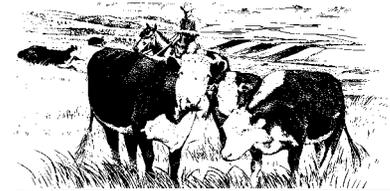


California Livestock Review



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U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 2 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ head capacity feedlots totaled 10.2 million head on October 1, 2003. The inventory was 2 percent below October 1, 2002 and 8 percent below October 1, 2001. The inventory included 6.24 million steers and steer calves, down slightly from the previous year. This group accounted for 61 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.91 million head, down 4 percent from 2002. Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.47 million, 13 percent above 2002 and 16 percent above 2001. Net placements were 2.41 million. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 698 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 545 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 610 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 621 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 2.03 million, 10 percent above 2002 and 11 percent above 2001. Other disappearance totaled 63.0 thousand head during September, 19 percent above 2002 and 37 percent above 2001.

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 485 thousand head on October 1, 2003, 1 percent below last month and 2 percent below October 2002. During September, placements of 61.0 thousand head were 2 percent above the previous year. Marketings of 63.0 thousand head were 21 percent above September 2002. Other disappearance totaled 3.00 thousand head.

CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES

State	Number On Feed September 1/			Placed During September		Marketed During September	
	2002	2003 2/	2003/2002	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Thousand Head						
Arizona	285	274	96	30	25	26	23
California	490	490	100	60	61	52	63
Colorado	1,000	900	90	255	255	220	200
Idaho	275	245	89	69	82	63	56
Iowa	310	300	97	68	80	62	69
Kansas	2,230	2,250	101	460	530	400	465
Nebraska	1,850	1,660	90	450	520	335	345
New Mexico	114	121	106	20	16	18	10
Oklahoma	305	345	113	83	81	57	73
South Dakota	145	134	92	49	49	43	37
Texas	2,680	2,700	101	530	620	470	580
Washington	155	180	116	42	53	26	41
Other States	290	235	81	72	102	76	70
UNITED STATES	10,129	9,834	97	2,188	2,474	1,848	2,032
State	Other Disappearance During September 3/		Number On Feed October 1 1/		2003/2002		
	2002	2003	2002	2003			
	Thousand Head					Percent	
Arizona	1	1	288	275	95		
California	3	3	495	485	98		
Colorado	5	5	1,030	950	92		
Idaho	1	1	280	270	96		
Iowa	1	1	315	310	98		
Kansas	10	15	2,280	2,300	101		
Nebraska	5	5	1,960	1,830	93		
New Mexico	3	4	113	123	109		
Oklahoma	1	3	330	350	106		
South Dakota	1	1	150	145	97		
Texas	20	20	2,720	2,720	100		
Washington	1	2	170	190	112		
Other States	1	2	285	265	93		
UNITED STATES	53	63	10,416	10,213	98		

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/ Data revised for California and the United States.

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

CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION

California milk producers produced 2.82 billion pounds of milk in September 2003. This was 5 percent below August 2003 and slightly less than September 2002.

Monthly milk per cow averaged 1,655 pounds, 85 pounds less than August 2003 and 45 pounds less than a year ago.

CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION

Month	CALIFORNIA 1/						Total Milk Receipts 2/		UNITED STATES 1/ 3/					
	Milk Cows		Milk Per Cow		Milk Production		2002	2003	Milk Cows		Milk Per Cow		Milk Production	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003			2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds				1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds	
January	1,624	1,681	1,745	1,770	2,834	2,975	2,832	2,973	7,749	7,807	1,591	1,607	12,327	12,548
February	1,626	1,686	1,620	1,635	2,634	2,757	2,630	2,753	7,744	7,810	1,472	1,484	11,401	11,588
March	1,631	1,691	1,830	1,830	2,985	3,095	2,982	3,093	7,745	7,811	1,654	1,660	12,810	12,969
April	1,635	1,693	1,795	1,780	2,935	3,014	2,933	3,014	7,758	7,798	1,621	1,622	12,575	12,645
May	1,639	1,692	1,875	1,820	3,073	3,079	3,070	3,075	7,769	7,783	1,678	1,668	13,039	12,983
June	1,645	1,691	1,800	1,755	2,961	2,968	2,960	2,957	7,782	7,775	1,587	1,590	12,348	12,366
July	1,647	1,693	1,810	1,745	2,981	2,954	2,977	2,951	7,781	7,765	1,578	1,590	12,281	12,345
August	1,651	1,697	1,810	1,740	2,988	2,953	2,985	2,951	7,785	7,750	1,570	1,563	12,223	12,110
September	1,658	1,701	1,700	1,655	2,819	2,815	2,817		7,781	7,743	1,497	1,503	11,648	11,641
October	1,664		1,760		2,929		2,924		7,789		1,539		11,991	
November	1,669		1,685		2,812		2,808		7,792		1,496		11,657	
December	1,676		1,750		2,933		2,931		7,801		1,575		12,290	

1/ Revised 2003 data.

2/ Milk receipts from California Department of Food and Agriculture, Dairy Marketing and Milk Pooling Branches. Excludes on-farm usage.

