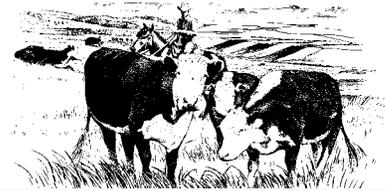


California Livestock Review



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**CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE**

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

June 18	Cattle on Feed	July 16	Cattle on Feed
18	Cold Storage	20	Cold Storage
25	Livestock Slaughter	23	Livestock Slaughter

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 375 thousand head on May 1, 1999, 3 percent below last month, but 1 percent above May 1998. During April, placements of 45.0 thousand head were 10 percent below the previous year. Marketings of 50.0 thousand head were 11 percent above April 1998. Other disappearance totaled 5.00 thousand head.

were 431 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.93 million, 3 percent above 1998 and 1 percent above 1997. Other disappearance totaled 104 thousand during April, 13 percent above 1998 and 6 percent above 1997.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 3 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 10.02 million head on May 1, 1999. The inventory was 3 percent above May 1, 1998 and 1 percent above May 1, 1997. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.67 million, 5 percent above 1998 and 8 percent above 1997. Net placements were 1.57 million. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 283 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 389 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 567 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater

CATTLE ON FEED UP 3 PERCENT IN HISTORIC SEVEN STATES

Cattle on feed in the historic seven states for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 8.57 million on May 1, 1999, up 3 percent from the previous year and 1 percent above May 1, 1997. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.43 million, 6 percent above 1998 and 11 percent above 1997. Marketings during April totaled 1.67 million, 4 percent above 1998 and up 1 percent from 1997. Other disappearance during April was 78.0 thousand head, 28 percent above 1998 and 15 percent above 1997.

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	
	1998	1999	1999/1998	1998	1999	1998	1999
Thousand Head							
Arizona	212	214	101	28	26	30	31
California	370	385	104	50	45	45	50
Colorado	1,000	1,120	112	160	200	170	190
Iowa	325	360	111	40	42	54	50
Kansas	2,100	2,070	99	330	340	400	410
Nebraska	2,060	2,180	106	310	340	360	380
Texas	2,540	2,560	101	440	440	550	560
Seven-State Total	8,607	8,889	103	1,358	1,433	1,609	1,671
State	Other Disappearance During April ^{2/}		Number on Feed May 1		1999/1998		
	1998	1999	1998	1999			
Thousand Head					Percent		
Arizona	5	1	205	208	101		
California	5	5	370	375	101		
Colorado	20	10	970	1,120	115		
Iowa	1	2	310	350	113		
Kansas	10	30	2,020	1,970	98		
Nebraska	10	20	2,000	2,120	106		
Texas	10	10	2,420	2,430	100		
Seven-State Total	61	78	8,295	8,573	103		

^{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 1998	March 1999	April 15, 1999	April 1998	March 1999	April 15, 1999
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	119.00	105.00	98.00	98.00	78.50	81.90
Alfalfa, Baled 2/	Ton	120.00	109.00	101.00	105.00	82.40	85.60
Hogs 2/ 3/	Cwt.	---	---	---	35.60	27.80	30.50
Cows 2/	Cwt.	35.50	35.40	35.70	36.20	35.20	35.10
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	64.00	64.00	63.00	66.30	65.50	65.30
Calves 2/	Cwt.	75.00	79.00	76.00	90.80	87.30	88.40
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	35.50	33.00	31.50	34.40	32.70	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	69.00	66.00	68.00	66.00	67.40	---
Milk Cows 4/	Head	1,260.00	---	1,340.00	1,110.00	---	1,240.00
All Milk Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	13.14	13.49	12.50	14.00	15.00	13.00

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/ Price includes barrows, gilts, and sows.

4/ 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 1998	April 15, 1999	April 1998	April 15, 1999
		Dollars			
Bran	Cwt.	17.10	17.20	13.80	13.40
Corn Meal	Cwt.	12.50	11.50	8.57	7.54
Cottonseed Meal, 41%	Cwt.	20.30	20.40	16.00	14.60
Dairy Feed, 16%	Ton	174.00	182.00	194.00	180.00
Soybean Meal, 44%	Cwt.	21.90	22.10	14.30	12.20

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, 1999 totaled 406 thousand tons. This was 13 percent of the December 1 stocks, but 3 percent below May 1, 1998.

