



# California Livestock Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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on January 1, 2009. The inventory was 7 percent below January 1, 2008 and 6 percent below January 1, 2007. The inventory included 7.07 million steers and steer calves, down 8 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.10 million head, down 6 percent from 2008.

### CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 490 thousand head on January 1, 2009, 1 percent below last month and 12 percent below January 2008. During December, placements of 59.0 thousand head were 12 percent below the previous year. Marketings of 60.0 thousand head remained the same as the previous year. Other disappearance totaled 4.00 thousand head.

Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.65 million, 3 percent below 2007 and 4 percent below 2006. Net placements were 1.57 million head. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 425 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 490 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 407 thousand and 800 pounds and greater were 325 thousand.

### 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 11.2 million head

Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.68 million, 2 percent above 2007 and 4 percent above 2006.

Other disappearance totaled 76.0 thousand during December, 31 percent above 2007 but 14 percent below 2006.

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

State	Number On Feed December 1 a/ b/			Placed During December		Marketed During December	
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head			
Arizona	367	359	98	26	29	24	29
California	555	495	89	67	59	60	60
Colorado	1,070	1,010	94	170	150	135	155
Idaho	240	225	94	39	36	42	39
Iowa	570	500	88	71	66	69	64
Kansas	2,500	2,310	92	385	380	390	405
Nebraska	2,520	2,380	94	355	345	335	340
New Mexico	149	168	113	26	16	13	18
Oklahoma	345	335	97	44	49	37	46
South Dakota	215	220	102	50	38	33	37
Texas	3,010	2,810	93	380	405	420	405
Washington	168	169	101	25	28	28	38
Other States	390	365	94	63	46	59	47
UNITED STATES	12,099	11,346	94	1,701	1,647	1,645	1,683

State	Other Disappearance During December c/		Number On Feed January 1 a/		2009
	2007	2008	2008	2009	2008
	1,000 Head				Percent
Arizona	1	1	368	358	97
California	2	4	560	490	88
Colorado	5	5	1,100	1,000	91
Idaho	2	2	235	220	94
Iowa	2	2	570	500	88
Kansas	15	15	2,480	2,270	92
Nebraska	10	15	2,530	2,370	94
New Mexico	2	2	160	164	103
Oklahoma	2	3	350	335	96
South Dakota	2	1	230	220	96
Texas	10	20	2,960	2,790	94
Washington	1	2	164	157	96
Other States	4	4	390	360	92
UNITED STATES	58	76	12,097	11,234	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/ Revised 2008 data for New Mexico and U.S.

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

## CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION

California milk producers produced 3.43 billion pounds of milk in December 2008. This was 4 percent above November 2008, but 1 percent below December 2007. Monthly milk per cow averaged 1,860

pounds, 65 pounds more than in November 2008, but 25 pounds less than a year ago.

## MILK PRODUCTION, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES

Month	California						Total Milk Receipts 6/		United States 1/ 2/					
	Milk Cows 3/ 4/		Milk Per Cow 5/		Milk Production 3/ 5/				Milk Cows 4/		Milk Per Cow 5/		Milk Production 5/	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Head		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	3,397	8,330	8,467	1,719	1,720	14,323	14,563
Sept.	1,822	1,840	1,785	1,780	3,252	3,275	3,248	3,272	8,341	8,459	1,645	1,651	13,718	13,963
Oct.	1,826	1,840	1,870	1,840	3,415	3,386	3,413	3,382	8,355	8,462	1,697	1,701	14,176	14,398
Nov.	1,830	1,843	1,810	1,795	3,312	3,308	3,311	3,307	8,369	8,472	1,654	1,655	13,843	14,021
Dec.	1,835	1,844	1,885	1,860	3,459	3,430	3,458	3,458	8,389	8,479	1,718	1,726	14,414	14,633

1/ Twenty-three state total.

2/ Revised November 2008 data.

3/ Revised September, October, November 2008 data.

4/ Includes dry cows, but excludes heifers not yet fresh.

5/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

6/ Milk receipts are from the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Dairy Marketing and Milk Pooling Branches. Excludes on farm usage.