3/ Twenty-state total.

U.S. HOG INVENTORY DOWN 2 PERCENT

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs was 59.6 million head on September 1, 2003. This was 2 percent below September 1, 2002, but 2 percent above June 1, 2003.

Breeding inventory, at 5.88 million head, was down 3 percent from September 1, 2002 and 1 percent below last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 53.7 million head, was 2 percent below last year, but 2 percent above last quarter.

The June-August 2003 U.S. pig crop, at 25.2 million head, was 2 percent less than both 2002 and 2001. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.83 million head, 2 percent below last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average number of pigs saved per litter was 8.90 for the June-August 2003 period, equivalent to last years. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.00 for operations with more than 5.00 thousand hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.80 million sows farrow during the September-November 2003 quarter, 1 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period in 2002 and 3 percent below 2001. Intended farrowings for December 2003-February 2004, at 2.77 million sows, are 2 percent below the same period in 2003, but 1 percent above 2002.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with more than 5.00 thousand head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 35 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, unchanged from last year.

Revisions: All inventory and pig crop estimates for September 2002 through June 2003 were reviewed using the final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review, no revisions were necessary to the total hog inventory or pig crop in any quarter.

U.S. HOG AND PIG INVENTORY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2001-03

Item	2001	2002	2003	2003/2001	2003/2002
	1,000 Head			Percent	
September 1 Inventory					
All Hogs And Pigs	59,777	60,725	59,623	100	98
Kept For Breeding	6,158	6,054	5,882	96	97
Market	53,619	54,670	53,741	100	98
Market Hogs and Pigs by Weight Groups					
Under 60 Pounds	19,911	20,070	19,862	100	99
60-119 Pounds	13,438	13,655	13,570	101	99
120-179 Pounds	10,854	11,019	10,848	100	98
180 Pounds And Over	9,417	9,926	9,461	100	95

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during September 2003 totaled 120.8 million pounds (dressed weight), 5 percent above last month and 7 percent above September 2002. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In September 2003, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,256 pounds; calves 190 pounds; and hogs 236 pounds.

U.S. MONTHLY RECORD-HIGHS FOR BEEF, PORK, AND RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.01 billion pounds in September, a monthly record high, up 3 percent from the 3.87 billion pounds produced in September 2002.

September 2002 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays. September 2003 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.31 billion pounds and a monthly record high, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.12 million head, up 9 percent from September 2002. The average live weight was down 36 pounds from the previous year to 1,227 pounds.

Veal production totaled 15.4 million pounds, 6 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 82.6 thousand head, down 7 percent from September 2002. The average live weight, at 308 pounds, was 5 pounds above last year.

Pork production totaled 1.66 billion pounds, a monthly record high, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.55 million head, 1 percent above September 2002. The average live weight was 263 pounds, 3 pounds above the previous year.

Lamb and mutton production, at 16.9 million pounds, was down 4 percent from September 2002. Sheep slaughter totaled 256.3 thousand head, 7 percent below last year. The average live weight was 131 pounds, up 3 pounds from September a year ago.

January to September 2003 commercial red meat production was 35.0 billion pounds, down slightly from 2002. Accumulated beef production was down slightly from last year, veal was down 1 percent, pork was up slightly from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 9 percent.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, SEPTEMBER 2002-03 1/

Class and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
CATTLE						
California	109.5	120.8	140,104	151,663	1,280	1,256
U.S. Total	2,866.7	3,122.9	3,619,953	3,832,666	1,263	1,227
CALVES						
California	10.3	11.2	1,415	2,134	138	190
U.S. Total	88.9	82.6	26,979	25,398	303	308
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	276.3	256.3	35,374	33,594	128	131
HOGS						
California	206.1	199.7	47,320	47,104	230	236
U.S. Total	8,505.5	8,554.2	2,215,539	2,245,673	260	263
RED MEAT	September 2002	August 2003	September 2003	Sept. 03 Sept. 02	Sept. 03 Aug. 03	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	113.2	115.5	120.8	107	105	
U.S. Total	3,873.2	3,912.9	4,008.0	103	102	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.

For information on part-time jobs collecting agricultural data in your local area, please call 1-800-851-1127.

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

Commodity	Unit	California			United States		
		Sept. 2002	Aug. 2003	Sept. 15, 2003	Sept. 2002	Aug. 2003	Sept. 15, 2003
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	89.00	85.00	85.00	93.00	85.30	84.20
Alfalfa, Baled 2/	Ton	92.00	86.00	88.00	101.00	91.00	89.00
Hogs 2/ 3/	Cwt.	---	---	---	26.50	39.50	39.20
Cows 2/	Cwt.	34.00	44.50	44.00	34.90	44.60	46.00
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	67.00	81.00	88.00	67.80	83.50	88.20
Calves 2/	Cwt.	79.00	97.00	102.00	92.40	107.00	106.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	30.50	29.50	---	24.50	28.30	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	74.50	83.00	---	76.30	87.60	---
Milk Cows 4/	Head	---	---	---	---	---	---
All Milk Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	10.48	12.31	12.60	11.60	13.20	14.00

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/ Prices include barrows, gilts, and sows.

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