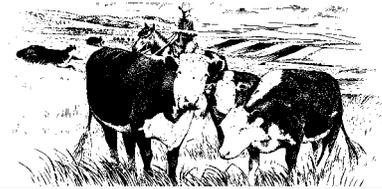


California Livestock Review



Frequency: Monthly
Released: May 25, 2000

(USPS 598-250)
VOL. 22 NO. 5



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 405 thousand head on May 1, 2000, the same as last month, but 8 percent above May 1999. During April, placements of 56.0 thousand head were 24 percent above the previous year. Marketings of 49.0 thousand head were 2 percent below April 1999. Other disappearance totaled 7.00 thousand head.

totalled 1.87 million, 4 percent below 1999 and 1 percent below 1998. April 2000 had two fewer weekdays than April 1999, which limited slaughter and affected the year-to-year relationship for marketings. Other disappearance totaled 90.0 thousand during April, 13 percent below 1999 and 2 percent below 1998.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 9 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 10.91 million head on May 1, 2000. The inventory was 9 percent above May 1, 1999 and 12 percent above May 1, 1998. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.69 million, slightly below 1999, but 6 percent above 1998. Net placements were 1.60 million. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 299 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 307 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 568 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 511 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during April

CATTLE ON FEED UP 9 PERCENT IN HISTORIC SEVEN STATES

Cattle on feed in the historic seven states for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 9.36 million on May 1, 2000, up 9 percent from the previous year and 13 percent above May 1, 1998. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.45 million, slightly above 1999 and 7 percent above 1998. Marketings during April totaled 1.59 million, 5 percent below 1999 and down 1 percent from 1998. April 2000 had two fewer weekdays than April 1999, which limited slaughter and affected the year-to-year relationship for marketings. Other disappearance was 71.0 thousand head during April, 9 percent below 1999, but 16 percent above 1998.

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	
	1999	2000	2000/1999	1999	2000	1999	2000
Thousand Head							
Arizona	214	273	128	26	34	31	28
California	385	405	105	45	56	50	49
Colorado	1,120	1,170	104	200	185	190	170
Iowa	360	375	104	42	40	50	44
Kansas	2,080	2,280	110	350	370	420	390
Nebraska	2,180	2,310	106	340	320	380	380
Texas	2,560	2,760	108	440	445	560	530
Seven-State Total	8,899	9,573	108	1,443	1,450	1,681	1,591
State	Other Disappearance During April ^{2/}		Number on Feed May 1		2000/1999		
	1999	2000	1999	2000			
Thousand Head					Percent		
Arizona	1	3	208	276	133		
California	5	7	375	405	108		
Colorado	10	5	1,120	1,180	105		
Iowa	2	1	350	370	106		
Kansas	30	30	1,980	2,230	113		
Nebraska	20	10	2,120	2,240	106		
Texas	10	15	2,430	2,660	109		
Seven-State Total	78	71	8,583	9,361	109		

^{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 1999	March 2000	April 15, 2000	April 1999	March 2000	April 15, 2000
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	98.00	94.00	100.00	82.50	74.80	80.70
Alfalfa, Baled 2/	Ton	101.00	95.00	101.00	86.40	78.00	84.50
Hogs 2/ 3/	Cwt.	---	---	---	30.10	41.80	46.90
Cows 2/	Cwt.	35.70	36.50	36.00	35.10	39.00	39.60
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	63.00	69.00	71.50	66.00	73.40	73.80
Calves 2/	Cwt.	76.00	97.50	92.50	88.20	109.00	110.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	31.50	37.50	---	31.80	38.80	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	68.00	80.00	---	67.40	80.20	---
Milk Cows 4/	Head	1,340.00	---	1,500.00	1,240.00	---	1,340.00
All Milk Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	12.30	10.90	11.20	12.60	11.90	11.90

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 1999	April 15, 2000	April 1999	April 15, 2000
		Dollars			
Alfalfa Meal	Cwt.	16.00	15.90	12.80	12.50
Bran	Cwt.	17.20	17.00	13.40	13.20
Corn Meal	Cwt.	11.50	11.50	7.54	7.67
Cottonseed Meal, 41%	Cwt.	20.40	20.70	14.60	14.90
Dairy Feed, 16%	Ton	182.00	175.00	180.00	175.00
Soybean Meal, 44%	Cwt.	22.10	22.00	12.20	13.00

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, 2000 totaled 381 thousand tons. This was 17 percent of the December 1 stocks and 11 percent below May 1, 1999.

