



# California Livestock Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Cattle On Feed.....	1
Farm Prices — Prices Paid — Hay Stocks.....	2
Livestock Slaughter — Hog and Pig Inventory.....	3
Milk Production.....	4

## U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 3 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.8 million head on May 1, 2009. The inventory was 3 percent below May 1, 2008. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.60 million, 4 percent above 2008. Net placements were 1.53 million head. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 355,000, 600-699 pounds were 315 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 405 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 525 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.87 million, 7 percent below 2008. Other disappearance totaled 69.0 thousand during April, 8 percent below 2008. This is the second lowest other disappearance for the month of April since the series began in 1996.

## CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 450 thousand head on May 1, 2009, 1 percent above last month, but 13 percent below May 2008. During April, placements of 68.0 thousand head were 6 percent above the previous year. Marketings of 61.0 thousand head were 13 percent below April 2008. Other disappearance totaled 2.00 thousand head.

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

State	Number On Feed April 1 1/			Placed During April		Marketed During April	
	2008	2009	2009/2008	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head			
Arizona	374	330	88	34	21	37	38
California	530	445	84	64	68	70	61
Colorado	1,020	1,040	102	115	150	165	165
Idaho	230	210	91	28	30	32	29
Iowa 2/	550	530	96	59	79	77	68
Kansas	2,420	2,280	94	360	330	470	410
Nebraska	2,450	2,320	95	340	350	400	395
New Mexico	158	137	87	9	11	16	25
Oklahoma	340	330	97	40	52	74	66
South Dakota	225	225	100	33	39	37	33
Texas	2,880	2,810	98	360	395	540	510
Washington	152	160	105	33	26	29	24
Other States	355	345	97	61	49	63	47
UNITED STATES 2/	11,684	11,162	96	1,536	1,600	2,010	1,871

  

State	Other Disappearance During April 2/		Number On Feed May 1 1/		2009
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008
	1,000 Head		Percent		
Arizona	1	2	370	311	84
California	4	2	520	450	87
Colorado	20	15	950	1,010	106
Idaho	1	1	225	210	93
Iowa	2	1	530	540	102
Kansas	20	20	2,290	2,180	95
Nebraska	10	5	2,380	2,270	95
New Mexico	1	3	150	120	80
Oklahoma	1	1	305	315	103
South Dakota	1	1	220	230	105
Texas	10	15	2,690	2,680	100
Washington	1	1	155	161	104
Other States	3	2	350	345	99
UNITED STATES	75	69	11,135	10,822	97

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.

**AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES 1/**

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		April 2008	March 2009	April 15, 2009	April 2008	March 2009	April 15, 2009
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	210.00	132.00	129.00	147.00	129.00	129.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	221.00	129.00	133.00	161.00	137.00	133.00
Hogs 2/ 4/	Cwt.	---	---	---	44.40	43.80	43.40
Cows 2/ 5/	Cwt.	43.00	39.80	44.70	50.70	44.60	47.50
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	90.50	83.90	87.70	91.80	84.00	87.70
Calves 2/	Cwt.	105.00	103.00	109.00	116.00	107.00	109.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	24.00	36.00	---	28.40	33.10	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	84.00	88.00	---	99.40	100.00	---
Milk Cows 6/	Head	1,600.00	---	1,300.00	1,940.00	---	1,390.00
All Milk, Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	16.55	10.53	10.60	18.00	11.80	12.00

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 April 2009 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.

**AVERAGE PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, PACIFIC REGION AND UNITED STATES 1/**

Commodity	Unit	PACIFIC REGION 2/		UNITED STATES	
		April 2008	March 2009	April 2008	March 2009
		Dollars			
Alfalfa Meal	Cwt.	28.40	30.20	21.10	23.90
Bran	Cwt.	33.80	27.50	19.10	23.20
Corn Meal	Cwt.	21.00	17.00	13.70	13.40
Cottonseed Meal, 41%	Cwt.	34.40	33.50	23.00	25.60
Dairy Feed, 16%	Ton	356.00	285.00	313.00	293.00
Soybean Meal, 44%	Cwt.	32.50	33.50	23.40	23.20

1/ Prices shown represent composite average prices paid by farmers for all grades, classes, and method of sale.

2/ Includes California, Oregon, and Washington.

**HAY STOCKS ON FARMS**

Stocks of hay on California farms as of May 1, 2009 totaled 470 thousand tons. This is 20 percent of the December 1 stocks, 88 percent above May 1, 2008.

United States May 1 stocks of hay on farms totaled 22.1 million tons of hay. This was 21 percent of the December 1 stocks, 2 percent above the previous year.

**HAY STOCKS ON FARMS**

State	December 1			May 1		
	2006	2007	2008	2007	2008	2009
	1,000 Tons					
California	1,785	1,890	2,380	202	250	470
Arizona	350	260	475	35	36	50
Nevada	879	767	1,000	202	90	170
Oregon	1,840	1,700	1,561	180	150	270
Utah	1,410	1,130	1,300	185	215	285
UNITED STATES	96,400	104,089	103,658	14,990	21,585	22,065

### CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during April 2009 totaled 139 million pounds (dressed weight), 3 percent below both the previous month and April 2008. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In April 2009, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,314 pounds; calves 114 pounds and hogs 245 pounds.