United States May 1 stocks of hay on farms totaled 24.8 million tons. This was 22 percent of the December 1 stocks, but 14 percent above May 1, 1998.

HAY STOCKS ON FARMS

State	December 1			May 1		
	1996	1997	1998	1997	1998	1999
	Thousand Tons					
California	2,594	1,598	3,246	160	420	406
Arizona	82	171	177	28	34	28
Nevada	758	708	857	61	151	233
Oregon	2,108	1,600	2,159	97	621	135
Utah	1,327	1,658	1,695	302	435	485
UNITED STATES	105,179	103,044	111,839	17,424	21,827	24,795

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California production of red meat during April 1999 totaled 89.7 million pounds (dressed weight), 4 percent below last month, but 8 percent above April 1998. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In April 1999, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,258 pounds; calves, 148 pounds; and hogs, 217 pounds.

**BEEF, PORK, AND RED MEAT SET RECORD HIGHS;
VEAL, LAMB, AND MUTTON SET RECORD LOWS**

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.82 billion pounds in April, up 3 percent from April's previous record high of 3.70 billion pounds produced in 1998. April 1998 and 1999 both contained 22 weekdays and four Saturdays.

Beef production totaled 2.16 billion pounds, 3 percent higher than the previous year and just above the previous record high for April set in 1996. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.97 million head, up 2 percent from 1998. The average live weight was up 12 pounds from the previous year to 1,201 pounds.

Veal production, at 18.0 million pounds, was 11 percent below the previous record low for April set a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 97.0 thousand head, down 12 percent from April 1998. The average live weight, at 303 pounds, was 4 pounds above last year.

Pork production, at 1.63 billion pounds, was up 4 percent from the previous record high for April set in 1998. Hog kill totaled 8.53 million head, 2 percent above 1998. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year at 260 pounds.

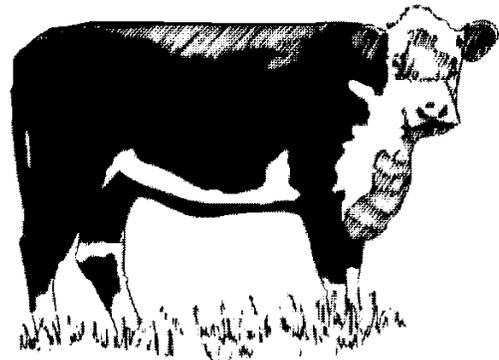
Lamb and mutton production totaled 21.0 million pounds, down 18 percent from a year ago and down 5 percent from the previous record low for April set in 1997. Sheep slaughter totaled 310 thousand head, 19 percent below last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, up 3 pounds from April 1998.

January-April red meat production was 15.2 billion pounds, 3 percent higher than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was 3 percent higher than last year; veal, down 17 percent; pork, up 4 percent; lamb and mutton, down 6 percent.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, APRIL 1/

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	Thousand Head		Thousand Pounds		Pounds	
CATTLE						
California	84.0	81.8	102,849	102,882	1,224	1,258
U.S. Total	2,927.1	2,971.5	3,479,043	3,569,550	1,189	1,201
CALVES						
California	13.7	11.2	1,549	1,654	113	148
U.S. Total	109.4	96.8	32,705	29,311	299	303
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	----	----	----	----	----	----
U.S. Total	384.3	309.9	51,249	42,018	133	136
HOGS						
California	172.6	204.2	36,220	44,330	210	217
U.S. Total	8,327.7	8,534.4	2,136,871	2,217,206	257	260
RED MEAT	April 1998	March 1999	April 1999	Apr. 99 Apr. 98	Apr. 99 Mar. 99	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	83.4	93.8	89.7	108	96	
U.S. Total	3,701.1	4,016.0	3,823.5	103	95	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.



COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES 1/

Kind	April 1998	March 1999	April 1999	April 1999 Percent of:		Jan. - Apr. 2/		
				April 1998	March 1999	1998	1999	1999/1998
	Million Pounds			Percent		Million Pounds		Percent
Beef	2,090	2,230	2,155	103	97	8,305	8,552	103
Veal	20	20	18	89	88	87	73	83
Pork	1,566	1,737	1,630	104	94	6,253	6,495	104
Lamb & Mutton	25	29	21	82	73	93	88	94
Total Red Meat	3,701	4,016	3,823	103	95	14,739	15,207	103

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

2/ Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.