United States May 1 hay stocks on farms totaled 28.8 million tons. This was 26 percent of the December 1 stocks, but 16 percent above May 1, 1999.

HAY STOCKS ON FARMS

State	December 1			May 1		
	1997	1998	1999	1998	1999	2000
	1,000 Tons					
California	1,598	3,246	2,285	420	428	381
Arizona	171	177	184	34	28	27
Nevada	708	857	867	151	233	290
Oregon	1,600	2,159	2,245	621	135	128
Utah	1,658	1,695	1,540	435	485	320
UNITED STATES	103,044	112,066	108,882	21,827	24,817	28,817

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during April 2000 totaled 79.4 million pounds (dressed weight), down 16 percent from last month and 11 percent below April 1999. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In April 2000, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,237 pounds; calves, 160 pounds; and hogs 216 pounds.

U.S. RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.46 billion pounds in April, down 9 percent from the 3.82 billion pounds produced in April 1999.

April 1999 contained 22 weekdays and four Saturdays. April 2000 contained 20 weekdays and five Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.03 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.78 million head, down 6 percent from 1999. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year to 1,202 pounds.

Veal production totaled 17.0 million pounds, 6 percent below the previous record low for April set a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 81.0 thousand head, down 17 percent from April 1999. The average live weight was 343 pounds, 40 pounds above last year.

Pork production totaled 1.39 billion pounds, down 14 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.21 million head, 15 percent below 1999. The average live weight, at 262 pounds, was 2 pounds above the previous year.

Lamb and mutton production, at 23.0 million pounds, was up 12 percent from April 1999. Sheep slaughter totaled 345 thousand head, 12 percent above last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, unchanged from April a year ago.

January-April red meat production was 15.1 billion pounds, 1 percent lower than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was 1 percent higher than last year, veal was 1 percent lower, pork was 4 percent lower, and lamb & mutton was down 1 percent.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, APRIL 1/

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	Thousand Head		Thousand Pounds		Pounds	
CATTLE						
California	81.6	75.3	102,774	93,206	1,259	1,237
U.S. Total	2,971.0	2,782.4	3,568,896	3,343,673	1,201	1,202
CALVES						
California	11.3	7.7	1,676	1,236	149	160
U.S. Total	96.9	80.5	29,330	27,653	303	343
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	309.4	345.0	41,958	47,035	136	136
HOGS						
California	203.5	174.8	44,166	37,741	217	216
U.S. Total	8,530.2	7,210.0	2,216,052	1,892,543	260	262
RED MEAT	April 1999	March 2000	April 2000	Apr. 00 Apr. 99	Apr. 00 Mar. 00	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	89.6	94.8	79.4	89	84	
U.S. Total	3,822.4	4,043.9	3,460.0	91	86	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.

For information on jobs collecting agricultural data, please call 1-800-851-1127.

SHEEP AND LAMB PREDATOR LOSSES IN CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES, 1999 a/

Cause	California			United States		
	Number	Total Deaths	Total Value	Number	Total Deaths	Total Value
	Head	Percent	\$1,000	Head	Percent	\$1,000
Coyotes	11,500	65.3	b/	165,800	60.7	9,637
Dogs	4,000	22.7	b/	41,300	15.1	2,982
Mountain Lions, Cougars, or Pumas	1,300	7.4	b/	15,600	5.7	998
Bears	c/	c/	b/	7,800	2.9	555
Foxes	c/	c/	b/	8,100	3.0	400
Eagles	c/	c/	b/	10,700	3.9	522
Bobcats	200	2.3	b/	12,700	4.7	650
All Other Animals	200	2.2	b/	11,000	4.0	758
Total Predators	17,600	100.0	1,323	273,000	100.0	16,502

a/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

b/ Missing total value data are not available.

c/ Included in "All Other Animals" for California