



California Livestock Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office · P.O. Box 1258 · Sacramento, CA 95812 · (916) 498-5161 · (916) 498-5186 Fax · www.nass.usda.gov/ca

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U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 7 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.0 million head on November 1, 2008. The inventory was 7 percent below November 1, 2007 and 8 percent below November 1, 2006.

Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.44 million, 11 percent below 2007, but slightly above 2006. Net placements were 2.37 million head. During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 700 thousand; 600-699 pounds were 615 thousand; 700-799 pounds were 543 thousand; and 800 pounds and greater were 580 thousand.

Marketings of fed cattle during October totaled 1.81 million, 3 percent below 2007, but 3 percent above 2006. Other disappearance totaled 67.0 thousand during October, 43 percent above 2007, but 17 percent below 2006.

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 500 thousand head on November 1, 2008, 1 percent below last month and 8 percent below November 2007. During October, placements of 54.0 thousand head were 19 percent below the previous year. Marketings of 57.0 thousand head were 5 percent below the previous year. Other disappearance totaled 2.00 thousand head.

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

State	Number On Feed October 1 a/			Placed During October		Marketed During October	
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head			
Arizona	350	360	103	39	31	27	28
California	540	505	94	67	54	60	57
Colorado	940	870	93	260	245	165	150
Idaho	210	195	93	69	55	43	39
Iowa	510	475	93	120	104	79	93
Kansas	2,310	2,160	94	530	450	410	360
Nebraska	2,140	2,110	99	620	590	350	375
New Mexico	133	173	130	31	17	19	17
Oklahoma	325	315	97	74	75	63	68
South Dakota	180	175	97	71	70	45	43
Texas	2,840	2,590	91	700	630	530	495
Washington	154	157	102	42	38	29	31
Other States	335	330	99	102	79	56	58
UNITED STATES	10,967	10,415	95	2,725	2,438	1,876	1,814

State	Other Disappearance During October b/		Number On Feed November 1 a/		2008
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007
	1,000 Head		Percent		
Arizona	2	1	360	362	101
California	2	2	545	500	92
Colorado	5	5	1,030	960	93
Idaho	1	1	235	210	89
Iowa	1	1	550	485	88
Kansas	10	20	2,420	2,230	92
Nebraska	10	15	2,400	2,310	96
New Mexico	2	1	143	172	120
Oklahoma	1	2	335	320	96
South Dakota	1	2	205	200	98
Texas	10	15	3,000	2,710	90
Washington	1	1	166	163	98
Other States	1	1	380	350	92
UNITED STATES	47	67	11,769	10,972	93

a/ 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.

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

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during October 2008 totaled 148 million pounds (dressed weight), 9 percent above the previous month, and up 2 percent from October 2007. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In October 2008, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,294 pounds, calves 116 pounds, and hogs 243 pounds.

January to October 2008 commercial red meat production was 42.2 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 2 percent from last year, veal was up 2 percent, pork was up 8 percent, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

October 2007 and October 2008 both contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

**U.S. LAMB AND MUTTON PRODUCTION
AT RECORD LOW FOR OCTOBER**

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.53 billion pounds in October, down 2 percent from the 4.62 billion pounds produced in October 2007.

Beef production, at 2.34 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.99 million head, down 4 percent from October 2007. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 1,303 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.6 million pounds, 22 percent above October a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 95.7 thousand head, up 47 percent from October 2007. The average live weight was down 44 pounds from last year, at 244 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.16 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 10.8 million head, up 1 percent from October 2007. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 269 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.0 million pounds, was down 8 percent from October 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 225 thousand head, 9 percent below last year. The average live weight was 133 pounds, up 1 pound from October a year ago.

OCTOBER COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER a/

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
CATTLE						
California	138.2	137.2	175,538	175,260	1,292	1,294
U.S. Total	3,102.0	2,990.8	4,017,875	3,884,287	1,300	1,303
CALVES						
California	9.7	18.8	1,270	2,146	132	116
U.S. Total	65.3	95.7	18,607	23,055	288	244
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	248.4	225.0	32,760	29,885	132	133
HOGS						
California	239.7	253.0	58,132	61,324	243	243
U.S. Total	10,656.6	10,750.7	2,870,727	2,893,860	270	269
RED MEAT	October 2007	September 2008 b/	October 2008	Oct 08 Oct 07	Oct 08 Sep 08	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
	California	145.8	136.3	148.3	102	109
U.S. Total	4,615.6	4,272.5	4,531.4	98	106	

a/ Farm slaughter excluded.

b/ Revised U.S. Total.

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

Commodity	Unit	California			United States		
		October 2007	September 2008	Oct. 15, 2008	October 2007	September 2008	Oct. 15, 2008
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	159.00	190.00	185.00	128.00	161.00	157.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	172.00	203.00	203.00	136.00	176.00	172.00
Hogs 2/ 4/	Cwt.	---	---	---	42.40	52.70	50.70
Cows 2/ 5/	Cwt.	41.60	48.60	41.40	46.60	54.50	49.20
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	93.70	97.10	89.90	96.60	99.30	93.80
Calves 2/	Cwt.	104.00	98.80	93.60	123.00	113.00	108.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	28.00	23.00	---	25.50	23.80	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	92.50	91.50	---	97.00	99.60	---
Milk Cows 6/	Head	1,900.00	---	1,700.00	2,020.00	---	1,920.00
All Milk, Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	20.29	16.84	16.20	21.40	18.20	17.60

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 October 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.

CASH INCOME BY COMMODITY GROUPS, CALIFORNIA, 2005-2007 1/

Source of Income	2005	2006	2007
	\$1,000		
LIVESTOCK, POULTRY, AND PRODUCTS			
Aquaculture	13,385	12,891	14,291
Cattle and Calves	1,744,403	1,676,354	1,784,101
Chickens, All	714,788	584,650	713,200
Eggs	181,655	212,889	323,708
Hogs	35,736	30,906	31,549
Honey	25,200	19,562	14,144
Milk and Cream	5,223,062	4,492,229	7,328,474
Sheep and Lambs	56,135	46,788	42,610
Turkeys	170,216	196,963	195,712
Wool and Mohair	2,519	2,630	2,810
Other Livestock and Poultry	258,531	271,409	284,315
TOTAL	8,425,628	7,547,271	10,734,914

Source of Income	2005	2006	2007
	\$1,000		
VEGETABLE CROPS	6,436,085	7,410,194	7,973,315
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS	10,884,057	10,233,284	10,535,273
LIVESTOCK, POULTRY AND PRODUCTS	8,425,628	7,547,271	10,734,914
NURSERY, GREENHOUSE AND FLORICULTURE	3,706,441	3,889,917	4,068,566
CHRISTMAS TREES	9,026	8,785	8,700
TOTAL CASH INCOME FROM MARKETINGS	32,352,441	31,816,324	36,574,850
FARM RELATED INCOME 2/	2,382,123	2,799,247	2,519,230
GROSS CASH INCOME FROM FARMING	34,734,564	34,615,571	39,094,080

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Includes value of home consumption, value of inventory adjustments, machine hire and custom work, forest products sold, rental value of farm dwelling, government payments, and other miscellaneous farm income.

Source: USDA Economic Research Service