



California Livestock Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 450 thousand head on March 1, 2010, 1 percent below last month, and 2 percent below March 2009. During February, placements of 51.0 thousand head were 42 percent above the previous year. Marketings of 48.0 thousand head were 11 percent below February 2009. Other disappearance totaled 8.0 thousand head.

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 10.9 million head on March 1, 2010. The inventory was 3 percent below March 1, 2009.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.67 million, 1 percent below 2009. Net placements were 1.60 million head. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 320 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 365 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 520 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 460 thousand.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.72 million, 2 percent above 2009.

Other disappearance totaled 68 thousand during February, 21 percent above 2009.

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

State	Number On Feed February 1 a/			Placed During February		Marketed During February	
	2009	2010	2010/2009	2009	2010	2009	2010
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head			
Arizona	349	290	83	26	21	32	24
California	480	455	95	36	51	54	48
Colorado	1,020	960	94	190	160	165	175
Idaho	215	200 *	2/	38	36	37	40
Iowa	520	600	115	62	69	61	66
Kansas	2,260	2,240	99	420	405	375	415
Nebraska	2,400	2,370	99	310	365	370	370
New Mexico	158	b/	b/	9	b/	18	b/
Oklahoma	330	365	111	51	54	49	62
South Dakota	225	235	104	43	52	39	44
Texas	2,810	2,700	96	430	365	410	400
Washington	151	166	110	28	30	25	27
Other States	370	403	109	35	57	47	46
UNITED STATES	11,288	10,984 *	97	1,678	1,665	1,682	1,717

State	Other Disappearance During February c/		Number On Feed March 1 a/		2010
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009
	1,000 Head				Percent
Arizona	1	1	342	286	84
California	2	8	460	450	98
Colorado	5	5	1,040	940	90
Idaho	1	1	215	195	91
Iowa	1	3	520	600	115
Kansas	15	10	2,290	2,220	97
Nebraska	10	15	2,330	2,350	101
New Mexico	1	b/	148	b/	b/
Oklahoma	2	2	330	355	108
South Dakota	4	3	225	240	107
Texas	10	15	2,820	2,650	94
Washington	1	1	153	168	110
Other States	3	4	355	410	---
UNITED STATES	56	68	11,228	10,864	97

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/ Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

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

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

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		February 2009	January 2010	Feb. 15, 2010	February 2009	January 2010	Feb. 15, 2010
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	142.00	110.00	103.00	131.00	109.00	107.00
Alfalfa, Baled 2/ 3/	Ton	145.00	115.00	109.00	141.00	113.00	111.00
Hogs 2/ 4/	Cwt.	---	---	---	43.80	48.40	48.10
Cows 2/ 5/	Cwt.	39.10	49.40	50.40	43.60	47.90	50.50
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	83.80	85.90	87.40	83.80	87.50	89.40
Calves 2/	Cwt.	103.00	111.00	115.00	104.00	109.00	111.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	33.00	60.50	---	31.40	52.40	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	93.00	84.50	---	100.00	102.00	---
Milk Cows 6/	Head	---	1,300.00	---	---	1,340.00	---
All Milk, Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	10.50	14.75	14.50	11.60	16.10	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 February 2010 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.

CALIFORNIA HONEY PRODUCTION DOWN 36 PERCENT

California's 2009 honey production, at 11.7 million pounds, was 36 percent below 2008. Producing colonies totaled 355 thousand, down 1 percent from the previous year. The yield per colony averaged 33 pounds, compared to 51 pounds produced per colony in 2008.

U.S. HONEY PRICES RECORD HIGH

U.S. Honey prices increased to a record high during 2009 to 144.5 cents, up 2 percent from 142.1 cents in 2008. U.S. and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through retail, cooperatives, and private channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2008 crop reflect honey sold in 2008 and 2009. Some 2008 crop honey was sold in 2009, which caused some revisions to the 2008 crop prices.

U.S. HONEY PRODUCTION DOWN 12 PERCENT

Honey production in 2009 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 144 million pounds, down 12 percent from 2008. There were 2.46 million colonies producing honey in 2009, up 5 percent from 2008. Yield per colony averaged 58.5 pounds, down 16 percent from the 69.9 pounds in 2008, and is the lowest yield since 1989. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, yields per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 37.2 million pounds on December 15, 2009, down 27 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

State	Number of Colonies 2/		Yield Per Colony		Production		Average Price Per Pound 3/		Value of Production 4/	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 Colonies		Pounds		1,000 Pounds		Cents		\$1,000	
California	360	355	51	33	18,360	11,715	139	139	25,520	16,284
Florida	150	150	79	68	11,850	10,200	132	138	15,642	14,076
Montana	134	146	70	70	9,380	10,220	137	145	12,851	14,819
N. Dakota	400	450	90	77	36,000	34,650	136	137	48,960	47,471
S. Dakota	225	270	95	66	21,375	17,820	134	139	28,643	24,770
UNITED STATES 5/	2,342	2,462	69.9	58.5	163,789	144,108	142.1	144.5	232,744	208,236

1/ For producers with five or more colonies. Revised 2008 data.

2/ Honey producing colonies are the maximum number of colonies from which honey was taken during the year. It is possible to take honey from colonies which did not survive the entire year.

3/ Prices based on expanded sales.

4/ Value of production is equal to production multiplied by average price per pound.

5/ Due to rounding, total colonies multiplied by total yield may not exactly equal production.

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during February 2010 totaled 126.4 million pounds (dressed weight), 8 percent below the previous month, and 5 percent below February 2009. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In February 2010, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,284 pounds; calves 103 pounds and hogs 235 pounds.

