



California Livestock Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 2 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the U.S. for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.1 million head on June 1, 2012. The inventory was 2 percent above June 1, 2011.

Placements in feedlots during May totaled 2.09 million, 15 percent above 2011. Net placements were 1.99 million head. During May, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 520 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 365 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 530 thousand and 800 pounds and greater were 672 thousand.

Marketings of fed cattle during May totaled 2.02 million, 1 percent above 2011.

Other disappearance totaled 100 thousand during May, 23 percent above 2011.

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 490 thousand head on June 1, 2012, 3 percent above last month, and 7 percent above June 2011. During May, placements of 70.0 thousand head were 1 percent below the previous year. Marketings of 53.0 thousand head were 10 percent lower than May 2011. Other disappearance totaled 2.0 thousand head.

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

| State | Number On Feed May1 1/ | | | Placed During May | | Marketed During May | |
|----------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| | 2011 | 2012 | 2012/2011 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 |
| | 1,000 Head | | Percent | 1,000 Head | | | |
| Arizona | 282 | 276 | 98 | 28 | 36 | 19 | 29 |
| California | 450 | 475 | 106 | 71 | 70 | 59 | 53 |
| Colorado | 1,100 | 1,030 | 94 | 140 | 180 | 150 | 170 |
| Idaho | 230 | 215 | 93 | 36 | 29 | 35 | 32 |
| Iowa | 640 | 650 | 102 | 47 | 59 | 73 | 64 |
| Kansas | 2,170 | 2,080 | 96 | 375 | 445 | 420 | 415 |
| Nebraska | 2,370 | 2,460 | 104 | 340 | 460 | 495 | 540 |
| Oklahoma | 355 | 295 | 83 | 66 | 81 | 65 | 54 |
| South Dakota | 255 | 245 | 96 | 33 | 38 | 50 | 43 |
| Texas | 2,730 | 2,710 | 99 | 560 | 580 | 520 | 500 |
| Washington | 200 | 224 | 112 | 39 | 43 | 44 | 46 |
| Other States | 393 | 450 | 115 | 75 | 66 | 72 | 69 |
| UNITED STATES | 11,175 | 11,110 | 99 | 1,810 | 2,087 | 2,002 | 2,015 |

| State | Other Disappearance During May 2/ | | Number On Feed June1 1/ | | 2012 |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------|
| | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| | 1,000 Head | | 1,000 Head | | Percent |
| Arizona | 1 | 1 | 290 | 282 | 97 |
| California | 2 | 2 | 460 | 490 | 107 |
| Colorado | 10 | 20 | 1,080 | 1,020 | 94 |
| Idaho | 1 | 2 | 230 | 210 | 91 |
| Iowa | 4 | 5 | 610 | 640 | 105 |
| Kansas | 15 | 20 | 2,110 | 2,090 | 99 |
| Nebraska | 25 | 20 | 2,190 | 2,360 | 108 |
| Oklahoma | 1 | 2 | 355 | 320 | 90 |
| South Dakota | 3 | 5 | 235 | 235 | 100 |
| Texas | 10 | 20 | 2,760 | 2,770 | 100 |
| Washington | 2 | 1 | 193 | 220 | 114 |
| Other States | 7 | 2 | 389 | 445 | 114 |
| UNITED STATES | 81 | 100 | 10,902 | 11,082 | 102 |

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 2012 totaled 149.5 million pounds (dressed weight), 4 percent higher than the previous month, and 4 percent higher than last May. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In May 2012, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,285 pounds, calves 110 pounds, sheep & lambs 146 pounds and hogs 242 pounds.

U.S. PORK PRODUCTION AT RECORD HIGH FOR MAY

Commercial red meat production for the U.S. totaled 4.18 billion pounds in May, up 7 percent from the 3.91 billion pounds produced in May 2011.

Beef production, at 2.23 billion pounds, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.88 million head, up 2 percent from May 2011. The average live weight was up 27 pounds from the previous year, at 1,280 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.4 million pounds, 1 percent above May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 59.2 thousand head,

down 3 percent from May 2011. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from last year, at 295 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.93 billion pounds, up 9 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.28 million head, up 9 percent from May 2011. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 277 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.6 million pounds, was up 5 percent from May 2011. Sheep slaughter totaled 180 thousand head, slightly above last year. The average live weight was 151 pounds, up 8 pounds from May a year ago.

January to May 2012 commercial red meat production was 20.2 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2011. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year and lamb and mutton production was up 3 percent.

May 2011 contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays. May 2012 contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, MAY 2011-12 1/

| Species and Location | Number Slaughtered | | Total Live Weight | | Average Live Weight | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------|
| | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 |
| | 1,000 Head | | 1,000 Pounds | | Pounds | |
| CATTLE | | | | | | |
| California | 144.1 | 150.2 | 183,996 | 191,847 | 1,298 | 1,285 |
| U.S. Total | 2,818.7 | 2,875.6 | 3,520,739 | 3,674,302 | 1,253 | 1,280 |
| CALVES | | | | | | |
| California | 16.7 | 13.4 | 1,794 | 1,466 | 108 | 110 |
| U.S. Total | 61.2 | 59.2 | 17,355 | 17,383 | 288 | 295 |
| SHEEP & LAMBS | | | | | | |
| California | 25.3 | 26.7 | 3,658 | 3,893 | 146 | 146 |
| U.S. Total | 180.2 | 180.4 | 25,780 | 27,230 | 143 | 151 |
| HOGS | | | | | | |
| California | 204.9 | 211.7 | 48,737 | 51,079 | 238 | 242 |
| U.S. Total | 8,542.6 | 9,284.9 | 2,351,498 | 2,572,638 | 275 | 277 |
| RED MEAT | | | | | | |
| | May 2011 | April 2012 | May 2012 | May 12 May 11 | May 12 Apr 12 | |
| | Million Pounds | | | Percent | | |
| California | 143.3 | 143.5 | 149.5 | 104 | 104 | |
| U.S. Total | 3,914.8 | 3,855.0 | 4,182.8 | 107 | 109 | |

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.

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

| Commodity | Unit | California | | | UNITED STATES | | |
|--------------------------|------|------------|------------|--------------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| | | May 2011 | April 2012 | May 15, 2012 | May 2011 | April 2012 | May 15, 2012 |
| | | Dollars | | | | | |
| All Hay, Baled 2/ 3/ | Ton | 224.00 | 230.00 | 213.00 | 171.00 | 190.00 | 199.00 |
| Alfalfa, Baled 2/ 3/ | Ton | 244.00 | 235.00 | 220.00 | 187.00 | 207.00 | 215.00 |
| Hogs 2/ 4/ | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | 68.60 | 62.80 | 61.60 |
| Cows 2/ 5/ 6/ | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | 78.20 | 85.50 | 87.30 |
| Steers and Heifers 2/ 6/ | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | 115.00 | 128.00 | 124.00 |
| Calves 2/ 6/ | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | 137.00 | 178.00 | 176.00 |
| | Hea | | | | | | |
| Milk Cows 8/ | d | --- | 1,300.00 | --- | --- | 1,440.00 | --- |
| All Milk, Wholesale 2/ | Cwt. | 18.08 | 15.00 | 14.60 | 19.60 | 16.80 | 16.40 |

- 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 May 2012 prices are for the full month.
- 4/ Prices include barrows, gilts and sows.
- 5/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.
- 6/ Beginning in January 2011, State level cows, calves, steers & heifers and beef cattle prices were discontinued. United States level cows, calves, steers & heifers and beef cattle prices are published based on data provided by United States Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service.
- 7/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July and October.
- * *Sheep & Lamb price program discontinued October 2011*

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