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

Commodity	Unit	California			United States		
		December 2007	November 2008	Dec. 15, 2008	December 2007	November 2008	Dec. 15, 2008
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	156.00	171.00	149.00	127.00	147.00	141.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	170.00	181.00	159.00	135.00	163.00	155.00
Hogs 2/ 4/	Cwt.	---	---	---	39.60	40.80	42.40
Cows 2/ 5/	Cwt.	40.20	39.40	36.70	45.00	43.10	39.80
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	95.10	89.50	84.80	95.30	91.00	85.70
Calves 2/	Cwt.	109.00	91.30	91.30	120.00	106.00	101.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	35.00	34.00	---	30.20	27.00	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	89.00	97.50	---	98.40	99.60	---
Milk Cows 6/	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
All Milk, Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	20.02	15.15	13.50	21.50	17.10	15.90

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

4/ Price includes 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.

### CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during December 2008 totaled 150 million pounds (dressed weight), 16 percent above the previous month, and 5 percent above December 2007. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In December 2008, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,306 pounds; calves 117 pounds; and hogs 240 pounds.

### U.S. TOTAL RED MEAT AND PORK PRODUCTION AT RECORD HIGHS FOR DECEMBER

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.16 billion pounds in December, up 3 percent from the 4.06 billion pounds produced in December 2007. Beef production, at 2.08 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.67 million head, up 1 percent from December 2007. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,303 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.3 million pounds, 28 percent above December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 94.1 thousand head, up 54 percent from December 2007. The average live weight was down 43 pounds from last year, at 245 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.05 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 10.14 million head, up 5 percent from December 2007. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year at 270 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.4 million pounds, was up slightly from December 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 231 thousand head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 134 pounds, down 1 pound from December a year ago.

January to December 2008 commercial red meat production was 50.2 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was up 4 percent, pork was up 6 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

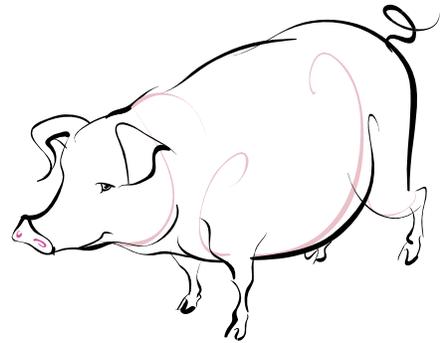
December 2007 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays. December 2008 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

### COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, DECEMBER 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	128.4	137.1	165,404	176,505	1,312	1,306
U.S. Total	2,647.9	2,671.3	3,434,170	3,467,891	1,302	1,303
<b>CALVES</b>						
California	10.6	22.6	1,359	2,594	129	117
U.S. Total	61.0	94.1	17,371	22,708	288	245
<b>SHEEP &amp; LAMBS</b>						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	229.0	230.8	30,860	30,861	135	134
<b>HOGS</b>						
California	251.8	262.1	61,517	62,824	245	240
U.S. Total	9,689.9	10,144.6	2,632,754	2,739,463	272	270
<b>RED MEAT</b>	December 2007	November 2008	December 2008	Dec 08 Dec 07	Dec 08 Nov 08	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	142.9	129.4	149.6	105	116	
U.S. Total b/	4,059.9	3,871.7	4,162.7	103	108	

a/ Farm slaughter excluded.

b/ Revised November.



### CALIFORNIA AND U.S. HOG INVENTORY DECEMBER 1, 2007-08 AND ANNUAL FARROWINGS DECEMBER-NOVEMBER 2007-08 a/

Inventory by Type	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2007	2008	2008/2007
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent
Total Breeding and Market	155	80	52	68,177	66,708	98
Breeding	20	10	50	6,233	6,081	98
Market	135	70	52	61,944	60,627	98
Market By Weight:						
Under 60 Lbs.	40	25	63	22,545	21,297	94
60-119 Lbs.	37	15	41	15,173	15,096	99
120-179 Lbs.	30	20	67	12,658	12,716	100
180+ Lbs.	28	10	36	11,569	11,518	100
Total Pig Crop	335	196	59	112,874	114,704	102
Sows Farrowing	33	21	64	12,247	12,190	100
	Head		Percent	Head		Percent
Pigs Per Liter	10.2	9.3	92	9.2	9.4	102

a/ December of preceding year for farrowings. May not add due to rounding.