### U.S. RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN FROM LAST YEAR

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.08 billion pounds in April, down 5 percent from the 4.30 billion pounds produced in April 2008.

Beef production, at 2.13 billion pounds, was 5 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.77 million head, down 6 percent from April 2008. The average live weight was up 17 pounds from the previous year, at 1,276 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.2 million pounds, 6 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 68,000 head, down 7 percent from April 2008. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from last year, at 281 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.92 billion pounds, down 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.43 million head, down 6 percent from April 2008. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 15.5 million pounds, was up 1 percent from April 2008. Sheep slaughter totaled 229,100 head, 4 percent above last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, down 3 pounds from April a year ago.

January to April 2009 commercial red meat production was 16.2 billion pounds, down 3 percent from 2008. Accumulated beef production was down 3 percent from last year, veal was up 2 percent, pork was down 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 6 percent.

April 2008 contained 22 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays. April 2009 contained 22 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

### COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, APRIL 2008-09 1/

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
<b>CATTLE</b>						
California	136.1	131.9	174,522	170,774	1,302	1,314
U.S. Total	2,961.1	2,772.1	3,716,023	3,525,518	1,259	1,276
<b>CALVES</b>						
California	14.5	16.0	1,760	1,800	123	114
U.S. Total	73.3	68.0	20,133	18,883	278	281
<b>SHEEP &amp; LAMBS</b>						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	221.2	229.1	30,572	30,822	138	135
<b>HOGS</b>						
California	218.8	216.2	53,018	52,913	243	245
U.S. Total	9,996.0	9,431.1	2,690,357	2,564,114	269	272
<b>RED MEAT</b>	April 2008	March 2009	April 2009	Apr 09 May 08	Apr 09 Mar 09	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	142.7	143.8	139.1	97	97	
U.S. Total 2/	4,298.2	4,141.6	4,083.9	95	99	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.

2/ Revised March 2009.

### HOG AND PIG INVENTORY, CANADA AND UNITED STATES 2008-09 1/ 2/

Type	Canada April 1 Inventory 3/			United States March 1 Inventory 4/		
	2008	2009	<u>2009</u> 2008	2008	2009	<u>2009</u> 2008
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent
All Hogs & Pigs	13,000	11,885	91	67,218	65,389	97
Kept for Breeding	1,475	1,383	94	6,200	6,011	97
Market	11,526	10,502	91	61,018	59,378	97
Sows Farrowed	806	750	93	3,071	2,978	97
Pig Crop	7,949	7,375	93	28,387	28,230	99

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 MILK PRODUCTION**

California milk producers produced 3.43 billion pounds of milk in April 2009. This was 2 percent below March 2009, and 2 percent above April 2008.

Monthly milk per cow averaged 1,885 pounds, 40 pounds less than in March 2009, and 20 pounds less than a year ago.

**MILK PRODUCTION, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES**

Month	CALIFORNIA 1/						Total Milk		UNITED STATES 1/ 2/					
	Milk Cows 3/		Milk Per Cow 4/		Milk Production 4/		Receipts 5/		Milk Cows 3/		Milk Per Cow 4/		Milk Production 4/	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds		Million Pounds		1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds	
Jan.	1,838	1,830	1,900	1,885	3,492	3,450	3,492	3,449	8,445	8,504	1,747	1,753	14,750	14,907
Feb.	1,840	1,825	1,810	1,720	3,330	3,139	3,325	3,137	8,457	8,486	1,656	1,606	14,007	13,627
Mar.	1,842	1,821	1,975	1,925	3,638	3,505	3,637	3,503	8,467	8,481	1,794	1,794	15,191	15,211
Apr.	1,845	1,821	1,905	1,885	3,515	3,433	3,509		8,482	8,479	1,757	1,758	14,901	14,906
May	1,847		1,940		3,583		3,581		8,496		1,819		15,451	
June	1,847		1,850		3,417		3,414		8,500		1,736		14,760	
July	1,847		1,850		3,417		3,412		8,515		1,744		14,848	
Aug.	1,846		1,840		3,397		3,397		8,515		1,718		14,626	
Sept.	1,845		1,775		3,275		3,272		8,510		1,650		14,041	
Oct.	1,845		1,835		3,386		3,382		8,512		1,700		14,469	
Nov.	1,845		1,795		3,312		3,307		8,519		1,654		14,089	
Dec.	1,840		1,870		3,441		3,438		8,519		1,729		14,728	

1/ Revised March 2009.

2/ Twenty-three state total.

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

4/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

5/ Milk receipts are from the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Dairy Marketing and Milk Pooling branches.

Excludes on-farm usage.