



# California Livestock Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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### U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 5 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.4 million head on October 1, 2008. The inventory was 5 percent below October 1, 2007 and 9 percent below October 1, 2006. The inventory included 6.51 million steers and steer calves, down 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.85 million head, down 5 percent from 2007.

Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.28 million, 6 percent below 2007, but 2 percent above 2006. Net placements were 2.23 million head. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 445 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 415 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 541 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 880 thousand.

Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.81 million, 7 percent above 2007 and 3 percent above 2006. Other disappearance totaled 51.0 thousand head during September, 6 percent below 2007 and 25 percent below 2006.

### 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	
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head			
Arizona	348	362	104	28	24	24	25
California	530	505	95	60	55	47	53
Colorado	850	770	91	255	255	160	150
Idaho	205	180	88	48	57	41	41
Iowa	490	470	96	100	81	79	75
Kansas	2,140	2,090	98	540	485	355	400
Nebraska	1,930	1,960	102	540	550	320	390
New Mexico	131	167	127	17	27	13	20
Oklahoma	310	305	98	72	60	56	49
South Dakota	175	165	94	43	56	37	44
Texas	2,740	2,580	94	590	510	480	490
Washington	148	138	93	36	44	29	24
Other States	305	305	100	86	77	55	51
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>10,302</b>	<b>9,997</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>2,415</b>	<b>2,281</b>	<b>1,696</b>	<b>1,812</b>

  

State	Other Disappearance During September 2/		Number On Feed October 1 1/		2008
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007
	1,000 Head				Percent
Arizona	2	1	350	360	103
California	3	2	540	505	94
Colorado	5	5	940	870	93
Idaho	2	1	210	195	93
Iowa	1	1	510	475	93
Kansas	15	15	2,310	2,160	94
Nebraska	10	10	2,140	2,110	99
New Mexico	2	1	133	173	130
Oklahoma	1	1	325	315	97
South Dakota	1	2	180	175	97
Texas	10	10	2,840	2,590	91
Washington	1	1	154	157	102
Other States	1	1	335	330	99
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>10,967</b>	<b>10,415</b>	<b>95</b>

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.

**CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION**

California milk producers produced 3.28 billion pounds of milk in September 2008. This was 4 percent below August 2008, but 1 percent above September 2007.

Monthly milk per cow averaged 1,780 pounds, 65 pounds less than in August 2008 and five pounds less than a year ago.

**MILK PRODUCTION, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES**

Month	CALIFORNIA 1/						Total Milk Receipts 5/		UNITED STATES 1/ 2/					
	Milk Cows 3/		Milk Per Cow 4/		Milk Production 4/		2007	2008	Milk Cows 3/		Milk Per Cow 4/		Milk Production 4/	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008			2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds		Million Pounds		1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds	
Jan.	1,792	1,839	1,880	1,900	3,369	3,494	3,364	3,492	8,284	8,413	1,726	1,746	14,302	14,688
Feb.	1,795	1,843	1,755	1,805	3,150	3,327	3,145	3,325	8,286	8,427	1,584	1,654	13,125	13,942
Mar.	1,799	1,846	1,975	1,970	3,553	3,637	3,551	3,637	8,295	8,436	1,783	1,794	14,787	15,134
Apr.	1,801	1,847	1,915	1,900	3,449	3,509	3,445	3,509	8,292	8,448	1,745	1,757	14,470	14,839
May	1,806	1,848	1,925	1,940	3,477	3,585	3,472	3,581	8,298	8,459	1,791	1,818	14,860	15,375
June	1,811	1,848	1,845	1,850	3,341	3,419	3,338	3,414	8,302	8,460	1,712	1,735	14,216	14,678
July	1,816	1,846	1,900	1,850	3,450	3,415	3,449	3,412	8,322	8,470	1,742	1,743	14,500	14,762
Aug.	1,819	1,843	1,900	1,845	3,456	3,400	3,453	3,396	8,330	8,467	1,719	1,720	14,323	14,563
Sept.	1,822	1,841	1,785	1,780	3,252	3,277	3,248		8,341	8,459	1,645	1,652	13,718	13,976
Oct.	1,826		1,870		3,415		3,413		8,355		1,697		14,176	
Nov.	1,830		1,810		3,312		3,311		8,369		1,654		13,843	
Dec.	1,835		1,885		3,459		3,458		8,389		1,718		14,414	

1/ Revised August 2008 data.

2/ Twenty-three-state total.

