwt.	35.00	34.50	35.50	38.20	36.00	36.50
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	62.00	64.00	64.00	67.90	64.30	66.40
Calves 2/	Cwt.	67.00	73.00	75.00	82.20	89.80	90.70
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	37.00	36.50	35.50	37.50	42.20	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	97.00	71.00	69.00	96.40	70.00	---
Milk Cows 3/	Head	1,250.00	---	1,260.00	1,110.00	---	1,110.00
All Milk Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	12.27	13.50	13.30	13.20	14.40	14.10

1/ The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

2/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

3/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July and October.

AVERAGE PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, PACIFIC REGION AND UNITED STATES 1/

Commodity	Unit	Pacific Region 2/		United States	
		April 1997	April 15, 1998	April 1997	April 15, 1998
----- Dollars -----					
Bran	Cwt.	17.20	17.10	14.20	13.80
Corn Meal	Cwt.	12.90	12.50	9.30	8.57
Cottonseed Meal, 41%	Cwt.	22.10	20.30	17.20	16.00
Dairy Feed, 16%	Ton	187.00	174.00	215.00	194.00
Soybean Meal, 44%	Cwt.	24.00	21.90	17.70	14.30

1/ Prices shown represent composite average prices paid by farmers for all grades, classes and method of sale.

2/ Includes California, Oregon and Washington.

HAY STOCKS ON FARMS

Stocks of hay on California farms as of May 1, 1998 totaled 431 thousand tons. This was 27 percent of the December 1 stocks and 169 percent above May 1, 1997.

United States May 1 stocks of hay on farms totaled 21.7 million tons. This was 21 percent of the December 1 stocks and 25 percent above May 1, 1997.

HAY STOCKS ON FARMS

State	December 1			May 1		
	1995	1996	1997	1996	1997	1998
----- 1,000 Tons -----						
California	2,250	2,594	1,624	361	160	431
Arizona	265	82	167	28	28	25
Nevada	750	752	711	166	60	151
Oregon	2,310	2,108	1,653	264	97	641
Utah	1,481	1,327	1,630	349	302	435
United States	109,438	104,832	102,517	20,739	17,372	21,650

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California production of red meat during April 1998 totaled 83.3 million pounds (dressed weight), fractionally above last month, but 3 percent below April 1997. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In April the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,224 pounds; calves, 112 pounds; and hogs, 211 pounds.

RED MEAT AND PORK PRODUCTION SET RECORD HIGHS

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.70 billion pounds in April. This was up 3 percent from the 3.59 billion pounds produced in April 1997 and just above the record high for April set in 1996. April 1997 and April 1998 both contained 22 weekdays and four Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.09 billion pounds, was slightly below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.93 million head, down 4 percent from 1997. The average live weight was up 37 pounds from the previous year to 1,189 pounds.

Veal production totaled 20.0 million pounds, 28 percent below April a year ago and 9 percent below the record low for April. Calf slaughter totaled 109 thousand head, down 15 percent from April 1997. The average live weight was 299 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.57 billion pounds, up 8 percent from the previous year and 3 percent higher than the record high for April set in 1980. Hog kills totaled 8.33 million head, 8 percent above 1997. The average live weight, at 257 pounds, was 1 pound above the previous year.

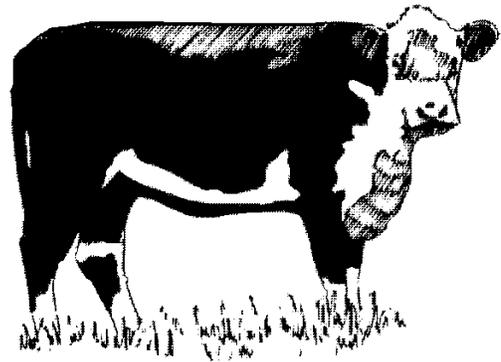
Lamb and mutton production, at 25.0 million pounds, was up 14 percent from April 1997. Sheep slaughter totaled 384 thousand head, 14 percent above last year. The average live weight was 133 pounds, unchanged from April a year ago.

January-April red meat production was 14.7 billion pounds, 5 percent above the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated production was as follows: beef, up 1 percent; veal, down 22 percent; pork, up 11 percent; lamb and mutton, up 4 percent.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, APRIL 1997-98 1/

Species & Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
CATTLE	- 1,000 Head -		- 1,000 Pounds -		- Pounds -	
Calif.	85.9	84.0	106,419	102,770	1,238	1,224
U.S. Total	3,058.4	2,927.7	3,522,465	3,479,788	1,152	1,189
CALVES						
Calif.	15.2	13.7	5,300	1,538	349	112
U.S. Total	129.2	109.4	45,410	32,708	351	299
SHEEP & LAMBS						
Calif.	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	336.3	383.6	44,771	51,145	133	133
HOGS						
Calif.	158.7	171.9	33,942	36,197	214	211
U.S. Total	7,727.1	8,328.7	1,974,815	2,137,164	256	257
	April 1997	March 1998 2/	April 1998	Apr. 98 Apr. 97	Apr. 98 Mar. 98	
RED MEAT	--- Million Pounds ---			-- Percent --		
Calif.	86.0	83.2	83.3	97	100	
U.S. Total	3,591.5	3,726.1	3,701.6	103	99	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.
2/ Revised figures for March 1997 U.S. total.



COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES 1/

Kind	April 1997	March 1998	April 1998	April 1998 Percent of:		Jan. - Apr. 2/		
				April 1997	March 1998	1997	1998	1998/1997
	--- Million Pounds ---			-- Percent --		-- Million Pounds --		Percent
Beef	2,095	2,081	2,090	100	100	8,202	8,305	101
Veal	28	23	20	72	87	113	87	78
Pork	1,446	1,596	1,566	108	98	5,638	6,254	111
Lamb & Mutton	22	26	25	114	97	89	93	104
Total Red Meat	3,591	3,726	3,702	103	99	14,042	14,740	105

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