U.S. VEAL AND LAMB AND MUTTON PRODUCTION AT RECORD LOW FOR FEBRUARY

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.74 billion pounds in February, down 2 percent from the 3.83 billion pounds produced in February 2009.

Beef production, at 1.96 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.55 million head, up 1 percent from February 2009. The average live weight was down 25 pounds from the previous year, at 1,285 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.7 million pounds, 2 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 74.0 thousand head, down slightly from February 2009. The average live weight was down 10 pounds from last year, at 247 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.76 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.69 million head, down 3 percent from February 2009. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 270 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.3 million pounds, was down 3 percent from February 2009. Sheep slaughter totaled 178.4 thousand head, 1 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, down 3 pounds from February a year ago.

January to February 2010 commercial red meat production was 7.65 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 2009. Accumulated beef production was down 2 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was down 7 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

February 2009 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. February 2010 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, FEBRUARY 2009-10 a/

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
CATTLE						
California	130.2	126.4	167,598	159,253	1,308	1,284
U.S.	2,528.5	2,547.6	3,300,790	3,261,015	1,310	1,285
CALVES						
California	19.5	20.7	2,156	2,084	112	103
U.S.	74.1	74.0	18,728	18,040	257	247
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	22.0	---	3,047	---	139
U.S.	179.5	178.4	25,403	24,794	142	139
HOGS						
California	202.1	202.5	49,000	47,465	243	235
U.S.	8,918.9	8,691.2	2,420,596	2,347,274	272	270
RED MEAT	February 2009	January 2010	February 2010	Feb 10 Feb 09	Feb 10 Jan 10	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	133.3	137.8	126.4	95	92	
U.S.	3,827.0	3,917.6 b/	3,736.1	98	95	

a/ Includes slaughter under Federal-inspection and other commercial slaughter, but excludes farm slaughter.
b/ Revised.

U.S. HOG INVENTORY DOWN 3 PERCENT

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2010 was 64.0 million head. This was down 3 percent from March 1, 2009 and down 2 percent from December 1, 2009.

Breeding inventory, at 5.76 million head, was down 4 percent from last year and down 2 percent from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 58.2 million head, was down 3 percent from last year and down 2 percent from last quarter.

The December 2009-February 2010 pig crop, at 27.9 million head, was down 2 percent from 2009 and down 2 percent from 2008. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.90 million head, down 4 percent from 2009 and down 6 percent from 2008. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 50 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 9.61 for the December 2009-February 2010 period, compared to 9.48 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.70 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. HOG AND PIG INVENTORY, MARCH 1, 2008-09

Item	2009	2010	2010 2009
	1,000 Head		Percent
March 1 Inventory 1/			
All Hogs and Pigs	65,819	63,988	97
Kept for Breeding	5,992	5,760	96
Market	59,828	58,228	97
Market Hogs and Pigs By Weight Groups			
Under 50 Pounds	19,809	19,017	96
50-119 Pounds	16,426	15,993	97
120-179 Pounds	12,732	12,477	98
180 Pounds and Over	10,862	10,742	99

1/ May not add due to rounding.

NUMBER OF LICENSED DAIRY OPERATIONS IN SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES 1/

State	2008	2009
	Number	
California	1,905	1,820
Indiana	1,670	1,680
Iowa	2,020	1,890
Michigan	2,390	2,310
Minnesota	4,865	4,700
New York	5,620	5,470
Ohio	3,360	3,310
Pennsylvania	7,670	7,400
Wisconsin	13,730	13,170
UNITED STATES	57,127	54,942

1/ Average number of dairy farms licensed to sell milk, based on counts collected from State and other regulatory agencies.

MARKETING-YEAR AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA		UNITED STATES	
		2008	2009	2008	2009
		Dollars			
Hogs	Cwt.	48.00	42.30	47.00	41.70
Cows 1/	Cwt.	43.70	42.80	50.60	44.80
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	92.90	84.60	94.50	85.40
Calves	Cwt.	102.00	100.00	110.00	103.00
Sheep	Cwt.	24.30	31.10	27.20	32.50
Lambs	Cwt.	91.30	88.70	99.60	99.60
Milk Cows 2/	Head	1,730.00	1,200.00	1,950.00	1,390.00

1/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.
2/ Calendar year average.

FARM NUMBERS

In 2009, an estimated 81.5 thousand farms operated on 25.4 million acres in California. The average farm size is 312 acres. The number of farms, land in farms, and farms size remained the same as the previous year.

The number of farms in the United States in 2009 is estimated at 2.2 million, the same as the previous year. Total land in farms, at 919.8 million acres, decreased slightly from 2008. The average farm size was 418 acres, unchanged from the previous year.

NUMBER OF FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS 1/

Area and Item		2008	2009
CALIFORNIA	Number of Farms	81,500	81,500
	Land in Farms (1,000 Acres)	25,400	25,400
	Average Size of Farms (Acres)	312	312
UNITED STATES	Number of Farms	2,200,100	2,200,010
	Land in Farms (1,000 Acres)	919,910	919,800
	Average Size of Farms (Acres)	418	418

1/ Revised 2008 data.

TROUT SALES OF FISH 12" OR LONGER, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES, 2008-09 1/

State	Number Of Fish		Live Weight				Average Price		Total Sales	
			Average Per Fish		Total		Per Pound			
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 Fish		Pounds		1,000 Pounds		Dollars		\$1,000	
California	2,290	1,400	1.3	1.2	2,950	1,660	2.67	2.93	7,877	4,864
U.S.	40,401	41,117	1.3	1.2	52,410	49,092	1.38	1.40	72,432	68,648

1/ Revised 2008 data.

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