



California Livestock Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 4 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 June 1, 2009. The inventory was 4 percent below June 1, 2008. Placements in feedlots during May totaled 1.64 million, 14 percent below 2008. Net placements were 1.54 million head. This is the second lowest placements for the month of May since the series began in 1996. During May, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 395 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 305 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 433 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 505 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during May totaled 1.95 million, 9 percent below 2008. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of May since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 101 thousand during May, 26 percent above 2008.

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 470 thousand head on June 1, 2009, 4 percent above last month, but 10 percent below June 2008. During May, placements of 74.0 thousand head were 7 percent below the previous year. Marketings of 52.0 thousand head were 27 percent below May 2008. Other disappearance totaled 2.0 thousand head.

State	Number On Feed May 1 1/			Placed During May		Marketed During May	
	2008	2009	2009/2008	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head			
Arizona	370	311	84	34	26	38	35
California	520	450	87	80	74	71	52
Colorado	950	1,010	106	150	140	170	145
Idaho	225	210	93	28	35	36	39
Iowa	530	540	102	58	60	65	68
Kansas	2,290	2,180	95	410	345	490	425
Nebraska	2,380	2,270	95	370	310	480	450
New Mexico	150	120	80	24	16	23	28
Oklahoma	305	315	103	76	67	75	71
South Dakota	220	230	105	34	40	46	44
Texas	2,690	2,680	100	560	455	550	510
Washington	155	161	104	29	31	38	35
Other States	350	345	99	47	39	58	50
UNITED STATES	11,135	10,822	97	1,900	1,638	2,140	1,952

State	Other Disappearance During May 2/		Number On Feed June 1 1/		2009
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008
	1,000 Head		1,000 Head		Percent
Arizona	1	1	365	301	82
California	4	2	525	470	90
Colorado	10	25	920	980	107
Idaho	2	1	215	205	95
Iowa	3	2	520	530	102
Kansas	20	20	2,190	2,080	95
Nebraska	20	20	2,250	2,110	94
New Mexico	1	3	150	105	70
Oklahoma	1	1	305	310	102
South Dakota	3	6	205	220	107
Texas	10	15	2,690	2,610	97
Washington	1	1	145	156	108
Other States	4	4	335	330	99
UNITED STATES	80	101	10,815	10,407	96

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 May 2009 totaled 138 million pounds (dressed weight), 1 percent below both the previous month and May 2008. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In May 2009, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,306 pounds; calves 108 pounds and hogs 244 pounds.

U.S. RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN FROM LAST YEAR

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.92 billion pounds in May, down 7 percent from the 4.22 billion pounds produced in May 2008.

Beef production, at 2.18 billion pounds, was 8 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.85 million head, down 9 percent from May 2008. The average live weight was up 13 pounds from the previous year, at 1,264 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.3 million pounds, 11 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 65,100 head, down 8 percent from May 2008. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from last year at 268 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.72 billion pounds, down 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.45 million head, down 7 percent from May 2008. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 271 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.0 million pounds, was down 13 percent from May 2008. Sheep slaughter totaled 185 thousand head, 11 percent below last year. The average live weight was 141 pounds, down 5 pounds from May a year ago.

January to May 2009 commercial red meat production was 20.1 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 2008. Accumulated beef production was down 4 percent from last year, veal was down 1 percent, pork was down 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 7 percent.

May 2008 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays, while May 2009 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.



COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, MAY 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	
CATTLE						
California	131.5	134.6	168,229	173,144	1,298	1,306
U.S. Total	3,139.6	2,849.6	3,916,559	3,589,969	1,251	1,264
CALVES						
California	14.9	16.1	1,766	1,707	120	108
U.S. Total	71.0	65.1	19,356	17,297	275	268
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S. Total	206.8	184.7	29,993	25,950	146	141
HOGS						
California	216.4	204.5	52,008	49,818	240	244
U.S. Total	9,062.1	8,451.0	2,426,311	2,291,361	268	271
RED MEAT	May 2008	April 2009	May 2009	May 09 May 08	May 09 Apr 09	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	138.7	139.1	137.8	99	99	
U.S. Total	4,222.0	4,083.9	3,919.3	93	96	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.

