



# California Livestock Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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Released: December 30, 2008 · Frequency: Monthly · (USPS 598-270) VOL. 30 NO. 12

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**U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 6 PERCENT**

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on December 1, 2008. The inventory was 6 percent below December 1, 2007, and 5 percent below December 1, 2006.

Placements in feedlots during November totaled 2.02 million, 5 percent below 2007, but 7 percent above 2006. Net placements were 1.95 million head. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 565 thousand; 600-699 pounds were 630 thousand; 700-799 pounds were 450 thousand; and 800 pounds and greater were 370 thousand.

Marketings of fed cattle during November totaled 1.58 million, 9 percent below 2007, and 12 percent below 2006. This is the second lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of November since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 67.0 thousand during November, 18 percent above 2007, and 19 percent below 2006.

**CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED**

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 495 thousand head on December 1, 2008, 1 percent below last month, and 11 percent below December 2007. During November, placements of 48.0 thousand head were 34 percent below the previous year. Marketings of 50.0 thousand head were 18 percent below the previous year. 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 November 1 1/			Placed During November		Marketed During November	
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head			
Arizona	360	362	101	37	26	27	28
California	545	500	92	73	48	61	50
Colorado	1,030	960	93	190	185	145	130
Idaho	235	210	89	48	65	42	49
Iowa	550	485	88	96	92	75	75
Kansas	2,420	2,230	92	450	405	355	310
Nebraska	2,400	2,310	96	485	440	355	355
New Mexico	143	172	120	31	20	23	23
Oklahoma	335	320	96	62	69	50	52
South Dakota	205	200	98	50	57	38	35
Texas	3,000	2,710	90	510	510	490	395
Washington	166	163	98	31	36	27	29
Other States	380	350	92	62	62	50	44
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>11,769</b>	<b>10,972</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>2,125</b>	<b>2,015</b>	<b>1,738</b>	<b>1,575</b>

State	Other Disappearance During November 2/		Number On Feed December 1 1/		2008
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007
	1,000 Head				Percent
Arizona	3	1	367	359	98
California	2	3	555	495	89
Colorado	5	5	1,070	1,010	94
Idaho	1	1	240	225	94
Iowa	1	2	570	500	88
Kansas	15	15	2,500	2,310	92
Nebraska	10	15	2,520	2,380	94
New Mexico	2	2	149	167	112
Oklahoma	2	2	345	335	97
South Dakota	2	2	215	220	102
Texas	10	15	3,010	2,810	93
Washington	2	1	168	169	101
Other States	2	3	390	365	94
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>12,099</b>	<b>11,345</b>	<b>94</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 COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during November 2008 totaled 129 million pounds (dressed weight), 13 percent below the previous month, and down 8 percent from November 2007. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In November 2008, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,306 pounds; calves 114 pounds; and hogs 244 pounds.

### U. S. TOTAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION BELOW PREVIOUS YEAR

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.87 billion pounds in November, down 10 percent from the 4.30 billion pounds produced in November 2007.

Beef production, at 1.96 billion pounds, was 12 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.52 million head, down 11 percent from November 2007. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 1,302 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.3 million pounds, 13 percent above November a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 81,400 head, up 38 percent from November 2007. The average live weight was down 51 pounds from last year, at 240 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.89 billion pounds, down 8 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.32 million head, down 7 percent from November 2007. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 271 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.9 million pounds, was down 20 percent from November 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 193,700 head, 18 percent below last year. The average live weight was 133 pounds, down 3 pounds from November a year ago.

January to November 2008 commercial red meat production was 46.1 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was up 2 percent, pork was up 7 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

November 2007 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. November 2008 contained 20 weekdays (including two holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

### COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, NOVEMBER 2007-08 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	
<b>CATTLE</b>						
California	130.6	122.1	166,312	157,349	1,296	1,306
U.S. Total	2,830.7	2,519.0	3,677,465	3,267,744	1,304	1,302
<b>CALVES</b>						
California	9.7	16.5	1,240	1,861	129	114
U.S. Total	58.9	81.4	16,919	19,313	291	240
<b>SHEEP &amp; LAMBS</b>						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	236.7	193.7	32,168	25,802	136	133
<b>HOGS</b>						
California	234.9	207.5	57,836	50,608	246	244
U.S. Total	10,049.2	9,325.0	2,734,844	2,524,617	272	271
<b>RED MEAT</b>	November 2007	October 2008 b/	November 2008	Nov 08 Nov 07	Nov 08 Oct 08	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	140.7	148.3	129.4	92	87	
U.S. Total	4,300.2	4,530.7	3,871.6	90	85	

a/ Farm slaughter excluded.

b/ Revised U.S. Total only.

### FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER BY REGIONS AND UNITED STATES, JANUARY - NOVEMBER 2008 \*

Standard Federal Regions	Cattle								Calves Total 2/					
	Total 2/	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls & Stags							
				All	Dairy	Other								
				1,000 Head										
1	1.2	0.5	0.3	---	---	---	---	0.2						
2	4.8	1.9	0.3	2.2	1.7	0.5	0.4	24.1						
3	85.6	33.9	7.2	42.9	34.1	8.8	1.7	13.0						
4	66.8	1.1	0.5	55.6	10.0	45.6	9.6	0.3						
5	329.5	126.8	46.6	146.5	76.4	70.1	9.7	19.1						
6	466.8	222.6	152.4	82.6	11.5	71.1	9.1	5.6						
7	1,018.5	524.1	429.9	57.1	1.2	55.9	7.4	0.1						
8	231.5	108.3	104.5	---	---	---	---	---						
9	164.7	74.6	8.4	79.0	56.9	22.1	2.7	16.2						
10	105.6	42.8	27.8	31.0	11.7	19.3	3.9	---						
U.S. 2/	2,475.0	1,136.6	777.9	514.1	208.2	305.9	46.4	79.7						
Standard Federal Regions	Hogs				Sheep									
	Total 2/	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total 2/	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings							
								1,000 Head						
								1	1.3	1.3	---	---	2.8	0.1
2	9.5	9.3	0.1	0.1	11.8	1.0	10.8							
3	434.3	422.7	1.8	9.7	8.5	0.6	8.0							
4	1,365.8	1,290.3	74.2	1.3	3.4	0.9	2.4							
5	2,469.3	2,369.6	96.3	3.4	24.7	2.7	21.9							
6	477.8	456.1	20.2	1.5	---	---	---							
7	3,880.3	3,810.0	54.3	15.9	27.5	0.4	27.1							
8	383.1	382.8	0.3	---	77.1	1.3	75.7							
9	202.4	202.3	---	---	---	---	---							
10	25.7	25.6	0.1	---	1.9	0.1	1.8							
U.S. 2/	9,249.5	8,969.9	247.4	32.1	179.9	8.7	171.3							

\* Accumulated totals based on unrounded data.

1/ States included in regions are as follows: 1--CT, ME, NH, VT, MA & RI; 2--NY & NJ; 3--DE-MD, PA, WV & VA; 4--AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC & TN; 5--IL, IN, MI, MN, OH & WI; 6--AR, LA, NM, OK & TX; 7--IA, KS, MO & NE; 8--CO, MT, ND, SD, UT & WY; 9--AZ, CA, HI & NV; 10--AK, ID, OR & WA.

2/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

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

Commodity	Unit	California			United States		
		November 2007	October 2008	Nov. 15, 2008	November 2007	October 2008	Nov. 15, 2008
<i>Dollars</i>							
All Hay, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	157.00	185.00	171.00	129.00	157.00	147.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	169.00	203.00	181.00	136.00	172.00	163.00
Hogs 2/ 4/	Cwt.	---	---	---	37.90	48.60	41.40
Cows 2/ 5/	Cwt.	40.00	41.40	39.80	43.90	48.30	44.70
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	93.00	89.50	92.40	96.00	93.00	93.00
Calves 2/	Cwt.	104.00	93.90	93.90	122.00	107.00	106.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	40.00	27.00	---	27.10	21.80	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	92.00	95.00	---	97.10	97.50	---
Milk Cows 6/	Head	---	1,700.00	---	---	1,920.00	---
All Milk, Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	21.19	16.15	15.20	21.90	17.70	17.40

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 November 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.