3/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

4/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

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

**U.S. – CANADIAN HOG INVENTORY**

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on September 1, 2008 was 68.7 million head. This was up 2 percent from September 1, 2007. Breeding inventory, at 6.05 million head, was down 3 percent from last year. Market hog inventory, at 62.6 million head, was up 3 percent from last year. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 3.08 million head, down 2 percent from 2007.

Inventory in Canada for all hogs and pigs on October 1, 2008 was 12.8 million head. This was down 11 percent from October 1, 2007 and down 14 percent from October 1, 2006. The breeding inventory, at 1.42 million head, was down 8 percent from last year and down 2 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 11.4 million head, was down 11 percent from last year and down 1 percent from last quarter. The pig crop, at 7.58 million head, was down 2 percent from 2007 and down 4 percent from 2006. Sows farrowed during this period totaled 771 thousand head, down 3 percent from last year.

**HOG AND PIG INVENTORY, CANADA AND UNITED STATES 2007 - 2008 1/ 2/**

Type	Canada October 1 Inventory 3/			United States September 1 Inventory 4/		
	2007	2008	<u>2008</u> 2007	2007	2008	<u>2008</u> 2007
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent
All Hogs & Pigs	14,360	12,795	89	67,279	68,657	102
Kept for Breeding	1,544	1,416	92	6,209	6,049	97
Market	12,817	11,379	89	61,069	62,607	103
Sows Farrowed	794	771	97	3,132	3,076	98
Pig Crop	7,766	7,579	98	29,094	29,251	101

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Includes Boars.

3/ Source: Livestock and Animal Products Section, Statistics Canada

4/ Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service

**CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER**

California's production of red meat during September 2008 totaled 136 million pounds (dressed weight), 2 percent above the previous month, and up 12 percent from September 2007. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In September 2008, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,288 pounds; calves 117 pounds; and hogs 240 pounds.

September 2007 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays, while September 2008 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

**U.S. SEPTEMBER TOTAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION AT A RECORD HIGH**

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.27 billion pounds in September, up 11 percent from the 3.86 billion pounds produced in September 2007.

Beef production, at 2.27 billion pounds, was 8 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.89 million head, up 8 percent from September 2007. The average live weight was up 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,298 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.8 million pounds, 37 percent above September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 87,500 head, up 56 percent from September 2007. The average live weight was down 33 pounds from last year, at 251 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.97 billion pounds, up 13 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.96 million head, up 14 percent from September 2007. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 266 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.4 million pounds, was up 6 percent from September 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 221,000 head, 5 percent above last year. The average live weight was 129 pounds, up 1 pound from September a year ago.

January to September 2008 commercial red meat production was 37.7 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was down 1 percent, pork was up 9 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

**COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, SEPTEMBER 2007-08 1/**

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
<b>CATTLE</b>						
California	118.2	126.5	149,208	160,776	1,284	1,288
U.S. Total	2,664.6	2,889.0	3,426,021	3,736,935	1,290	1,298
<b>CALVES</b>						
California	9.7	17.0	1,221	1,974	126	117
U.S. Total	56.0	87.5	15,734	21,755	284	251
<b>SHEEP &amp; LAMBS</b>						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	210.7	221.0	27,052	28,531	128	129
<b>HOGS</b>						
California	201.4	233.8	47,286	56,038	235	240
U.S. Total	8,772.8	9,958.6	2,334,352	2,642,679	266	266
<b>RED MEAT</b>	September 2007	August 2008	September 2008	Sept. 08 Sept. 07	Sept. 08 Aug. 08	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	122.1	133.3	136.3	112	102	
U.S. Total	3,863.6	4,097.4	4,270.4	111	104	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.

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

Commodity	Unit	California			United States		
		September 2007	August 2008	Sept. 15, 2008	September 2007	August 2008	Sept. 15, 2008
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	154.00	192.00	190.00	127.00	165.00	161.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	164.00	210.00	203.00	135.00	180.00	176.00
Hogs 2/ 4/	Cwt.	---	---	---	46.80	60.60	53.70
Cows 2/ 5/	Cwt.	44.90	50.20	51.30	49.30	57.40	56.00
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	96.40	98.60	96.40	98.30	100.00	99.50
Calves 2/	Cwt.	112.00	100.00	100.00	126.00	116.00	116.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	30.50	25.00	---	26.70	26.30	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	94.50	95.00	---	99.00	99.60	---
Milk Cows 6/	Head	---	---	---	---	---	---
All Milk, Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	20.40	16.95	17.10	21.80	18.40	18.00

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/ California's September 2008 prices are for the full month.

4/ Prices include barrows, gilts, and sows.

5/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

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