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

Commodity	Unit	California			UNITED STATES		
		May 2008	April 2009	May 15, 2009	May 2008	April 2009	May 15, 2009
Dollars							
All Hay, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	204.00	133.00	118.00	168.00	129.00	131.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	218.00	133.00	119.00	180.00	133.00	138.00
Hogs 2/ 4/	Cwt.	---	---	---	55.30	44.10	44.20
Cows 2/ 5/	Cwt.	44.90	45.20	45.30	54.10	48.00	49.20
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	95.30	88.50	85.90	96.10	88.40	87.20
Calves 2/	Cwt.	104.00	107.00	100.00	120.00	110.00	112.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	20.00	35.00	---	25.40	35.00	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	86.00	85.00	---	101.00	102.00	---
Milk Cows 6/	Head	---	1,300.00	---	---	1,390.00	---
All Milk, Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	17.65	10.63	10.50	18.30	11.90	11.70

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.

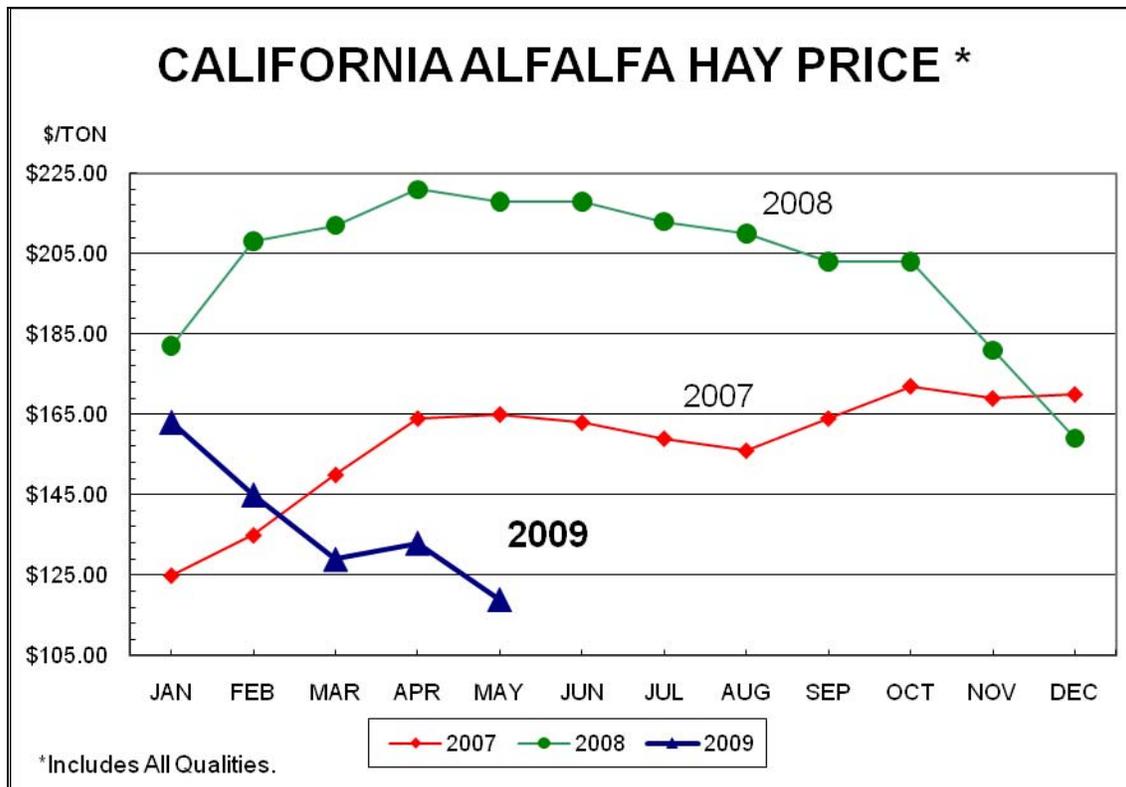
2/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

3/ California's May 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.



* Includes All Qualities

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, California Field Office